

Willis Bryant Application Form

Please complete this form in its entirety and return it along with your Letter of Recommendation to Amanda Straub (contact information below).

Application deadline for the 2027 award is September 1, 2027

Section I: Personal Information

First Name	MI	Last Name
Title		
Company	Member Number	
Phone Number	Fax	
Email Address		

SOMB I Final Exam Score _____ Date completed _____

Note: If you completed the SOMB I exemption exam instead of the course, you are not eligible for the Willis Bryant Award.

SOMB II Final Exam Score _____ Date completed _____

SOMB III Date Completed _____

Section II: Application Questions

Please keep answers to no more than 300 words per question.

Describe a recent leadership experience in your career or community. Briefly outline the situation and then describe your role, how you were effective and what you learned.

What is the most substantial contribution you have made to the industry, and why do you view it as such?

What are your career aspirations and how has the School of Mortgage Banking helped you reach them?
In what ways will being the Willis Bryant Award winner further your career goals?

Section III: Letter of Recommendation

A Letter of Recommendation from a supervisor or mentor is required. Please provide [these instructions](#) to the person writing your letter. Include your letter of recommendation when submitting your application. Only one letter of recommendation will be accepted.

Note: Letters of Recommendation from an MBA staff member will not be accepted.

Amanda Straub

Mortgage Bankers Association

Phone: (202) 557-2921

Email: astraub@mba.org

Letter of Recommendation Instructions

Thank you for agreeing to write a letter of recommendation for the applicant for the Willis Bryant Award. This honor is awarded yearly by the Mortgage Bankers Association. The winner will be awarded to a student with a grade of **Excellent** on SOMB I & II exams who demonstrates exceptional leadership qualities in the classroom and has made a significant contribution to the mortgage industry. Your candid assessment of the applicant will assist in the evaluation. We thank you for your time and efforts.

We ask that your letter include the following:

- Description of your relationship with the applicant. Briefly describe your interaction with the applicant, as well as the frequency and context of your interaction.
- Description of what you consider the applicant's talents or strengths.
- Description of what you see the applicant doing in the industry in ten years. What mortgage industry function might best suit the applicant?
- Describe the applicant's leadership abilities and how they inspire trust and confidence in others. Please include their respect for others, honesty, integrity and accountability for personal behavior.

Please also include the following information somewhere in your letter:

- Applicant's Name
- Your Name
- Your Title
- Your Company
- Your Address
- Your Phone Number
- Your Email Address

Please return your completed letter to the applicant to include in their final application for the Willis Bryant Award.

Contact

Amanda Straub

Mortgage Bankers Association

Phone: (202) 557-2921

Email: astraub@mba.org