

What are the requirements of participation?

- ★ Participation in all educational leadership development sessions held online and in New Brunswick, NJ.
 - Online sessions to be held one weekend a month Friday 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm and Saturday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm in September, October, November, and December and one Wednesday a month from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm in September, October, and December
 - In person sessions to be held Friday 2:00 pm - 8:30 pm and Saturday 8:30 am – 4:00 pm in January, February, March, and April (contingent on social distancing requirements)
- ★ Completion of between session online assignments. These assignments will be given to enhance learning between online sessions and may include watching videos and other assignments.
- ★ Completion of homework assignments, including the development of an Advocacy Action Plan

Is there any cost to participate?

No, expenses are paid for by the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities. Covered expenses for **in-person** sessions include:

- ★ Overnight lodging (shared with another participant)
- ★ Meals and refreshments
- ★ Reimbursement for travel
- ★ Reimbursement for child care/respice at \$15 an hour, up to \$150 a weekend

Accommodations such as sign language interpreters, large print materials, or Braille provided as needed.

What topics will I learn about in the monthly educational sessions?

September 11 & 12 & 30 (online)

- Parent Advocacy
- Self-Advocacy
- Social Media as an Advocacy Tool

October 16 & 17 & 28 (online)

- The LifeCourse Framework & Planning
- History of Disability Policy

November 13 & 14 (online)

- Inclusive Education
- Transition

December 2 & 11 & 12 (online)

- Employment
- Supported Decision Making
- Financial Well-Being

January 8 & 9

- State Policy & Systems Change Advocacy
- Direct Support Professional Workforce Issues

February 19 & 20

- Medicaid
- Health & Wellness
- Public Speaking & Effective Communication

March 19 & 20

- Social Capital & Community Connections
- Federal Policy Hot Topics & Tips from the Hill

April 16 & 17

- Putting Leadership into Action
- Graduation

How do I apply?

Those interested in participating are invited to complete the application below.

If you need assistance to complete the application, or would like to complete the application by phone, contact Jaime Zahid at (732) 235-9613, jaime.zahid@rutgers.edu.

Partners in Policymaking Application

New Jersey Partners in Policymaking is an opportunity for adults with developmental disabilities (over 21) and family members of children and transition aged youth with disabilities to build leadership and advocacy skills. To be considered for the New Jersey Partners in Policymaking program, complete the following application and submit by email to Jaime Zahid at jaime.zahid@rutgers.edu

Applications must be received by **July 15, 2020**. Applicants will be notified of acceptance by July 30, 2020.

Applicant Information

Name: _____

First

Middle Initial

Last

Address: _____

Street

City

State

Zip

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

I am a: (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Person with a developmental disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent of someone with a developmental disability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sibling of someone with a developmental disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Other family member: _____ |

Demographic Information (Optional)

These questions are not required, but will help to ensure that New Jersey Partners in Policymaking participants are representative of the diversity of the state.

Race/Ethnicity: (check all that apply)

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Pacific Islander | <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White/Caucasian | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Primary language spoken: _____

Gender:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Female | <input type="checkbox"/> Male | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|

If you are a person with a developmental disability:

How old are you? _____ What is your disability? _____

How does your disability affect your daily life?

What kinds of supports, services, or assistive technology do you have?

If you use personal assistance/direct support professional services, can you arrange to have these supports provided while you are participating in New Jersey Partners in Policymaking?

- Yes No

If you are a family member of someone with a developmental disability:

How old is your family member with a developmental disability? _____

What developmental disability does your family member have?

How has your family member's disability affected your daily life and your family?

What services or supports does your family member receive?

Will you need funding for respite or child care services so you can participate in the New Jersey Partners in Policymaking program?

- Yes No

Availability & Attendance

Are you willing and able to make a time commitment of one weekend a month and one Wednesday a month to participate **all** New Jersey Partners in Policymaking educational sessions?

- Yes No

If you are employed, can you make necessary arrangements so you can attend all of the sessions?

- Yes No

What technology would you use to participate in the virtual sessions and complete the online assignments (check all that apply)?

- Computer/Chromebook Home Wifi/Internet Access
 Tablet Phone data plan
 Smart Phone I do not have technology available

How would you get to in-person educational leadership development sessions?

- Own car Transportation from family or friend
 Public transportation Personal Assistant/Agency transportation
 Other _____

Accommodations

What, if any, accommodations do you need to help you actively participate in the monthly educational sessions? (For example: large print, Braille, accessible hotel room, sign language interpreter)

What support would you need to effectively use technology for learning? Is there someone at your house that can support you, if needed?

Short Response Questions

Please tell us about yourself. (For example: your family, your job, school, community/volunteer activities, personal interests, interesting experiences)

Why do you want to participate in the New Jersey Partners in Policymaking program?

Please describe any experience you have with advocacy. (For example: involvement with advocacy organizations, meeting with legislators, serving on committees or boards)

What is your vision or dream for people with disabilities?

How did you learn about the New Jersey Partners in Policymaking Program?

What disability-related issues are of the most interest to you? (For example: inclusive education, home and community based services, employment)

Letter of Recommendation

In addition to the application form, applicants to New Jersey Partners in Policymaking must submit a letter of recommendation from someone who knows them well. The letter should include information about the applicant's:

- ★ Interest in advocacy
- ★ Commitment to fulfill the requirements of the program
- ★ General character and strengths

Letters may be emailed with the completed application or separately, but must clearly identify the individual being recommended. Letters must be emailed to jaimе.zahid@rutgers.edu by June 30th.

Please provide the name and contact information for the person providing a letter of recommendation on your behalf below:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Additional Information

Please use the space below to add any relevant information you weren't able to include in the sections above:

Apply Now for 2020-2021!



May 2020