



UNE/Maine LEND Pediatric Residency Program Recruitment Flyer

Maine LEND

The University of New England (UNE) and the Maine Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (Maine LEND) Program have established a Pediatric Physical Therapy (PT) Residency Program.

The mission of the UNE/Maine LEND PT Residency Program is to prepare residents for clinical specialty and independent advanced practice in pediatric physical therapy. Through excellence in evidence-based practice, inter-professional collaboration, and teaching of clinical skills, we strive to graduate leaders who will help improve the lives of children with neurodevelopmental disabilities and their families. Our residents will promote family-centered, inclusive, and culturally responsive health and wellness, and will continue to expand the body of knowledge in pediatric physical therapy. Through participation in clinical research and administration, our graduates will make a lasting contribution to their local and professional communities.

This program prepares residents in all areas of pediatric PT practice, with particular emphasis on school-based, outpatient and early intervention settings.

Advanced pediatric physical therapy practitioners will possess a foundation in the theoretical basis of Pediatric PT practice, including development, learning and plasticity of body systems. Program graduates will possess knowledge and skills in physical therapy differential diagnosis and prognosis. This foundation will be expanded through evidence-based practice and outcomes assessment that leads to efficient and effective PT interventions and optimal patient outcomes.

Leadership skills and family centered care will be fostered through residency participation in the Maine Leadership Education in



Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (Maine LEND) training program, which is located within UNE. Maine LEND uses Life Course as the primary framework, along with Maternal and Child Health (MCH) values, to educate the next generation of interdisciplinary MCH leaders and healthcare workforce to have the necessary skills and experience for shaping appropriate and effective health policies, programs, and outcomes for children/youth with neurodevelopmental and other disabilities, including Autism Spectrum Disorder and other special health care needs.

Curriculum & Training

Residency program goals will be achieved through a combination of formal and informal educational methods and roles:

- Direct care provision as well as mentored clinical practice in Pediatric Physical Therapy and the Family Interprofessional Team (FIT) of the Maine LEND program at UNE
- Academic didactic modules within the residency as well as sessions in the Maine LEND program

Curriculum & Training continued...

- Preparation of a publishable elective project; topic decided by collaboration between the resident and faculty
- Participation as lab teaching assistant in DPT Program courses

A typical week includes:

- 20 hours of paid direct client care in school-based/outpatient practice, including 2- 4 hours of mentored clinical practice related to caseload
- 20 hours as a Post-doctoral Fellow in the LEND program, including:
 - mentored participation in the Family Interprofessional Team (FIT), school, outpatient and early intervention settings
 - Journal club and scholarly project
 - Mentored Teaching, Administration and Research experiences
 - Observation in acute care and specialty clinics at Boston Children's Hospital
 - Didactic coursework with other LEND trainees

Tuition/ Benefits

There is no tuition for this residency program. Residents are paid for 20 hours a week of clinical time at Wiggle Worms Pediatric PT, LLC, an excellent local, specialized clinic with school contracts where mentorship is provided regularly. In addition, residents are paid a stipend for participation in the Maine LEND program, which includes mentored teaching in the DPT Program at UNE, as well as funds toward fringe benefits (health insurance) and residency-related travel expenses beyond 50 miles from UNE.

Miscellaneous Information

Each resident is responsible for providing their own laptop as well as the purchase of personal textbooks and incidental supplies. Information on required books will be given during orientation.

Residents must plan for living expenses and transportation to clinical facilities, and a car is a necessity.

Admissions Requirements

The application process for the Pediatric Residency Program involves the following:

- Send completed application to address below, after Jan. 1st and before May 15th
- 3 Letters of Recommendation
- Curriculum Vitae
- Interview on invitation from Admissions Committee

Prerequisites

DPT graduates of APTA-accredited entry-level programs in Physical Therapy may apply for the program. Preference is given to graduates of the UNE program, especially those who intend to practice in Maine. Residents must be eligible for and obtain licensure as a Physical Therapist in the State of Maine before beginning their residency program.

Desirable Qualities

Desirable qualities in an applicant include a strong potential as a leader; desire to advance their pediatric physical therapy clinical knowledge, skills and abilities; demonstrated clinical aptitude and potential; strong communication skills; and evidence of initiative and self-responsibility.

Admission Decisions

Decisions on residents will be made by the UNE/Maine LEND Pediatric PT Residency Admissions Committee on a rolling basis on or before June 15th

Contact Information

For more information or to **request an application**, contact Eileen Ricci, PT, DPT, MS, PCS, Director, UNE/Maine LEND Pediatric Residency Program: ericci@une.edu



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