Trainee Participants

Each year, a minimum of 15 trainees are competitively selected from among graduate students at the University of Hawai‘i and Guam, other educational institutions, and health care practitioners in the field. Trainees participate in a year-long leadership education program. Although all trainees are welcome to participate, only those students from the core disciplines are eligible to receive funding support. Trainees are expected to complete intensive training which includes a minimum commitment of 300 hours. All trainees attend seminar sessions and individual professional development.

Contact Information:
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Guam Campus
MCH LEND Program
Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service (Guam CEDDERS)
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Leadership Education for Maternal – Child Health Critically Needed in Hawai‘i and Pacific Basin

In Hawai‘i and throughout the Pacific Region, health needs are reported in prevention, early identification, diagnosis, early intervention, primary health care, specialized health care, and coordination of health care systems for children with disabilities and family members. Leadership is essential to develop programs based on principles of family-centeredness, cultural competence, coordination, and comprehensiveness.

Funded since 1994 under the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, the Hawai‘i MCH LEND Program prepares health professionals for leadership roles to improve services and supports for children with special health care needs and their family members. Children with special health care needs (CSHCN) are children with disabilities or those at risk of neurodevelopmental delays, including multiple intellectual or developmental disabilities and other chronic illnesses and/or health conditions. The Hawai‘i MCH LEND Program is a part of a National Network of maternal-child health leadership education and training programs in neurodevelopmental disabilities.

Curriculum and Training Content

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A Comprehensive Faculty Team

A comprehensive team of senior University faculty and community-based health care professionals provide comprehensive interdisciplinary training and mentorship. The faculty of the Hawai‘i MCH LEND Program represents multiple core and expanded disciplines from across the Pacific: Core Disciplines: Audiology, Dentistry, Families, Health Administration, Nursing, Nutrition, Occupational Therapy, Pediatrics, Physical Therapy, Psychology, Social Work, Speech Pathology; Expanded Disciplines: Assistive Technology, Dental Hygiene, Disability Studies, Genetics, Law, Political Science, Public Health, Special Education.

Trainee Recruitment

Application Criteria:
- US Citizen
- Advanced graduate student standing (Academic trainee)
- Completion of basic clinical training as required in discipline
- Demonstration of excellence in foundation courses within discipline

Minimum Criteria
- US Citizen
- Advanced graduate student standing (Academic trainee)
- Completion of basic clinical training as required in discipline
- Demonstration of excellence in foundation courses within discipline

Desirable Criteria
- Demonstrates experience with individuals with disabilities and/or children with special health care needs and family members
- Demonstration of career goals to work in the area of maternal and child health with individuals with disabilities and families

Required Documentation
- Completed application form
- Nomination form from supervisor/department faculty
- Resume
- Copy of recent applicable certification and licenses
- Proof of malpractice or liability insurance coverage
- Three (3) letters of recommendation from supervisory

Trainee application form can be found at: blog.hawaii.edu/mchlend