



Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) Trainee Application 2024-2025

Applications are accepted beginning in December each year. Complete application packets will be reviewed by our team. Interviews will be scheduled with eligible applicants beginning in late January. This process will continue until all spaces have been filled.

Applications are accepted from:

1. **Graduate students** in early childhood special education, human development & family studies, nursing, nutrition, occupational therapy, pediatrics, physical therapy, psychology, public health, social work, speech language pathology, or other related disciplines. **Applicants must have earned a minimum of a bachelor's degree.**
2. **Professionals** working in the community supporting children and youth (birth to 21 years) with neurodevelopmental disabilities and/or special health care needs and their families (i.e., early support and service providers, school administrators, general & special educators, related service professionals, and health care providers). **Applicants must have earned a minimum of a bachelor's degree.**
3. **Advocates** with a disability or family members of a person with a disability and/or complex health care needs. **Applicants with demonstrated leadership experience are welcome to apply.**

*A requirement of the program includes a commitment of at least **300 hours** over a 9-month period.* Trainees who are accepted into the program will receive a stipend provided by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

*Alternative formats of this application, including Braille and large print are available upon request.

DIRECTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

Complete all application questions below.

Upload the following:

- Attach a current resume or Curriculum Vita (CV)
- A writing sample, such as an opinion letter, academic paper, publication, or essay.
- **Three** letters of reference from people who know you well and can talk about your professional, interpersonal, and leadership skills and your ability to work with others.
****Please note:** Letters can be uploaded via the online application; emailed to srussell@maine.edu; or sent via US mail to the mailing address below.

Provide

- Transcripts that show your educational experience – high school, college, graduate or undergraduate programs. ****Please note: You do not need to request a transcript if you are a student/graduate of any campus in the University of Maine System.** Mail to:

NH-ME LEND Program
Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies
University of Maine
5717 Corbett Hall, Room 229
Orono, ME 04469-5717

When your application packet is complete, you will receive an email from the LEND office (srussell@maine.edu).

NH-ME LEND TRAINEE APPLICATION

CONTACT INFORMATION

Today's Date: _____

Full Name: _____
(Last name, First name, Middle Initial)

Complete Mailing Address

Street Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____

Work Phone: (____) _____

Cell Phone: (____) _____

Permanent Email (Gmail, yahoo, Comcast, etc.):

What is the best way to contact you?

- Home Phone
- Work Phone
- Email

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- High School/GED
- Associates degree
- Bachelor's degree
- Master's degree
- Doctoral degree
- Other:

As which of the following are you applying (check all that apply)?

- Graduate Student

What is your major/discipline or course of study?

- Professional
- Advocate

QUESTIONS

Directions: Please answer each question in 2-3 paragraphs. Please type your responses and attach them to this application packet.

1. The NH-ME LEND Program looks for applicants with a variety of experiences, backgrounds, and perspectives. With this in mind, tell us a bit about yourself.
 - What has been your experience with disability or chronic health conditions?
 - What interests you about the LEND program?

2. The NH-ME LEND Program helps participants develop their own leadership skills to improve systems of care for people with disabilities.
 - What do you believe makes an effective leader?
 - Describe any opportunities you have had to be a leader and the skills used in these situations.
 - What factors have gotten in your way when you have tried to be an effective leader?

3. What do you see as your future leadership role/s in the field of disability?

IMPORTANT: *Please do not share confidential information or protected health information in this application.*