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Washington Bankers Association Announces First WBA Bankers Care Pacific Coast Banking School Scholarship Recipients

The Washington Bankers Association is pleased to announce the first recipients of the 2026 WBA Bankers Care Scholarship for the Pacific Coast Banking School, aimed at supporting the next generation of banking leaders in Washington State.

This year's scholarship recipients are Brooke Allan, senior vice president and digital products and services manager, and Jonathan Gozart, assistant vice president and credit analyst, both from 1st Security Bank of Washington. They were selected for their demonstrated leadership potential, dedication to the banking industry, and commitment to professional growth. The selection pool included a wide range of banking experience, areas of the bank, and deep industry knowledge.

The scholarship provides financial support to outstanding bankers attending the Pacific Coast Banking School, one of the nation's premier graduate-level banking leadership programs. Offered in partnership with the University of Washington Foster School of Business, PCBS has been preparing banking leaders since 1938 through a rigorous three-year program focused on leadership, strategic thinking, and financial management.

“Investing in future leaders is one of the most important things we can do for our industry,” said Duncan Taylor, President and CEO of the WBA. “These scholarship recipients embody the strength and future of community banking in Washington, and we are proud to support their continued professional development through PCBS.”

In her application, Allan noted that PCBS will “help me further understand the nuances of the financial industry so I can better serve those within my institution as a mentor, while also assisting those in the communities where we operate. While I am excited for the opportunity to learn and develop as a banker, I also look forward to sharing my knowledge with my peers to collaborate on solutions and build lasting relationships within the industry.” Allan is a graduate of the WBA’s Executive Development Program and served as the past chair of the FinTech Security Workgroup.

Gozart brings 24 years of banking experience and is a graduate of the Executive Development Program and the Credit Analyst Development Program. He stated, “I see PCBS providing me with the tools and pathways to leverage my experiences to become the best banker I can be. My career goals are to advance to a position within the bank where I can maximize my potential and make a positive difference.” Outside of his work at the bank, he volunteers as an advisor with Washington Business Week, where he helps students at Aberdeen High School learn about running a business.

The scholarship offers recipients financial support as they begin the program, starting with the 2026 resident session this August on the University of Washington campus in Seattle.

WBA's Bankers Care initiative emphasizes the banking industry's commitment to enhancing communities and supporting individuals who contribute to their success. Supporting leadership development through programs like PCBS is a vital aspect of that mission.

For more information about WBA's professional development programs and scholarship opportunities, visit wabankers.com. To learn more about PCBS, visit www.thepcbs.org.

Founded in 1889, the Washington Bankers Association is Washington State's largest financial services trade association, representing commercial banks operating in every county of the state.