



Spirits Training Entrepreneurship Program for Underrepresented Professionals

APPLICATIONS OPEN

June 1st - September 1st, 2022

As the global spirits industry grows, the world continues to become smaller, and ignoring the need for diversity and inclusion is no longer an option. STEPUP Foundation [Spirits Training Entrepreneurship Program for Underrepresented Professionals] was created to bridge the gap between the underserved and underrepresented workforce in the drinks industry with knowledge, experience, and skill.

STEPUP believes its immersive internship program with distilleries and wholesalers throughout the United States will provide a comprehensive training experience for up to one year. The internship is accompanied by a generous living stipend and will provide job exposure for those of different races, color, national origins, genders, and sexual orientations.

Our goal is to provide opportunities that open the door for underrepresented individuals and help interns build the skills, knowledge, and experience needed to continue to thrive in our industry.

Are you seeking to gain an understanding of, relevant skills and hands-on training in the spirits industry? Are you ready to enter a vibrant entrepreneurial community? Do you want to challenge yourself with an all-new educational experience? Apply today!

Eligible candidates must be:

- **Willing to commit to a full year of training**
- **A member of an underrepresented or underserved demographic**
- **A U.S. Citizen or able to demonstrate proof of eligibility to work in the U.S. with a green card or work permit/visa**
- **21 years of age or older**
- **High school graduates (or its equivalent)**
- **Open to a background check in allowable states**
- **Committed to following procedures, including health protocols, at each individual distillery/wholesaler in which the intern is placed**
- **Open to serving in a graduate alumni group**

Successful Interns, DSPs, and Mentors will be notified December of 2022.

Successful interns will bring passion, motivation, and an ability to immerse in a program for up to one year, that will expose candidates to all facets of owning and operating a distillery, including working with a distributor. No prior experience is required!



*2022 Interns: Yakntoro "Yaki" Udoumoh and Erin Lee.
(Photos by Jeff Cioletti)*

The STEPUP Foundation was founded in August of 2020 and launched after 18 months of planning by its dedicated Board Members; David Cid, former Master of Rums for Bacardi, and co-founder of The Silver Sun Group; Rebecca L. Harris, Chief Distiller, Catocin Creek Distillery; Julie Kinch, CEO/Founder of JK Leadership Advisors, LLC; Margie A.S. Lehrman, CEO, American Craft Spirits Association; Chris Montana, Founder, Du Nord Craft Spirits, Chris Underwood, CEO and Board Member, Young's Holdings, and Chairman of the Board, Board of Managers RNDG-West; and Ingrid Wetzell, Human Resources Director, Bently Heritage Estate Distillery. More information on the program, our mission, and on how to apply can be found at our website: www.stepupinternship.org.

APPLY TODAY AT STEPUPINTERNSHIP.ORG