THE BANKER ISLAMIC BANKING AWARDS 2026 CATEGORIES AND GUIDELINES

The Banker's Islamic Banking Awards recognise the institutions – fully sharia-compliant and otherwise – that are breaking new ground with Islamic banking. The awards are given for innovative retail products and services, impactful deals, and meaningful sustainability initiatives that have sharia-compliant finance structures at their core.

The 2026 Awards categories and criteria reflect that being the best in the business means pushing the envelope across all of these areas.

CATEGORIES

ISLAMIC BANK OF THE YEAR

- Islamic Bank of the Year
- Islamic Bank of the Year for Sustainability
- Islamic Retail Bank of the Year
- Islamic Investment Bank of the Year

DEAL AWARDS

- Most Innovative Sukuk
- Most Innovative Murabaha
- Most Innovative Ijarah

REGIONAL AWARDS

- Islamic Bank of the Year Middle East
- Islamic Bank of the Year Asia
- Islamic Bank of the Year International

RETAIL AWARDS

- Most Innovative Card Product
- Most Innovative Islamic Savings Product
- Most Innovative Mortgage Product
- Excellence in Islamic Digital Banking Award

HOW TO ENTER

Participants must complete the Islamic Banking Awards entry form outlining why they believe their bank deserves to win an award within each of their selected categories.

Please see page 2 for entry and judging criteria.

Please email your entries and supporting information to: Simon.Duffy@ft.com by Monday, March 2.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Please do not include confidential information, as the information provided in the winning entries may be included in the write-up of the awards in the May edition of The Banker.

ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS AND JUDGING CRITERIA

Participants should complete The Banker's Islamic Banking Awards 2026 Entry Form, detailing the name of the bank, the award categories the bank intends to enter and the name and contact details of the person responsible for the entry, as well as answering the submission questions.

Completion of the entry form is mandatory in order to be considered for an award.

You may also include relevant supporting materials e.g. case studies at the end of the form or as attachments to the same email (please label clearly). Please choose case studies and any other additional materials carefully. Strong entries should demonstrate measurable achievements within each of the bank's chosen award categories.

Completed entry forms and submissions should be emailed to Simon.Duffy@ft.com.

Entries will be judged against the following criteria:

- The innovative nature of specific sharia-compliant products and services offered to customers, and the impact of such products and services on the wider market
- How your bank is using digital services to improve the delivery of Islamic banking services
- How your bank has used innovative sharia-compliant financing structures to help corporate and government clients with their funding needs
- The extent to which environmental, social and governance considerations have been a part of your business activity and how this has benefited your clients
- The extent to which your bank has introduced innovations in Islamic banking that have benefited clients or improved market operations

ENTRIES

Entries should include relevant data from January 2025 to December 2025.

All Islamic investment banking deals referenced in pitches must have closed by February 2026.

The closing date for entries is Monday, March 2.

Please email your completed entry form and supporting information to: Simon.Duffy@ft.com

CONTACT

If you have any queries about the entry process, please contact: Simon Duffy (simon.duffy@ft.com)