



**Christopher R. Upperman**  
**CEO**  
**American Entrepreneurship Award**

Christopher R. Upperman is the CEO of the American Entrepreneurship Award and leads operational and strategic functions within the organization. Christopher is passionate about reaching underserved communities and believes entrepreneurship can be a vital pathway towards economic self-sufficiency.

Prior to joining the AEA, Christopher was an Obama Administration political appointee at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and served as the Assistant Administrator (Head) of the Office of Public Engagement. His primary focus was increasing entrepreneurship, business opportunities and capital access for underserved and minority-owned enterprises.

Prior to his time as Assistant Administrator, Christopher served as Senior Advisor for Entrepreneurial Development with a focus on programs related to economic development and encouraging small business ownership. He provided advocacy for Millennials and underserved entrepreneurs and served as one of the White House's "My Brother's Keeper Initiative" liaison officers.

Prior to his appointment at SBA, Christopher worked at the White House as an Analyst and Director of Student Correspondence in the Office of Presidential Correspondence.

Christopher holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Georgia State University.