

## Ripple Seeks U.S. Bank Charter to Boost Crypto Trust

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In a major move signaling its commitment to long-term stability and regulatory compliance, Ripple has officially applied for a U.S. national banking license. The announcement came directly from Ripple CEO Brad Garlinghouse, who confirmed the news on X (formerly Twitter) on Wednesday, following a report by The Wall Street Journal.

“True to our long-standing compliance roots, Ripple is applying for a national bank charter from the OCC,” Garlinghouse wrote, referencing the United States Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the federal agency that oversees national banks.

This application marks a significant moment not just for Ripple, but for the broader cryptocurrency industry, which has been working hard to shake off its reputation for volatility and regulatory uncertainty. By pursuing a federal bank charter, Ripple is signaling that it wants to operate under stricter oversight, and perhaps more importantly, gain broader trust from consumers, institutions, and regulators.

If the license is granted, Ripple would be subject to both federal and state-level scrutiny, a rarity in the crypto space. The company's Ripple USD (RLUSD) stablecoin is already regulated by the New York Department of Financial Services, which adds another layer of oversight. Garlinghouse emphasized that this step could serve as a “new (and unique!) benchmark for trust in the stablecoin market.”

The timing of Ripple's move is no accident. With growing pressure on crypto firms to prove their legitimacy, especially in the United States, more companies are trying to align with traditional financial systems. A federal banking license would allow Ripple to expand its services and offer more confidence to users, particularly those still skeptical of digital assets.

This is part of a broader trend where crypto firms are realizing that long-term success depends on regulation, not avoiding it. For Ripple, a company that has long pitched itself as compliance-focused and enterprise-ready, applying for a banking charter feels like a natural next step.

While the outcome of the application remains to be seen, the message is clear: Ripple is playing the long game. In an industry where trust is everything, making bold, compliance-forward moves like this could help shape the future of crypto finance.

For Ripple, and perhaps for the crypto world at large, this could be a defining moment, one where blockchain meets banking not in opposition, but in partnership.

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