

DONOR INTRODUCTION UPDATE – ISTEPUP FOUNDATION

My name is Isatu Jalloh, and I am from Sierra Leone. I was born on 20th May 1988, and I am currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Education at the Tonkolili District College of Health Science in Masanga Town. My program started in 2025 and is expected to end in 2029.

Coming from a modest background, continuing my education has not been easy. Growing up in Sierra Leone, I witnessed the struggles of families and communities when access to quality healthcare was limited due to a shortage of trained professionals. This motivated me to dedicate my life to nursing, not only to care for patients but also to train and mentor the next generation of nurses through nursing education. However, the cost of higher education is beyond my family's financial capacity. At \$638 [€547] per year, the tuition is significant, especially when combined with other expenses such as books, accommodation, and transportation. Receiving support from the iSTEPup Foundation means more than just financial relief. It represents hope and opportunity. With this assistance, I will be able to focus on my studies without the fear of being forced to drop out due to unpaid fees. It will allow me to build a strong foundation in nursing education, so that in the future I can contribute to training skilled nurses who will serve in hospitals, clinics, and rural communities across Sierra Leone.

This scholarship is not just an investment in my future, but in the future of healthcare delivery in my country. I am deeply grateful for this opportunity, and I promise to use it to achieve academic excellence, to uplift my family, and to contribute meaningfully to the health system of Sierra Leone.