

Requirements

In addition to discipline-specific clinical training, each LEND fellow must:

- Attend core curriculum classes (two per week)
- Develop an individualized training plan with a preceptor within the fellow's discipline
- Complete a mentored research project
- Complete a community project, including a parent-education presentation
- Complete a family collaboration project
- Participate in Fellows' Forum, an advisory committee to the LEND director

Core Curriculum

The following topics are addressed in seminars, didactic presentations and case-based learning:

- Overview of Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities
- Understanding Autism
- Leadership Skills: Interpersonal Influence and Conflict Resolution
- Interdisciplinary Teams
- Public Policy and Advocacy
- Family-Professional Collaboration
- Research in Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Related Conditions
- Healthcare Administration and Children with Special Needs
- Cultural Effectiveness in Providing Services in a Diverse Society
- Feeding Disorders in Infants and Young Children
- Assistive Technology
- Care Coordination for Children with Special Needs

Faculty

LEND fellows are taught by:

- Clinicians and leaders from The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
- Faculty, researchers and leaders with appointments at the University of Pennsylvania and its Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Social Policy and Practice, Nursing and Education
- Families of children with special needs
- Speakers from the Disabilities Rights Project, Philadelphia Department of Public Health, the Education Law Center of Pennsylvania and other organizations

Join the teams making a difference.

As a LEND fellow at CHOP, you'll work with nationally recognized experts who have dedicated their lives to helping children with special needs and their families.

LEND fellows participate in the REACH Transition to Adulthood Initiative, which helps youth with developmental disabilities and/or chronic medical conditions address issues of education, housing, job training and healthcare as adults.

Through the Homeless Health Initiative, LEND fellows empower families by helping to provide free health screenings, dental screenings and health education, and building capacity for developmental screening in homeless shelters serving mothers with children in Philadelphia neighborhoods.

LEND fellows are involved in a program evaluation of a home-visiting program, conducted by the City of Philadelphia, for special-needs children. They serve on a task force of advocates for children who have experienced maltreatment and are living in foster care or group homes.

Is your heart — and your future — in any of these places? Become a LEND fellow at CHOP.

For more information, please contact the LEND program manager, at 215-590-7466 or lendinfo@email.chop.edu



To lend a hand.
To lead.

 The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia®
Hope lives here.

Founded in 1855, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia is the birthplace of pediatric medicine in America. Throughout its history, a passionate spirit of innovation has driven this renowned institution to pursue scientific discovery, establish the highest standards of patient care and train future leaders in pediatrics. For a century and a half, Children's Hospital has served as a haven of hope for children and families worldwide.

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The Leadership Education in
Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Program

LEND Program at

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Office of Diversity & Inclusion at

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LEND Program at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Challenging Questions

How can we help youth with disabilities and chronic medical conditions successfully transition into adulthood?

How can we meet the medical, dental and behavioral-health needs of historically underserved children, such as those living in homeless shelters or placed in foster care?

How can we collaborate with community agencies, schools and families to best serve children with life-long conditions such as sickle cell disease, cerebral palsy or spina bifida?

How can we improve the systems of care to better meet the needs of all of these children?

The Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Program provides interdisciplinary fellowship training for healthcare professionals and family members of children with chronic medical or developmental conditions. It includes clinical and

classroom training with The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the University of Pennsylvania, collaboration with families, community service projects, research training and more.

The fellowship complements discipline-specific training by providing a broad perspective on vital quality-of-life issues and by building knowledge of the complicated systems — healthcare, education, social services, families and others — that profoundly affect children.

Help Develop Solutions

The LEND Program is dedicated to improving the systems of care for children with neurodevelopmental disabilities and chronic health issues and for children who historically have been underserved. LEND fellows are trained to become leaders in the many professions that work together to improve the lives of children and youth with special needs, and their families.



About LEND Fellows

Who

Professionals who are completing or have recently completed an advanced degree in healthcare fields associated with maternal and child health are eligible for the LEND fellowship. Family members who care for children with neurodevelopmental or related conditions also are eligible.

Fellows from the following fields participate:

- Audiology
- Dentistry
- Developmental/behavioral pediatrics
- Family leadership
- Healthcare administration
- Nursing
- Nutrition
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Psychology
- Social work
- Special education
- Speech-language pathology

Where

The LEND Program is based at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). Founded in 1855 as the nation's first pediatric hospital, CHOP today has more than 1 million patient visits per year and is consistently ranked the top children's hospital in the United States. CHOP training programs are among the best in the world.

Support

LEND is supported by a grant from the Maternal Child Health Bureau, (Title V, Social Security Act), Health Resources and Services Administration, United States Department of Health and Human Services. There are more than 30 LEND programs in the U.S. and its protectorates.

Training options include funded or unfunded long-term (12 months or 300-plus hours) and unfunded short-term or medium-term (less than 300 hours) fellowships at an advanced master's, doctoral or post-doctoral level; or the candidate is the parent or legal guardian of a child with a chronic medical or developmental condition. To be eligible for funding support, the candidate must be a U.S. citizen or holder of a permanent visa, and not receiving any other federal funds.

Committed to Diversity

A diverse workforce is an institutional priority at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. We are taking numerous steps to ensure that we are a leader in the recruitment, retention and promotion of minorities. The LEND Program encourages applications from minority candidates.

