To apply: [http://www.uvm.edu/medicine/vtlend/](http://www.uvm.edu/medicine/vtlend/)

**What is VT LEND?**
- Vermont Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) program
- Part of a national network of 60 LEND programs throughout the country. AUCD-Association of University Centers on Disabilities ([www.aucd.org](http://www.aucd.org))

**What does it do?**
- Trains professionals, self-advocates and family members to become leaders and change systems
- Teaches about
  - Leadership
  - Disabilities
  - Working on teams
  - How to work better with and for people from different cultures
  - Making systems work better for all

VT LEND Trainees and Fellows (T/Fs) 2021-2022
Who is in the program?
Family members, self-advocates, professionals & university students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family members of person with disability</th>
<th>Public Health Professionals</th>
<th>Self-Advocates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Therapists</td>
<td>Teachers</td>
<td>Lawyers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Doctors</td>
<td>Psychologists</td>
<td>Nurses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutritionists or Dieticians</td>
<td>Special Education Teachers</td>
<td>Occupational Therapists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audiologists</td>
<td>Geneticists</td>
<td>ABA Therapists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech/Language Pathologists</td>
<td>Disability Specialists</td>
<td>Social Workers</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

How long is the program? 9 months – September - May

VT LEND Training Activities (230-240 hours)

2 UVM Graduate ONLINE classes- Tuition paid by VT LEND
One class in the fall and one in the spring

Leadership Discussions: All faculty and trainees discuss clinical, leadership, or policy & systems issues

Mentorship meetings: Weekly meetings with one faculty to talk about your leadership skills and goals

Leadership Goal Plan: Design a plan to meet your leadership goals

Legislative & Policy Training: Learn about legislative process, policy & advocacy; and spend a day in a legislative activity

AUCD conference: 3-4 days virtual or in Washington DC
Trainings on range of disability topics. Meetings with US Congress members or staff.
Required Internship Experience (50-60 hours)

Family Connection: Meeting with a family with child with disability to learn about their experience

Technical Assistance: Faculty and trainees provide ideas on a challenging leadership or clinical issue.

Internship Opportunities (30-40 hours)

Some examples of internships:
- Special education consultation team
- Medical Center
- Developmental service agency
- Pediatric medical home
- Early intervention team
- Policy internship
- Community organization

Program Details

- One academic year: September – May
- 300 hour program
  - 10 half-day meetings in person or on Zoom web conferencing
  - 1 full day at VT Statehouse or other legislative activity
  - 3-4 days at AUCD conference
- One graduate course (3 credits) per semester
  - Tuition paid by program
  - Student fee must be paid by participant
- Stipend paid to each participant
- Educational Coaching provided
- VT LEND is a federally funded grant. If the grant funding is stopped, there will not be a program for you.

Eligibility: (1) The person receiving a stipend must be a citizen or a non-citizen national of the United States or have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence by the start of the training grant fellowship or traineeship. Documents like a current valid Permanent Resident Card [USCIS Form I-551] or other legal verification of this status will be needed. (2) A person cannot be a trainee/fellow in two LEND programs at the same time. If accepted into another LEND program, contact VT LEND. (3) If you are receiving a stipend from a federal grant OR a graduate student stipend, contact VT LEND. (4) If a person receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI), contact VT LEND. The stipend could impact SSI benefits.

To apply, visit our website: www.med.uvm.edu/vtlend

Questions???

Email our Program Coordinator, Ivania Mangas at iruizman@uvm.edu