

COMMERCE BANK PRESIDENTIAL FACULTY AND STAFF AWARD FOR STUDENT BELONGING

PURPOSE OF AWARD

The Commerce Bank Presidential Award for Distinguished Services to Student Belonging was established in the spring of 1978 to recognize outstanding individual contributions to the development and quality education of all students, including those from low-income or first-generation backgrounds at Kansas State University.

ELIGIBILITY

The award is based upon any contributions completed prior to **June 30, 2025**. A nominee may be a faculty or staff member, an alumnus, or friend of the University, and may be someone previously nominated, but not awarded in the past.

NATURE OF AWARD

The award will be made at a special reception on **Tuesday, January 27, 2026** during the University's Martin Luther King, Jr. Observance Week. The recipient will receive a plaque and monetary award.

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION

Nomination criteria include one or more of the following:

1. Outstanding teaching in cultural courses or in disciplines where material pertinent to fostering a culture of belonging for all students has been integrated effectively.
2. Outstanding contributions in developing an educational program promoting a sense of belonging for students or the campus community, which contributes to the well-being of student belonging or a positive climate for all students overall.
3. Outstanding efforts in recruiting students from low-income, first-generation, or any other background.
4. Outstanding efforts to retain and develop from low-income, first-generation, or any other background students.
5. Unique and highly impactful efforts, research, or study abroad programs directed toward low-income, first-generation, or any other background.

APPLICATIONS

Faculty, staff and alumni members who are eligible for this award can only be nominated by KSU faculty, students, staff, or administrators. The deadline date for completed applications/nominations is **5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 31st, 2025**. Applications may be obtained at <https://www.k-state.edu/inclusion/about/commercebank.html> or from:

**Student Belonging
224 Anderson Hall
Kansas State University
(785) 532-6276**

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NOMINATION FORM

Please provide the following information about the nominee:

Name: _____ **Phone Number:** _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Nominee's present relationship to Kansas State University: _____

Please write a nomination statement on separate letterhead outlining the nature of activities warranting this nomination for the past academic year and previous semesters.

Documentation supportive of this application should include:

- a) A summary of the nominee's activities, service or leadership contributing to the enhancement of student belonging at Kansas State University.
- b) **Three letters of support. Additional letters of support will not be considered. The letters of support should be included in the electronic nomination packet as a single PDF file. Incomplete nominations will not be considered.**
- c) The nominee's résumé/curriculum vita.

Name of person(s) making the nomination:

_____ (Name)

_____ (Address)

_____ (Phone)

_____ (Email)

Return completed form and all documentation supportive of this nomination by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 31st, 2025. Completed nominations can be emailed to Ana Guanes at anaguanes@ksu.edu or dropped off at:**

**Student Belonging
224 Anderson Hall**

Please note there will be no exceptions made to the deadline.