

## LEND

Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities  
Interdisciplinary Training Program

### What is LEND?

**LEND** is a leadership training program for people who want to support individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities. It brings together self-advocates, family members, students, professionals, and community members to learn and lead. Our goal is to improve quality of life for people with disabilities and their families.

### Who leads the program?

LEND training is led by clinicians, educators, researchers, family members, and advocates who support trainees and community partners throughout the program.

### What can you learn?

LEND trainees learn about autism and developmental disabilities through:

- Interactive seminars
- Observing clinic visits at the MIND Institute
- Community-based experiences
- Leadership and research projects

Topics include healthcare, lived experiences, advocacy, research, policy, leadership, and communication skills.

### Who can participate?

- California residents age 22 and older
- Graduate students, professionals, and postdoctoral fellows
- Adults with autism or other developmental disabilities
- Family members and caregivers
- Community and education professionals

**Cost:** There is no cost to participate. Some trainees may receive a stipend.

### Program details

- Runs September through May 2026
- 40–300 total training hours
- Most activities available both in person or online

**\*FUNDING NOTE:** the 2026-27 LEND Program will depend on whether our federal funding is renewed. Applications are due March 15, but funding for the program may not be confirmed until August 2026.



### More info:

<https://health.ucdavis.edu/mind-institute/education/lend/>

### or Email:

[lend@health.ucdavis.edu](mailto:lend@health.ucdavis.edu)

**Applications open February  
1 of each training year**

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