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# LadderUp Initiative

Expanding pathways to business ownership

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## THE LADDERUP INITIATIVE

### Organizational Overview

The LadderUp Initiative is a federally recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization focused on expanding access to lawful business ownership for underserved and mission-driven individuals. The Initiative addresses structural and compliance barriers that prevent capable individuals from establishing sustainable, legally compliant businesses.

### Mission

The mission of the LadderUp Initiative is to promote economic participation and stability by supporting compliant business formation through education, structural guidance, and access to funding pathways.

### Target Populations Served

The Initiative prioritizes individuals and communities with demonstrated public service, workforce contribution, or reintegration needs, including veterans; retired or volunteer first responders; health and human service professionals; special security and protective service professionals; individuals pursuing economic reintegration through entrepreneurship; and new citizens seeking lawful business ownership in the United States.

### Program Focus

The LadderUp Initiative supports qualified participants by providing guidance on compliant business formation and legal structure; educating participants on regulatory, licensing, and operational requirements; supporting access to grants, public programs, and partner funding opportunities; and preparing participants to establish accountable, sustainable business operations.

## **Public Benefit & Impact**

By promoting compliant business formation and reducing structural barriers to entry, the LadderUp Initiative contributes to workforce stability, responsible entrepreneurship, and community economic resilience. Programs are designed to align with public interest objectives, regulatory compliance standards, and accountability expectations.

## **Organizational Status**

The LadderUp Initiative is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Program development, partnership formation, and funding pathways are currently underway, with phased program implementation planned.

## **Independence & Compliance Statement**

The LadderUp Initiative operates as a legally distinct nonprofit organization with independent governance and program oversight. While founded alongside LadderUp, a for-profit business services entity, the Initiative does not promote, sell, or financially benefit from LadderUp's commercial services. Any collaboration between entities is conducted at arm's length and in compliance with applicable nonprofit regulations.