ishtot™

BANKING AI ACCELERATOR

Practical AI training built by bankers, for bankers.

November – December 2026

State Banking Association Members: $1,500 per registrant

Register online: www.bankerscontent.com/ai

Program Objectives & Outcomes

Upon completion of the Banking AI Accelerator, participants and their banks will achieve the following:

- **Practical AI Skills**: Participants will develop skills including learning how to reduce bias in communications, tweaking the AI's tone, and creating "AI Profiles" and "skills" to achieve reliable and consistent results.
- **Workflow Automation**: By the end of the program, participants will build a Custom Prompt Library to instantly streamline their daily tasks to manage workflows and data.
- **Advanced Problem Solving**: Graduates will learn how to synthesize complex information, analyze data, and create charts to make faster, better-informed business decisions.
- **Competitive Edge**: Professionals will future-proof their careers while gaining the skills needed to help their bank compete smarter and grow faster.

Part I – The Foundation

Module 1: Foundations & The AI Mindset

November 3, 2026 • 9 a.m. PT

This one hour session will focus on demystifying AI, reducing anxiety, and establishing the foundational mindset for human-AI collaboration that helps the bank grow. This session includes the following topics:

- **Welcome & AIQ Framework**: Defining AIQ (AI Quotient) as leading the human-AI conversation with clarity, curiosity, and emotional self-awareness. Introduction to the AIQ Fluency framework of being comfortable, confident, and competent with AI, and learning to view AI not as a cost center, but as an Intelligence Multiplier for the bank.
- **Busting the Myths**: Addressing the dangerous myths that success with AI is about perfect prompt engineering, fancy software, or that technical skills matter most.
- **How AI Actually "Thinks"**: Understanding that AI is not intuitive or emotional, but rather follows patterns and makes guesses. Learning how to build trust with AI to make it an effective collaborator.
- **Speaking AI's Language**: Transitioning from vague, verbose inputs to intentional, organized, and structured prompts.

Module 2: Communication Mastery & Governance

November 4, 2026 • 9 a.m. PT

This one hour session will focus on building reliable prompts using frameworks, adding personality, and applying strategic thinking to AI tasks. This session includes the following topics:

- **The 4-Layer Prompt Framework**: Breaking down requests into Context, Intent, Constraints, and Output to get reliable results.
- **The Master Blueprint:** Moving beyond verbose prompting by utilizing Snippets, Profiles, and Placeholders.
- **Governance & Safety**: Establishing safe data handling for PII and confidential bank and customer information. Enforcing the "Human-in-the-Loop" standard and learning to prevent AI hallucinations.
- **Determining Your AI Use Case**: Conducting a Task Inventory, System Readiness Assessment, and Resource Audit to determine if a task or workflow is a good fit for using AI. Participants will learn to evaluate tasks against the 10 Dimensions of AIQ ROI™ (e.g., Time Value, Speed-to-Insight, Decision Quality).
- **Adding Personality & Focus**: Using the Personality Triangle (Role, Tone, and Style) to generate content and messages that connect to the intended audience.

Module 3: The Live Lab – Architecting AI Systems

November 5, 2026 • 9 a.m. PT

This one hour session will focus on hands-on application, moving from writing one-off prompts to building. This session includes the following topics:

- **From Prompting to Architecting**: Learning the System Formula: Snippets + Profiles + Placeholders = Master Templates.
- **Live Practice**: Opening laptops and building real prompts together live. Building specific "Job Profiles" and "Professional Profiles" to be used in the upcoming 8-week applied practice lab.
- **Library Management**: Establishing best practices for organizing their Template Library, including naming conventions and documenting success.

Part II – The Application Phase

Module 4: 8-Week Applied Practice Lab

November 9 – December 22, 2026

This asynchronous accountability program held over 8 weeks, roughly one to three hours per week, goes beyond teaching software features as it focuses entirely on helping employees form AI-first thinking habits.

Participants will have access to self-paced learning tools such as videos, downloads, and more. These tools will provide the necessary skills to evaluate if AI can provide a solution, and confidently decide on their next move.

