Trainees

- Have successfully completed an undergraduate program from an accredited college or university
- Provide documentation that establishes acceptance by and enrollment in a graduate program that is one of the URLEND core or related disciplines prior to entrance into the URLEND program
- Must be a citizen of the U.S. or be admitted to the U.S. with a permanent resident visa; and
- Provide a current professional license to demonstrate that they are qualified to practice in their home state, if this requirement is a prerequisite for their discipline.
- Or, are family members of children with disabilities interested in learning more about advocacy

URLEND provides stipends to long-term trainees who complete at least 300 clock hours of the Core Curriculum. The stipends are part of the URLEND training program funded through the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), Health Resources and Services Administration.

Core and Related Disciplines:

- Audiology
- Dentistry/Pediatric Dentistry
- Education
- General Medicine
- Genetics
- Health Administration
- Nursing
- Nutrition
- Occupational Therapy
- Pediatrics
- Pharmacy
- Physical Therapy
- Psychology
- Public Administration
- Public Health
- Social Work
- Speech-Language Pathology

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What is URLEND?

The Utah Regional LEND, or URLEND, is a LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and related Disabilities) training program that serves five states: Utah, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and North Dakota. Our program uses state-of-the-art technology to connect groups of trainees across the partner states. Professionals are trained to move beyond discipline boundaries to provide optimal services to children and adolescents with special health care needs. Because families are essential to well-being, this program emphasizes the role of family-centered care.

URLEND is a year-long learning and community-service program that prepares health care professionals, educators and families to facilitate a higher quality of life for children and adolescents with disabilities.

Trainees attend Friday afternoon interdisciplinary webinars on the University of Montana campus in Missoula and engage in community-based clinical and family activities for “real life” learning. Interdisciplinary group leadership projects add depth to each trainee’s education experience. Training begins in late August, with a supported trip to Utah for orientation, and runs through May.

Learning Approach

Each year a diverse set of trainees from numerous disciplines, join with faculty and families of children with special health care needs to form an interdisciplinary learning cohort.

The URLEND approach is based on goals and objectives derived from Maternal & Child Health (MCH) leadership competencies. Each long-term trainee participates in three forms of learning: didactic (classroom), leadership, and clinical.