

Dear Applicant,

We are pleased that you are considering Nationwide Children's Hospital for a clinical experience. We enjoy having students within our department and work closely with students to ensure the highest quality of learning opportunities. We offer two different student experiences as follows:

***Practicum:*** An introductory experience designed to familiarize the student with the hospital environment and the child life profession, and to gain experience working with hospitalized children. A minimum of 10 weeks in length and requires a time commitment of 12-16 hours per week that includes weekday times from 8am-4:30pm. Students are supervised by child life specialists in a variety of settings. Students complete required assignments following the syllabus provided during student experience.

**Applicant Requirements:**

- Must be enrolled at a University during student experience and have completed your junior year of Bachelors level majoring in child life, child development, or a related field
- Completion at least 4 courses in their major including Child Development
- A copy of transcript from college/university demonstrating 3.0 or higher GPA (official or unofficial accepted)
- Verification of at least 50 completed hours working with children in a healthcare setting (hospital experience preferred)
- Experience working with healthy children and teens in a group setting
- Cover letter and resume
- 2 letters of recommendation (one from academic advisor/professor and one from another professional familiar with your work with children/families) No recommendations from friends or family will be accepted

***Internship:*** An advanced experience that focuses on further development of skills in the areas of assessment, planning, implementing and evaluating interventions. This experience is 14 weeks in length and requires a time commitment of at least 40 hours per week. Some evening and weekend shifts are required. Students are supervised by child life specialists in a variety of settings. Students complete required assignments following the syllabus provided including a case study and project.

**Applicant Requirements:**

- Must be enrolled at a University during student experience as a senior level student majoring in child life, child development or child psychology
- Completion of a minimum of 10 courses relating to the field of child life
- A copy of transcript from college/university demonstrating 3.0 or higher GPA (official or unofficial accepted)
- Copy of Eligibility Assessment documentation from the Child Life Council
- Verification of current enrollment or completion of a child life practicum experience under the supervision of a Certified Child Life Specialist with a minimum of 100 hours
- Copy of Child Life Practicum final evaluation with supervisor's contact information (submit midterm evaluation if you are currently completing practicum)
- Verification of at least 50 completed hours working with children in a healthcare setting
- Experience with healthy children and teens in a group setting
- Cover letter and resume
- 2 letters of recommendation (one from academic advisor/professor and one from another professional familiar with your work with children/families) No recommendations from friends or family will be accepted

**Application Process for both Practicum and Internship student experiences:**

- Complete the Common Child Life Internship Application and required addendum materials at <http://www.nationwidechildrens.org/child-life-specialists>
- We comply with the Child Life Council recommendations. **All application components are to be submitted together and postmarked by the date below:**

	Winter/Spring Term	Summer Term	Fall Term
Application Due	September 5	January 5	March 15

**What to expect:**

- Acknowledgement of receipt of application is sent to applicants via email
- Interviews will be offered to the most qualified applicants that demonstrate they are prepared for the high level experiences that are provided
- Applicants are contacted by email or phone with an interview offer or denial.
- Candidates are interviewed by 2-3 child life staff from the student committee as well as preceptors.
- Clinical experience opportunities vary per term and are determined by preceptor availability and other departmental needs
- We typically have no more than 3 positions for students per term which are divided between both practicum and internship level

**For those that are offered student experiences:**

- Students are processed through the Nationwide Children's Hospital volunteer program. Therefore students are required to attend a 3 hour general orientation class prior to the first day of their student experience
- No compensation or stipends are provided to students
- Students are responsible for making their own housing arrangements. Must be enrolled at a University and an educational affiliation agreement between Nationwide Children's and your university is required. Nationwide Children's Hospital has educational affiliations with most major universities in Ohio. If an educational agreement is needed, you will be required to complete the proper paperwork necessary. You can not begin your student experience until this agreement is signed. Please note it can take several months for this to be completed if your University does not have an affiliation agreement.
- Students are required to provide proof of up-to-date on vaccinations and sign a vaccination agreement
- Students must follow department uniform standards and wear light yellow, light blue, gray or purple shirts and navy, khaki, or black pants, scrub pants, or appropriate length skirts
- Students that complete a practicum level experience at Nationwide Children's Hospital will not be considered for an internship level experience

Contact the Child Life Council ([www.childlife.org](http://www.childlife.org)) for information regarding student preparation for the profession. Students may become members of the Child Life Council at reduced rates.

If you have any questions regarding our student opportunities, please feel free to contact the Family and Volunteer Services Department.

**Family and Volunteer Services**

Nationwide Children's Hospital  
700 Children's Drive  
Columbus, OH 43205

Phone: 614-722-3635  
Fax: 614-722-3641