



Genetic Counseling in Developmental Disabilities

2025-26

JFK Partners, Colorado's University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Service (UCEDD) and Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Program is offering a part-time Genetic Counseling Traineeship **to begin August 1, 2025.**

The purpose of the LEND program is to improve the health and well-being of individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities by preparing an interdisciplinary cadre of professionals to take leadership roles in providing services, improving systems of care, and building inclusive communities for these individuals and their families.

Genetic Counseling trainees will:

- complete at least 300 hours in the training program
- acquire an understanding of the roles of various disciplines that serve individuals with developmental disabilities and their families
- understand the perspectives of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families
- explore community resources
- learn about disability legislation and systems
- complete and share a scholarly project related to their career goals

Eligibility:

- Applicants must have received a graduate degree (Master's) in Genetic Counseling or be in the second year of a Genetic Counseling Master's program.
- Only candidates with U.S. citizenship may be considered, based on funding agency requirement

Program Description: Genetic Counseling trainees receive a balance of interdisciplinary, academic and scholarship opportunities that include experiences to learn about serving individuals with disabilities and their families in a family-centered, culturally competent manner.

- Must attend
 - Leadership Dialogues 1 (daily Aug 4-8 and Aug 11-15, 2025 from 1:00-4:00 pm) (In-person)
 - CLSC 6653/6654 Key Concepts in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Course on Tuesdays 8:15-10:15 AM (Sept-Apr). (In-person)
- Optional coursework
 - Leadership Dialogues 2: Policy & Advocacy (Jan-Mar – 5 sessions and a day at the Colorado Capitol at IDD Awareness Day in March)
 - CLSC 6668 Screening/Assessment – Tues 1:10-3:30 PM (Fall)
 - CLSC 6664 Intervention – Tues 1:10-3:30 PM (Spring)

Support: A stipend of approximately \$6,000 over 9.5 months for this graduate level, part-time (12 hours/week) position is available for those completing the program in 300 hours or more.

This position is funded by a grant from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Award #2 T73MC11044-14-00, July 1, 2021-June 30, 2026.

Application:

Our application requires the submission of the following documents:

1. Cover Letter/Statement of Interest - Please include answers to the following questions:
 - Describe why a traineeship at JFK Partners interests you.
 - Have you had any experience with Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) training? If so, what program?
 - Describe any past experiences related to working with individuals with autism or other developmental disabilities (ASD/DD) that may strengthen your application.
 - Are you a family member of an individual with ASD/DD? (Disclose to your comfort.)
 - How does advanced training in developmental disabilities fit with your future professional plans?
2. Graduate school transcripts (unofficial)
3. Resume or Curriculum Vita (CV)
4. Two (2) recommendations (letters, emails or phone calls) from faculty or supervisors familiar with your interests and work relevant to this traineeship.

JFK Partners is committed to the recruitment and retention of diverse faculty, staff, and trainees to enrich the training environment and better prepare professionals and advocates to promote health equity, wellness, social equality, and reduced disparities. While we have had challenges recruiting trainees that match Colorado's racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity, it is a priority for JFK Partners to increase workforce representation to reflect the community we serve. Bilingual Spanish-speaking applicants, in addition to those with historically underrepresented racial, ethnic, and cultural identities are encouraged to apply.

The deadline for receipt of materials is **March 15, 2025**. Please send materials to: Christine Cook, Training Coordinator, JFK Partners, at Christine.Cook@cuanschutz.edu.