



TIPS FOR KIDS

Training in Interdisciplinary Partnerships and Services for Kids

TIPS for Kids is seeking family/parent-advocate applicants for the **2026-2027 academic year!**

TIPS for Kids is the **Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND)** training program in Missouri and supported by a federally funded grant. There are 60 LEND programs across the nation and Missouri's program has been in place for almost 30 years. The purpose of the program is to increase the pediatric clinical workforce of providers serving children with special health care needs and their families. Thus, we train future healthcare professionals in evidence-based, interdisciplinary, family-centered, and culturally competent practices. Training is provided in leadership, policy, and advocacy skills as well.

Selected trainees receive a **stipend** for both semesters in accordance with Graduate School guidelines.

Requirements:

- Parent/Family member to an individual with a disability.
- Must have experience of living with a person with a disability.
- Applicants should demonstrate an interest in developing leadership, advocacy skills, and knowledge related to developmental disabilities.
- Applicants do NOT need to be a current student to participate in the program.

Trainee expectations:

- Selected students will participate in coursework during the fall and spring semesters for a minimum of 300 hours. Classes are held on Fridays between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm.
- Coursework will include, but is not limited to, information regarding developmental disorders, disability policy, leadership, interdisciplinary practice, cultural-competence, and family-centered care.
- Advocacy trainees will also participate in specific learning activities to enhance their ability to become leaders within their communities.
- Advocacy trainees will work with a faculty mentor and other LEND faculty to fulfill assignments, including a group leadership project with a community agency.
- Regular attendance in classes and outside learning assignments is an expectation of the program.



Applications are due:

April 10, 2026

[Application form](#)

For further information,
contact: Jaclyn Benigno,
tips4kids@health.missouri.edu
Meeting ID: 930 1894 7106



TIPS Informational Meetings:

March 11th, 5:30 to 6:30PM

OR

March 12th, 12:00pm to 1:00pm

<https://umsystem.zoom.us/j/93018947106>

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