



LoneStar LEND

Leadership Education in Autism and
Neurodevelopmental Disabilities

A collaboration between:
UTHealth
University of Houston
Texas Woman's University
University of Houston – Clear Lake
Baylor College of Medicine

Components of Long-Term LoneStar LEND Program (LTTs)

September 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

1. LEND Orientation:
 - Friday, September 4, 2019 9am - 5pm
2. LEND Core Seminars
 - September – June: Fridays 9:00am – 4:45pm
3. Service Learning Project
 - Weekday meetings with team members outside of Friday LEND seminars
4. Families as Teachers (FaT)
 - (included in Friday LEND seminars) Four lectures from Family Faculty, two parent panels, one advocate panel and FaT Presentation Day PLUS (outside of Friday LEND seminars) two or more encounters with assigned mentor family
5. Clinical Practicum
 - 26 clinical rotations (1/2 day or full day each)
 - Scheduled weekdays outside of Friday LEND seminars
6. Leadership Weekend
 - Friday – Saturday, September 25 & 26, 8:00AM-5:00PM; attendance mandatory for all LTTs
7. LEND Conference
 - October 2020 (Thursday – Friday); Houston, TX
8. Baylor Chronic Illness & Disability Conference **OR** Texas Transition Conference (TTC)
 - Baylor- October 2020; location TBA
 - TTC - February 2021; location TBA
9. Leadership DVDs/Readings
 - New book/video each month; Discussions held once monthly (during Friday seminars)
10. Developmental Screening events
 - Two or more events throughout LEND year, outside of Seminars
11. Social Media Presence
 - Consistent maintenance throughout entire LEND year

Program Requirements for Long-Term LoneStar LEND Trainees

The mission of the LoneStar LEND Trainee program is to create leaders in the field of Autistic Spectrum and other Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (ASD/ND) within an interdisciplinary training model focusing on cultural competence and evidence-based practice. During their 10 month appointment, each LEND Trainee will complete a total of **400+ hours** of training and learning activities including:

- LEND Didactic Seminars and Leadership/Cultural Competence Training
- Clinical Practicums
- Service Learning Project
- Conference Participation
- Family Practicum
- Additional LEND activities including readings, reflections, discussion groups, outreach, etc.

LEND Didactic Seminars and Leadership/Cultural Competence Training

Mandatory sessions will be held on Fridays September through June. For a sample of the previous year's didactic seminar calendar, visit www.LoneStarLEND.org.

These sessions will occur mainly at the UTHealth University Center Tower, 7000 Fannin St; however some may be scheduled at the McGovern Medical School, 6431 Fannin or the UTHealth School of Nursing (SON), 6901 Bertner. Three or four 90-minute sessions are scheduled each day: 9:00 – 10:30AM, 10:45 – 12:15PM, 1:30 – 3:00PM and 3:15 – 4:45PM. Training sessions will include:

- LEND Orientation
- Didactic Seminars
- LEND Leadership Weekend (held on a Friday/Saturday in October)
- Leadership and Cultural Competency Curriculum (held on a Friday/Saturday)
- Families as Teachers, Service Learning and Clinical Review Sessions
- Team Building and Group Projects

Attendance at the seminars is required. A limited number of absences are allowed for professional conflicts or illness. Please review the attached attendance policy. In addition to the scheduled training sessions, Trainees can expect to spend an average of 8-12 hours per week on LEND activities such as clinical practicum, research, family practicum and other LEND activities, assignments, and projects.

Clinical Practicum

Trainees will participate in a wide variety of clinics and community observational experiences. A total of 26 clinical rotations must be completed within the LEND year, each rotation spans between 4 – 8 hours. Trainees are responsible for contacting clinics to schedule observations and will keep a log of observational experiences for review by the Training Coordinator at periodic clinical review sessions.

Conference Participation

All Trainees will attend the annual LoneStar LEND conference held in the October 2020 (exact date TBD) PLUS either the Baylor Chronic Illness & Disability Conference or the Texas Transition Conference. Conference registration funds will be provided for trainees to attend at least one additional conference (from a group of selected conferences) during the program year.

Families as Teachers Program

Each Trainee will be paired with a mentor family of a child with an ASD/ND in order for the trainees to share a family's viewpoint of how they experience the process of diagnosis, treatment, and day-to-day life with ASD/ND. Trainees will schedule a minimum of two encounters with their assigned mentor family prior to April 30, 2020. In addition, Trainees will attend two parent panels where a variety of disabilities and ethnic backgrounds will be represented. These interactive panels will be moderated by the LEND family faculty and will expose trainees to a variety of ASD/ND topics from the families' perspectives. Upon completion of the Families as Teachers Program, trainees will participate in a wrap-up session where each trainee reflects upon the experience through a brief presentation to their peers and LEND Faculty. The presentation will focus on how system and service availability and/or gaps were highlighted by the families' experiences and ideas for services to fill those gaps. The trainee will also highlight how they were most impacted by the families as teachers experience and how they anticipate this will affect their practice in the future.

Service Learning Project

During the course of the LEND year, each trainee pursues an area of particular personal interest through the Service Learning Project. Conceptualized and completed in interdisciplinary groups of 2 - 4 trainees, the Service Learning Project will provide multiple opportunities for trainees to experience issues they will face in practice such as accountability, outcome-based approaches, family-centered models, collaboration, and interdisciplinary decision-making. Each of these components offers opportunities for trainees to enhance and strengthen their leadership skills. Trainee groups will present their service learning project at the conclusion of their program (date TBD).

The Service Learning Project should focus on an issue in the field of disability/special health care needs and systems change. Each project will result in production of a product (brochure, web page, article, instructional video, etc.) and is an opportunity to integrate relevant material from LEND seminars and take away a broader perspective of working with an interdisciplinary team.

Social Media Presence

Each trainee is expected to contribute to the maintenance of an active LEND social media presence to promote the LEND mission and vision throughout the duration of their LEND tenure.



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Components of **Medium-Term** LoneStar LEND Program (abridged)

Applicants may apply for the MTT program at any time. Upon acceptance MTTs Trainees will then meet with the Program Coordinator to discuss

1. LEND Orientation:
 - Held 10am - 12pm within 2 weeks of your acceptance as a MTT
2. LEND Seminars
 - September – June: Fridays 9:00am – 4:45pm
3. LEND Conference (optional)
 - Early Spring (Thursday – Friday); Houston, TX