

LEND Capstone Project FY 2022

The capstone project addresses a practical problem associated with neurodevelopmental or related disabilities on a clinical, organizational, programmatic or policy level. The project is an opportunity for trainees to demonstrate the knowledge and skills they have learned through the LEND program, academic programs of study, professional or volunteer positions and/or life experiences. Each capstone project will address one or more LEND competencies. In general, these are individual projects; however, multiple trainees may be approved to work on the same project if it is sufficiently large.

- *Problem-framing*
Trainees will identify a problem and develop an appropriate question that the capstone project will address.
- *Research*
Trainees are expected to use systematic investigation as part of the capstone project, including conducting a literature review and gathering additional information/data throughout the capstone process to support their problem and justify the proposed solution.
- *Product*
Trainees are expected to produce a tangible product to address the identified problem (e.g., tip sheet, infographic, presentation for stakeholders, poster, brochures, curriculums, lesson plans, training modules, etc.).
- *Dissemination*
Trainees must demonstrate skills in effectively communicating the results of their capstone projects to appropriate stakeholders outside of LEND. This can take many forms, such as an oral presentation or a written report to the organization with which they are working on the project, a presentation to relevant policymakers, an oral or poster presentation at a conference or meeting, or authoring or co-authoring a journal article.
- *Presentation*
Trainees will make a formal presentation to other trainees and LEND faculty at the end of their second semester.
 - Presentations will be 20 minutes (15-minute presentation plus 5 minutes of question/answers).
 - You must use PowerPoint and voice amplification to augment your presentation.
 - Review the Capstone Presentation Evaluation form before finalizing your presentation.

Process

The following are the steps and timelines for the capstone project. It is expected that you communicate regularly with your LEND mentor about your progress on the project.

1. Identify and frame the capstone project problem with your LEND mentor.

2. Submit a draft of the Capstone Project Proposal form to your LEND mentor by **October 11, 2021**. This form can be found on the LEND portal.
3. Review feedback from LEND faculty and submit final Capstone Project Proposal to your LEND mentor and HSC-NM-LEND@salud.unm.edu by **October 25, 2021**, if necessary.
4. Complete your capstone project, including submission to IRB, if necessary.
5. Submit a draft of your final presentation to your LEND mentor by **April 18, 2022**.
6. Submit your PowerPoint to the HSC-NM-LEND@salud.unm.edu as an e-mail attachment two days before your designated presentation date.