San Diego LEND Application Instructions

We are now accepting applications for the 2021-2022 training year (training year starts September 2021). **Applications are due August 6, 2021.**

**Application:** All applicants must complete the San Diego LEND online application. The application is available online and on the [San Diego LEND website](http://www.len.org). Applicants do not have to complete the application in one sitting as the application can be saved and returned to using a code that will be generated and provided to you from the online application.

**Essay:** All applicants are required to complete a one page essay. Applicants will need to have their one-page essays prepared and ready to upload when completing their online application. Prompts for the essays differ by applicant type and are outlined below.

**Letter(s) of reference:** Letters of reference should be provided using the LEND reference form (fillable PDF) available on the [San Diego LEND website](http://www.len.org). Applicants should complete the top portion of the form, save the document with their name in the title and then email the form to their reference who will complete the remaining pages. The reference can email the completed letter directly to the San Diego LEND program at sandiegolend@health.ucsd.edu. (Not that professional and graduate/post graduate applicants require two letters, while family and self-advocates only require one.)

**Required Application Materials**

The application requirements differ depending on applicant type. Please see specific requirements outlined below.

Required application materials for **graduate/post-graduate or practicing professional** applicants include:

1. Online application
2. Resume/CV
3. Two letters of references (using the LEND reference form)
4. A one page statement of interest that addresses applicant’s interest in promoting equitable access to evidence-based care, applicant’s leadership strengths and goals in the field of ASD/DD, and skills and competencies applicant is interested in developing during San Diego LEND training.

Required application materials for **family member** applicants include:

1. Online application
2. One letter of reference (using the LEND reference form)
3. One page statement describing your experiences as a family member of a neurodiverse individual. Please include any leadership, community, or advocacy interest or experiences related to ASD/DD that you may have.

Additional required application materials for **self-advocate** applicants include:

1. Online application
2. One letter of reference (using the LEND reference form)
3. One page statement describing your experiences as a neurodiverse Self-Advocate. Please include any leadership, community, or advocacy experiences, which can include experiences advocating for yourself.
**Need additional assistance?**
Maia Feliu, LEND Administrative Coordinator will be available to support applicants though the submission of application materials. She can be contacted at sandiegolend@health.ucsd.edu or T: (858) 966-7703 ext. 244805.

Family member applicants can contact Rachel Haine-Schlagel, Ph.D., the Family Discipline lead, for assistance and support for all aspects of the application process. She can be contacted at sandiegolend@health.ucsd.edu.

Self-advocate applicants can contact Mary Baker Ericzen, Ph.D., the Self-Advocate Discipline lead, for assistance and support for all aspects of the application process. She can be contacted at sandiegolend@health.ucsd.edu.