



Preparing leaders across health professions

<http://www.uvm.edu/medicine/vtlend/>

Would you like to change clinical, system and/or policy barriers impacting children and youth with neurodevelopmental disabilities, including autism, & their families?

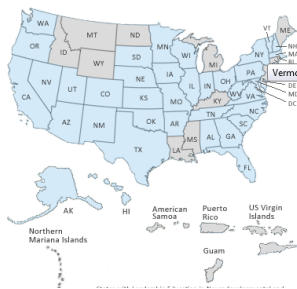
Are you interested in developing your advocacy and leadership skills?

Would you like to take two UVM courses & earn 6 graduate credit hours tuition free?

What is VT LEND?

- VT-LEND is a Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) program which provides **one academic year of graduate level interdisciplinary training.**
- The purpose of the LEND training program is to improve the health of infants, children, and adolescents with disabilities.
- VT LEND trains individuals in VT and US Virgin Islands from diverse professional disciplines to take leadership roles in their fields and ensures high levels of interdisciplinary clinical competence.

There are currently 52 LEND programs in 44 states creating a **national network, Association of University Centers on Disabilities (www.aucd.org)**, that shares information on issues important to children with special health care needs and their families.



Consider applying if:

- You have a vision for leadership
- You are interested in the field of neurodevelopmental disabilities including autism.
- You wish to gain understanding, experience and skill in influencing policies impacting children, families and service providers.
- You are a graduate student, community professional, and/or family member of a child with a disability.

Trainees (graduate students) and Fellows (community professionals) are recruited from the following disciplines:

Family	Public Health/Health Administration
Early Childhood Special Education	Physical Therapy
Education	Policy/law
Nursing	Psychology
Nutrition	Social Work
Occupational Therapy	Special Education
Pediatrics/Medicine	Speech/Language Pathology



VT LEND Trainees and Fellows (T/Fs) 2017-18



[VT-LEND Interdisciplinary Faculty and Staff](#)

VT LEND Core Curriculum

Orientation: Introduction to MCH & LEND vision & networks; self-assessment & focused trainings.

2 Graduate Seminars: ONLINE Interdisciplinary Seminar in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities, I (Fall) & II (Spring)* - 3 credits each

Leadership Discussion: Interdisciplinary faculty, T/Fs meet monthly as a learning community to discuss MCH clinical, leadership, and/or policy & systems issues.

Mentorship meetings: Mentorship is provided by a core faculty to guide T/F through LEND training & engage in a reflective process focused on who they are as a leader & their leadership goals.

Leadership Goal Plan: T/Fs create and implement plan focused on their leadership goal. Interdisciplinary faculty provides guidance and support.

Legislative & Policy Training: Knowledge and skill building on legislative process, policy & advocacy; and a day at the state house.

Disability Policy Seminar: 3 days in Washington DC focused on policy and current legislative issues culminating in a visit to meet with legislators on Capitol Hill.

*Graduate Seminars can be applied toward a *Certificate of Graduate Studies (CAGS) in the Interdisciplinary Study of Disabilities*. More information about CAGS is available at: <http://www.uvm.edu/~cdci/cgsisd/>

Required Internship Experience (50-60 hours)

These activities include:

Family Connection: A guided interview with a family focused on understanding the family experience of raising a child with special needs.

Technical Assistance: Team provides interdisciplinary consultation on a challenging leadership or clinical issue.

Internship Opportunities (30-40 hours) (this is not an inclusive list; individual decisions are based on learning needs & site availability)

- VT Health Dept. Children with Special Health Needs (CSHN) and Child Development Clinic
- VT I-Team
- Pediatric Medical Homes
- Children's Integrated Services (CIS) teams
- UVM Medical Center
- VT Center for Children Youth & Families Autism Assessment Clinic
- Policy internships
- 1:1 matching with LEND faculty, field experts and/or consultants

NOTE: Core Curriculum and internships are refined annually; some activities may change. The VT LEND program is dependent upon continued federal grant funding.

Program Details

- One academic year: September – May
- 300 hour program
- 7 full day meetings (9:00-5:00pm) in person or via Adobe Connect web conferencing platform
- One graduate course (3 credits) per semester
 - Tuition paid by program
 - Student fee must be paid by participant
- Stipend paid to each participant



To apply, visit our website and contact our Program Coordinator, Naw-Esther Doh at ndoh@uvm.edu.

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