



Background: The purpose of this year’s workshop is to introduce trainees to discipline-relevant policy matters, with a special emphasis on EHDI reauthorization and its implications for how state programs are carried out. Trainees will learn about the basis for EHDI legislation, identify and discuss key issues that lawmakers are currently being asked to consider, and work in teams to develop effective advocacy strategies – including ones that engage trainees/professionals from other disciplines.

Assignment: Prior to the workshop, trainees are asked to schedule a brief, in-person, conference call, or virtual meeting with their state’s EHDI manager or designee (please do this as a group, not individually). Before making contact, you should communicate with your LEND Faculty Mentor regarding the logistics of this conversation; a list of [state-by-state contact information](#) is also available at the NCHAM website. The goal of this activity is not only to give trainees a basis for comparison, but important context for the discussion of broader reauthorization issues.

Instructions: Please ask the following questions and take thorough notes, as you will be reporting on these discussions at the workshop to trainees from other states:

- 1) Where (e.g. department, division, branch) is the EHDI program in your state based?
- 2) What are the primary roles of the state EHDI coordinator / manager?
- 3) How many staff members are assigned to the EHDI program and what are their responsibilities?
- 4) Does your state have an Advisory Board / Committee? If so, how is it organized? How often do they meet? What do they do?
- 5) What aspects of the EHDI program are working well in your state?
- 6) What aspects of EHDI implementation have presented the most significant challenges?
- 7) Does your state EHDI program have a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant? If so, how are funds being used and where are you in the funding cycle?
- 8) What percentage of financial support for your EHDI program comes from federal vs. state sources?
- 9) What are some of your state’s EHDI priorities for the immediate future?
- 10) If federal EHDI legislation is not reauthorized in 2015, what would be the implications for your state? Consider all possible stakeholders.
- 11) How can trainees and early-career health professionals connect with or participate in the state EHDI program?

Recommended Readings: In addition to the above activity, the workshop planning committee (comprised of LEND audiology faculty) recommends the following readings to help trainees prepare:

- “Newborn Hearing Screening” chapter by Karl White, Ph.D. from *The Handbook of Clinical Audiology*, 7th Ed. (a .pdf copy can downloaded from the [workshop event page](#))
- “Information About Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) State Programs” from the CDC ([link](#))
- “State Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Laws and Regulations” AAP infographic ([link](#))