

Louisiana Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LA LEND)

Application Packet for Self-Advocates and Family Members 2021-2022

Deadline: April 30, 2021

What is LEND?

LEND is a nine-month, 300+-hour interdisciplinary training program that incorporates both didactic and experiential learning in clinical and community-based settings. LA LEND prepares graduate students, self-advocates, family members, and practicing professionals to become future leaders in maternal and child health fields to address the needs and priorities of children with autism-spectrum disorders (ASD) and/or other neurodevelopmental disabilities (NDD) and their families. A faculty mentor is assigned to support trainees to complete and master components of the LA LEND program. More information can be found by visiting the LA LEND website at www.hdc.lsuhsu.edu/lend.

Overview of Training Components

In order to be eligible for acceptance in the LA LEND training program, trainees must have the availability to complete the training components listed below.

- A full-day **orientation** to LA LEND to be held (Wednesday, July 14, 2021)
- **Foundations in Maternal and Child Health** (August 2–7, 2021)
 - A week-long intensive course that takes an in-depth look at issues and concepts in maternal and child health
- **Seminars in Maternal & Child Health Topics & Leadership Development** (Fridays, 12:30–4:30 pm)
 - Biweekly in person and virtual seminars with embedded clinical/community experiences to build content knowledge and develop leadership skills
 - In person session dates: Aug 20; Sep 10; Sep 24; Oct 8; Oct 22; Nov 5; Dec 10*; Jan 7; Jan 21; Feb 18; Mar 11; Apr 8 & Apr 22
 - Concurrent clinical/field experiences (*dates TBD*)
 - *tentative awaiting school calendar not to interfere with finals
- **Family Mentoring Experience**
 - Each trainee is paired with a family for a year long mentorship experience to better understand the “lived experience” of families of children with disabilities
 - 6 total visits over the course of the year
- **Leadership Project**
 - Each trainee will complete a self directed 70+ hour leadership project for which he or she exercises leadership skills to address a maternal and child health issue
- Travel to **Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) 2021 Conference** (November 14–17, 2021)

Training Program Requirements

Trainees *must* be able to attend *all of* the following to be considered for the program. Applicants who are unavailable for the events will not be accepted to the program. Please read the list of program requirements below.

- Mandatory full day LA LEND orientation on Wednesday, July 14, 2021
- Mandatory week long Foundations in Maternal and Child Health course on August 2–7, 2021
- Didactic Seminars on Friday, 12:30–4:30 pm (Dates: Aug 20; Sep 10; Sep 24; Oct 8; Oct 22; Nov 5; Dec 10*; Jan 7; Jan 21; Feb 18; Mar 11; Apr 8 & Apr 22)
- Clinic and community based experiences and small group assignments outside of seminar time
- Family Mentor Experience (6 visits)
- 70+ hour Leadership Project on approved maternal and child health issue/topic
- Bimonthly Policy & Advocacy meetings (virtual)
- Attendance at the AUCD Conference on November 14–17, 2021

I understand and agree to the requirements of the LA LEND program listed above.

Applicant Signature

Date

Submission instructions and application deadlines are included on page 8 of this document.

***See attached schedule**

Louisiana Leadership in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LA-LEND)

Application Form

GENERAL

Name	Date		
Are you legally eligible for employment in the US?	Yes	No	
Languages spoken (including ASL)			
Address			
Address Line 2			
City	State	ZIP Code	
Mobile Phone	Alternate Phone		
School E-mail Address (If Applicable)	Alternate E-mail Address (Required)		
Gender in Accordance with Federal Requirements	Male	Female	
Gender (If Not Adequately Captured Above)			
Pronouns (can select multiple sets)	He, Him, His, Himself		
	She, Her, Her(s), Herself		
	They, Them, Their(s), Themselves/Themself		

Other Set of Pronouns (Please Follow Format Above)

4

Race (In Accordance with Federal Regulations)

White Black/African-American
 American Indian or Alaska Native
 Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander Asian
 Mixed Other

Tribe**Ethnicity**

Hispanic refers to the identification of with the culture of Spain or Spanish-speaking countries. A person of any race can be Hispanic.

Hispanic Not Hispanic

Are you currently an LSUHSC employee?

Yes No

Please list any accommodations/modifications you need to participate in the program:**Do you have a LinkedIn?**

Yes No

If so, please list your name as it appears on LinkedIn:**Personal Relationship with Disabilities**

Are you a... (check all that apply)

Person with a disability
 Person with a special health care need
 Parent of a person with a disability
 Parent of a person with a special health care need
 Family member of a person with a disability
 Family member of a person with a special health care need

EDUCATION

First College or University Attended**First Program of Study**

First Degree/Diploma

First Date of Graduation

Second College or University Attended

Second Program of Study

Second Degree/Diploma

Second Date of Graduation

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Please answer each question below. Type your responses directly into the form and submit with your application packet.

The LA LEND program focuses on providing inclusive, family-centered, culturally effective, and linguistically appropriate supports to children with ASD/NDD and other developmental disabilities and their families.

1. Describe your philosophy regarding interdisciplinary and/or family-centered practices in serving families and children with disabilities.

2. Have you ever been described as a leader? Tell us about an opportunity you had to be a leader, either formally or informally.

3. What are your goals for participation in the LA LEND program, and how will learning more about leadership and the impact of disabilities on families enhance your ability to achieve your goals?

4. What else should we know about you that is not included in this application packet?

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

The following items should be included in your application submission:

- Completed and signed application packet
- Current curriculum vitae or résumé
- Two letters of recommendation

All items should be submitted to Nadia Johnson at njohn8@lsuhsc.edu by **April 30, 2021**. Letters of recommendation should be submitted directly to Nadia from the recommender.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

Dates	Milestone
April 30	Applications due
May 7	Finalists are notified and provided dates for interviews
May 12-19	Interviews are conducted
May 30	Applicants are notified of (non-)acceptance

If you have any questions, please contact the LA LEND Coordinator:

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