

LEND Self-Advocate Trainee Applications

Now Open for 2018-2019

What is LEND?

LEND stands for Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities. It was created to improve the health and lives of children and adults with disabilities. The program connects all kinds of people who care about the lives of people with disabilities so that they can share ideas and help others across the country.

What is a LEND Trainee?

A LEND trainee is someone who has been selected to participate in a 9 month program to develop their leadership skills. They may be a graduate student who plans to work with children with disabilities, a parent of a child with a disability or a Self-Advocate who wants to share their experience and make their voice heard.



The LEND program helps each trainee develop their own skills as a leader while they learn from each other.

What is a LEND Discipline?

Each LEND Trainee represents a different LEND Discipline, or area of study or expertise. It can be a health field specialty, like Physical Therapy, Social Work, or Nursing. It can be Family, meaning a parent of a person with a disability. Or it can be Advocacy, meaning the trainee is a Self-Advocate with IDD who wants to be more involved in advocacy activities that support the disability community.

What does a LEND Self-Advocate Trainee do in the program?

The LEND Self-Advocate trainee will be a full member of the program and do the same core LEND things that all trainees do. Plus, the Self-Advocate trainee will have an education coach for support as they work in the program.

- All trainees from every discipline attend a weekly course, where they work together in small groups and share ideas. The class meets every Thursday from 5:00-6:30.
- All trainees attend the approximately 6 leadership training sessions
- All trainees participate in projects they select and are interested in.
- All trainees work hard, have fun, and learn new things.
- All trainees work every week. The SA Trainee will spend between 10 and 20 hours a week working on LEND things.

Remember, the Self-Advocate trainee will have an education coach for support while being a LEND Self-Advocate Trainee, along with any accommodations needed to participate.

Who can apply to be a LEND Self-Advocate Trainee?



Applicants to be a LEND Self-Advocate Trainee must:

- Want to be a leader in their community and be willing to speak up for themselves and others.
- Have completed high school in special education
- Have some education, training, or work experience after high school
- Use a computer for email and internet
- Are able to share ideas by writing, typing or assistive technology
- Want to learn about and be involved in the disability field.
- Live in or close enough to Chapel Hill to come 2 or 3 times a week

Why would someone want to be a LEND Trainee?

Being a LEND Trainee is a great opportunity. If you are selected to participate, as a LEND Self-Advocate trainee, you will have the chance to:

- Improve your leadership skills
- Work on projects
- Be a part of a team that learns from each other
- Practice speaking up for your rights and the rights of others
- Continue education in a university program
- Receive a financial stipend for participating



When does the LEND program begin and end?

August 2018-May 2019.

When is the deadline to apply?

March 31, 2018. And after we receive all of the applications, we will schedule and interview before we make our final selection.

How do I apply?

- Fill out the application form (below)
- Include your resume
- And 2 letters of reference. Not from a family member, but written by a teacher, a boss, or someone you have worked with.

If you would like to come by the CIDD and see where LEND happens and learn more before you apply, you can schedule a tour. You can see the class room, talk to the coach, and ask any questions you can think of to help you decide if being a LEND Self-Advocate trainee is something you would like to apply for. Contact Deb Zuver deborah.zuver@cidd.unc with any questions or to schedule a tour.

Application for LEND Self-Advocate Trainee – Deadline: March 31, 2018

Email your completed application, resume, and 2 letters of reference to Deb Zuver, deborah.zuver@cidd.unc.edu

OR mail to: CIDD-UNC, 101 Renee Lynne Ct, Carrboro 27510

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Current job, if any: _____

Most recent school experience (e.g., community college) or specialized training:

Date completed: _____

1) Why are you interested becoming a LEND Self-Advocate trainee?

2) Give an example of a time that you spoke up for yourself.

3) Why do you want to continue your education?

4) What are your some of your goals for the future?

5) What do you think makes a person a good leader?

Additional comments you would like to share?

Did you have support to complete this application?

Yes Name : _____ email: _____

No

Your signature: _____ Date: _____

Remember to include your resume and 2 letters of reference!