

Child Life Student Experiences

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, the child life profession, and to gain experience working with hospitalized children.

- The practicum experience is a minimum of 12 weeks in length and requires a time commitment of 16 hours per week that may include some evening and weekend shifts
- Students will complete 2 five week rotations and 1 extended shadow experience
- Students will be assigned a main clinical rotation supervisor per rotation
- The clinical supervisors from both rotations will continue to support student throughout the entire experience
- A Clinical Internship Coordinator will be assigned to each student meeting weekly to provide additional support

Applicant Requirements

- Must be enrolled at a university during student experience. Must have completed first two years majoring in child life, child development, or a related field (bachelor's or master's level academic preparations are accepted)
- Cover letter & resume
- Practicum Application Form
 - Verification of at least 50 completed hours working with children in a healthcare setting (hospital preferred)
 - Experience working with healthy children and teens in a group setting
- Transcript from college/university demonstrating 3.0 or higher GPA (official or unofficial accepted)
 - Completion of at least 4 courses in their major including Child Development
- 2 letters of recommendation (one from academic advisor/professor and one from another professional familiar with 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 child life interventions.

- The internship is a minimum of 16 weeks in length and requires a time commitment of at least 40 hours per week that will include some evening and weekend shifts
- Students will complete 2 seven week rotations and 2 extended shadow experiences
- Students will be assigned a main clinical rotation supervisor per rotation
- The clinical supervisors from both rotations will continue to support student throughout the entire internship
- A Clinical Internship Coordinator will be assigned to each student meeting weekly to provide additional support
- 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 a related field (bachelor's or master's level academic preparations are accepted)
- Complete Common Child Life Internship Application from the Association of Child Life Professions
 - Cover letter & Resume
 - Verification of 100 hours of experience with well infants, children, youth and/or families
 - Verification of at least 100 completed hours of experience with infants, children, youth and/or families in stressful situations, health care settings and/or programs designed for children with special needs
 - Verification of completion or current enrollment (must be far enough in experience for clinical supervisor to complete Candidate Common Application Form) of a child life practicum experience under the supervision of a Certified Child Life Specialist with

- 2 Child Life Internship Candidate Common Recommendation Forms in signed and sealed envelopes. Forms should be from professionals familiar with your work with children/families. No recommendations from friends or family will be accepted.
- Copy of Eligibility Assessment documentation from the ACLP which identifies successful completion of 10 approved child life courses inclusive of the 6 applied areas of study, as required by the ACLP
- Copy of Child Life Practicum final evaluation with supervisor’s contact information
 - If currently enrolled, please include a Child Life Internship Candidate Common Recommendation Form from Practicum coordinator
- A transcript from college/university demonstrating 3.0 or higher GPA (official or unofficial accepted)
- 25.00 application fee. Checks made payable to “Family and Volunteer Services”

Process for All Student Experiences

- Complete and organize the required documents listed above
- We comply with the Association of Child Life Professionals’ 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 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 clinical rotation supervisors
- 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 student/employee route. Therefore students are required to attend a full day of general orientation on the first day of their student experience
- No compensation or stipends are provided to students and they are responsible for making their own housing arrangements
- Must be enrolled at a university and an educational affiliation agreement between Nationwide Children’s Hospital (NCH) the university is required. NCH has educational affiliations with most major universities in Ohio. If an educational agreement is needed, you will be required to have the necessary paperwork completed between NCH and your university. You may 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 that they are 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 or scrub pants
- Students that complete a practicum level experience at Nationwide Children's Hospital will not be considered for an internship level experience

Contact the Association of Child Life Professionals (www.childlife.org) for information regarding student preparation for the profession. Students may become members of the ACLP at reduced rates.

If you have any questions regarding our student opportunities, please feel free to contact our Student Committee at childlifestudprog@nationwidechildrens.org.

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