These sessions include the following topics:

- **100% Personalized Assignments**: Participants receive one scenario-based AI email assignment per week from Paul. Every assignment is completely customized to the participant's unique job, background, and experience level for immediate, practical value.
- **Direct Expert Feedback**: Participants submit their weekly results and receive personalized review, guidance, and feedback directly from Paul Carney.
- **The AI-First Reflex**: Participants will practice applying the Four-Box Framework to daily challenges. They will learn to consistently ask where and how AI can add value to a process, and evaluate how realistic and achievable the use case is based on their current skills.
- **From Insight to Action**: By repeatedly evaluating tasks and applying AI to them, participants will build the confidence necessary to convert intelligence into momentum. They will learn to shift their time from repetitive, low-judgment transactional hours to high-value strategic hours and capture the Discovery Value of unexpected insights.
- **Live Q&A Access**: Participants can join Paul's weekly "Office Hours" to ask questions, troubleshoot prompts, and stay up-to-date on AI trends.

Module 5: Final Capstone & Certification

At the culmination of the program, each participant receives a personalized, comprehensive evaluation report directly.

This session includes the following topics:

- **Progress & Transformation**: A detailed look at the participant's 8-week journey, measuring their transition into the top tier of confident, daily AI users.
- **Strengths & Highlights**: Specific recognition of where the participant shined, such as effectively tweaking tone, reducing bias, or building useful profiles.
- **Strategic Next Steps**: Customized recommendations and concepts for the participant to focus on next to continue their growth.
- **Organizational Impact & ROI**: Highlighting how their newly developed Prompt Library can be shared with their team to help the bank compete smarter. The report will map the participant's achievements directly to the 10 Dimensions of AIQ ROI™, proving value beyond just "hours saved."
- **Official Recognition**: Final validation of their newly acquired skills and confirmation of their official AIQ Advantage™ Certification.

What Sets Banking AI Accelerator Apart?

100% Personalized Learning: Instead of generic tutorials, every assignment is completely customized to your unique job, background and current AI experience level, for immediate practical value. NO ONE ELSE DOES THIS!

Direct Expert Feedback: Submit your weekly assignments and receive personalized review, guidance and strategic feedback from our AI expert, Paul Carney, to push your AI skills to the next level. He's a long time banker, so he gets it.

Step-by-Step Progression: Gain access to over 20 detailed handouts and assignments that scale with you, moving from foundational skills to advanced prompting and workflows over the 8-weeks.

Self-Paced Fundamentals: Start your journey with three hours of videos and lessons designed to build your baseline comfort with AI, or refine and expand your existing AI competence.

Live Q&A Access: Join Paul's popular weekly "Office Hours" to ask questions, troubleshoot your prompts, and stay up-to-date on the latest AI trends.

Cost for Program

State Banking Association Members: $1,500 per registrant

Instructor



Paul Carney is a global speaker, educator, entrepreneur, and former Chief Human Resources Officer of a $4.8B community bank. He is the founder of Ishtot, Inc. and has more than 35 years of experience leading business, technology, and enterprise transformation. Paul has delivered keynotes and workshops to tens of thousands of professionals and business leaders, consistently earning top ratings for relevance and real-world impact.

Paul is a Certified Prompt Engineer™ recognized for helping banking professionals move beyond AI awareness to practical AI collaboration. He teaches bankers across every role, function, and department how to work with AI as a thinking partner, productivity accelerator, and problem-solving tool by turning complex technology into clear, usable skills they can apply immediately to everyday work.

Known for his engaging teaching style, Paul blends executive-level insight with hands-on practice to equip professionals with the confidence and capability to use AI effectively, responsibly, and strategically. He frequently advises boards, startups, and executive teams on integrating AI into talent strategy and organizational design.

Program Format: Live virtual instructor-led sessions via Zoom with on-demand recordings available following each session.

Register and learn more online at
www.bankerscontent.com/ai

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**Attendance at WBA programs is limited to employees, officers and directors of WBA members, non-members eligible for membership in the WBA and members of other state banking associations which grant reciprocal privileges to WBA members.*

Cancellation Policy: For all cancellations that occur up to seven days prior to the start date, a $300 cancellation fee will be charged. For cancellations with less than seven days notice, there will be no refunds. A substitute can attend at no fee. For cancelled courses and/or seminars, full fees will be refunded. Cancellation Procedure: Cancellations must be sent in writing to the WBA office via email, fax, or mail. No refunds will be granted until a written cancellation request is received by WBA.