

BLAKE COMPLETES GSBC'S PRESTIGIOUS EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

Ryan Blake, chief operating officer of BCB Bank in Fanwood, graduated October 21 from the Graduate School of Banking at Colorado's (GSBC) Executive Development Institute for Community Bankers® (EDI) as a member of its 12th cohort.

GSBC's EDI program equips its participants for success with extensive leadership development and bank management training. Participants are up-and-coming C-level executives whose work efforts influence the future direction of their banks. To aid in their development, each participant is assigned a mentor and an executive coach. EDI curriculum topics cover customer relationships, cybersecurity, organizational change, the economy, talent management, profit improvement and more.

Blake was one of seven community bankers who graduated from the program during a ceremony in Broomfield, Colorado.

"EDI is helping community banks develop their future executives in support of the bank's succession plan," said GSBC President & CEO Michael Stevens. "It is reassuring to see Ryan's passion for the industry, his community and his customers. GSBC is proud to have been a part of his development."

EDI: The Only Program of its Kind in the Country

EDI participants are bold, forward-thinking leaders in their organizations who have been identified as up-and-coming C-suite leaders for their organizations. EDI is designed to provide each participant with individual and bank-specific resources that contribute directly to their individual development plans and banks' strategic plans.

GSBC's EDI program is offered to up-and-coming C-suite community banking professionals and attracts participants from across the country. Enrollment is now open for the 15th cohort, scheduled to begin in October 2026. More information is available at www.GSBColorado.org.

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The Graduate School of Banking at Colorado is America's Premier Community Banking School, boasting more than 8,000 alumni since its inception in 1950, and educating approximately 600 bankers and regulatory professionals from around the nation annually. GSBC prides itself on its commitment to providing unmatched higher education to America's community bankers. To learn more about GSBC's lineup of comprehensive educational programs, visit www.GSBColorado.org.