



## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **Who is the Wine Industry Mentor Program designed for?**

The program is designed for 'early career professionals' i.e. those people who have had some experience in the wine industry but are needing further guidance/mentoring in their chosen field. It is not age specific, as we acknowledge that many people change their career path later in life.

### **If I'm a student, can I apply?**

Absolutely. This program is a wonderful opportunity for individuals starting out in the wine industry to connect with the sectors leaders, explore job opportunities and tap into a wider network of contacts. All we ask is that you have at least two years wine sector experience, that could be two vintages, working in Cellar Door, working for a wine focussed organisation and many other examples are available.

### **If I only worked part time over 2 years in the industry, am I still eligible?**

The simple answer is yes. The nature of the wine industry means that some people may work part time in a cellar door or bottle shop or do vintage for 3 months per year in a region.

### **If I can only commit to a few sessions in the program, can I still apply?**

Every year we receive far more applications than what we can fulfil in the program. Therefore, if you are unable to commit to the 6-month program, we encourage you to consider giving the opportunity to someone who can benefit from the full experience and the mentors time.

### **Do I need to be an Australian Citizen to apply?**

No, you don't have to be an Australian Citizen, however you do need to be an Australian resident for the duration of the program.

### **Are Mentors matched with Mentees based on their geographical location?**

The location of program participants is considered but certainly not a key factor in the matching process. Each successful mentee is paired with a mentor based on personality-fit, experience and interests, desired career path and location.

### **What if I am having difficulty getting my Mentor to agree to a meeting time?**

You can always contact the program facilitator (WCA) if you require additional support to open up the lines of communication with your mentor. We certainly don't want you to feel that you're in this journey alone, we want you to get the most value out of the experience too.

### **Can I meet my Mentor in person, if so what are the COVID-19 requirement for our meetings?**

Yes, however in light of the current global pandemic we encourage program participants to follow the government directive for 'social distancing' in their respective states.

**I am not sure how to start, do you have some tips on how to get the best out of my Mentoring experience?**

Successful applicants will receive a *Wine Industry Mentor Program Toolkit* at the start of the program which will be a great reference point. We will also be hosting an online launch event which will set the scene for the program, get you started and share some extra resources.

**When the program is finished, what comes next? How do I continue my experience with the *Wine Industry Mentor Program*?**

After the formal program commitments end, we hope you will stay in contact with your Mentor and the like-minded wine professionals that completed the program. The conversations, content sharing and networking can continue via the online mentoring platform and future in person industry events.

**Who do I contact if I have further questions?**

Please contact the WCA team via email: [wca@winecommunicators.com.au](mailto:wca@winecommunicators.com.au)