



University of Connecticut
Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities Program (CT LEND)
Self-Advocate, Parent, Family, Community Member Application Guide
2025-2026

The 2025-2026 Self-Advocate, Parent, Family, Community Member Application is now open.

CT LEND program details

- Length of commitment: About 10 months (end of August 2025 – May 2026)
- Day of week: Fridays
 - Fall 2025: Friday, August 29 – Friday, December 5
 - Spring 2026: Friday, January 23 – Friday, May 1
- Where: UConn UCEDD: 270 Farmington Ave., Suite 181, Farmington, CT 06030
- Time: 8:30am – 4:00pm

CT LEND program requirements

- Attend weekly Friday seminars at the UConn UCEDD (8:30am – 4:00pm)
- Participate in seminar: large group and small group discussions and activities
- Complete pre- and post-assessments throughout the year
- Complete consumer satisfactions and evaluations at the end of every seminar
- Participate in group research project (fall)
- Participate in advocacy project (spring)
- Additional optional activities

Preview of open-ended questions. We recommend saving responses in Word or another program prior to completing the application.

Please answer the following questions. Each can be answered in one or two paragraphs or about 500 words.

1. How did you find out about LEND?
2. How does disability impact your life?
3. What makes you an excellent candidate for this program?
4. What impact do you want to make in the community after you finish the CT LEND program?

Review of applications will begin in April and continue until the cohort is filled.

If you have additional questions, please contact Dr. Mary Beth Bruder, PhD (bruder@uchc.edu).

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