

CA-LEND

Self-Advocacy Scholar (Long-Term Trainee) Qualifications and Program Expectations

Self-Advocacy Definition: Self-Advocacy is knowing your rights, as a person with a disability, and speaking up for what you need and what you want. Self-Advocacy can help someone become self-determined, which means they have control over their life.

Part A: Required Qualifications

Qualified Applicants must possess:

- 1) Lived experience with a disability
- 2) Prior training in self-advocacy, empowerment, and systems change
- 3) Prior experience as a self-advocate (see below for details)
- 4) The skills and willingness to educate others regarding one’s experience as a self-advocate.
- 5) A willingness to learn from and collaborate with interdisciplinary peers.
- 6) The desire to be a leader.
- 7) US Citizenship or a permanent resident status

**Please note: an academic degree is not required.*

<p>Prior Experience as a Self-Advocate <i>(minimum 2 years of combined activities)</i></p>	<p>Examples of Possible Experiences (Paid or Volunteer)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting a support group • System navigation • Board experience such as: member of a board of directors of a regional center or area board member or CAC member • Legislative Activities such as participating in a legislative action group, giving public testimony, helping to create/pass a bill, etc. • Role with community or school-based organizations (eg. peer mentor) • Volunteering on a board • Employment in field of self-advocacy • Other similar experiences
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Part B: Program Expectations/ Scholar Commitments

The **LEND Certificate** is awarded to trainees who participate in and complete a 300-hour CA-LEND curriculum which includes live sessions and independent work outside of sessions. In total, the 300-hour curriculum requires scholars to dedicate *approximately 8-9 hours a week for CA-LEND activities.*

Participation in the hybrid curriculum requires:

Scholar Availability for Curriculum Activities

- Wednesdays from Sept 1 – May 30 from 9am – 1pm

- Four Wednesdays will require trainees to attend full day sessions from 8am - 3pm

Hybrid Participation

- Participation on-site 2-3 Wednesdays per month
- Participation online 2-3 Wednesdays per month
 - Scholars must have access to a reliable internet connection and have the necessary technology to join virtual meetings on Zoom.

Scholar Stipend

A small monthly stipend is provided to support the scholar's time and access to participate in the training.

For more information, please contact:

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Scan the QR code to be directed to the application on the CA-LEND website or type into your search bar on your browser: <https://www.ca-lend.org/apply-now>.

