

# Apply for the 2017 Partners in Policymaking Class

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The Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council is now recruiting motivated individuals with developmental disabilities and parents of young children with developmental disabilities to apply for the 2017 Class of Partners in Policymaking. The Council is especially interested in individuals who have the enthusiasm and potential to become effective advocates.

Participants attend a weekend training session each month from January through June. Individual sessions are devoted to specific topics presented by nationally-known experts. The next class begins January 13 - 14, 2017. Sessions begin at noon on Friday and conclude at 3:00 PM on Saturday. Attendance at all sessions is mandatory for successful completion and graduation in June. Some of the topics to be covered include: History, Philosophy & Values, Assistive Technology, Inclusive Education, The Legislative Process, Supported Employment, Supported Living, Community Building, Community Organizing, and Systems Change Advocacy.

The 2017 Partners sessions are scheduled as follows:

<b>January 13 - 14</b>	<b>April 7 - 8</b>
<b>February 10 - 11</b>	<b>May 5 - 6</b>
<b>March 10 - 11</b>	<b>June 9 - 10</b>

Participants are expected to complete assignments between sessions and become engaged in systems advocacy. Lodging and meals are provided. Respite care and attendant services are reimbursed for participants who qualify.

Completed applications must be received in the Council office via e-mail or fax or postmarked no later than **September 30, 2016** to be considered. This deadline will not be extended. Final selection of participants will be made by mid-November 2016.

To apply for the 2017 Partners in Policymaking class click [HERE](#). Contact Robbie Gray via email at [robbie.gray@la.gov](mailto:robbie.gray@la.gov) or call 800-450-8108 or 225-342-6804 for more information or assistance with applying. Additional information can also be found at [www.laddc.org](http://www.laddc.org).



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