



Dear Student:

Thank you for your interest in exploring child life internship possibilities at Children's Medical Center of Dallas. Our department is committed to providing quality education and training for future child life professionals. A basic description of the internship program and application process is attached.

Internships are organized to meet student needs, address specific interests of individuals, and comply with your academic institution's requirements. This internship is best suited for undergraduate student's nearing graduation (during the last semester of school) or Master's degree students completing graduate study relevant to child life work. The internship curriculum incorporates child life programming challenges and strategies to address current health care issues. Students are given opportunities to build independent professional skills, strengthen therapeutic group play supervision skills, and develop assessment and intervention skills with individual patients. The student's clinical supervisor, along with other staff members in the department, provides instruction and guidance.

To be considered for our internship, please submit the following together in one envelope:

- Transcripts from all universities attended (student copy acceptable)
- Documentation of Child Life Council coursework review (see www.childlife.org for more information and dates of service availability)
- Current resume
- Documentation of completion of a minimum 100 hour child life practicum done under the supervision of a child life specialist. Practicum must be completed before application will be considered.
- 2 letters of reference - one from an academic professor and one from your practicum supervisor or someone who has observed your work with hospitalized children
- A 300-500 word essay, describing the ways in which the work of a child life specialist contributes to the health care experience of a child and his/her family

After evaluation of your completed application, letters of reference and transcript, you may be contacted for an interview. Selection of interns is based on college major and GPA in core courses, letters of recommendation, statement of interest and personal interview.

If you participate in the internship as a student currently enrolled in a university program, your university will be required to engage in a contractual relationship with Children's Medical Center Dallas. They will also be required to provide a urine-based drug screen and background check. If you are currently not enrolled in a degree-seeking program and wish to participate in the internship, you will need to meet additional requirements including obtaining student liability insurance along with a urine-based drug screen and background check. Additional pertinent information will be provided upon acceptance.

Thank you for your interest in our program.

Sincerely,

Kellye Carroll, MS, CCLS, CEIM
Education Program Coordinator

For Internship Starting:	Application Deadline:	Interviews During:	Applicant Notifications By:	Applicant Acceptance By:
January	September 5	October	October 22	October 28
May	January 5	February	February 22	February 28
September	May 5	June	June 22	July 28

Please review carefully the attached application for specific submission requirements.

The 560-hour child life internship at Children's Medical Center of Dallas provides the learner with supervised, guided experience with children and learning toward acquisition of professional child life skills. The basic components of the internship are organized around the child life competencies and include:

- A. Orientation: observations in the child life department and in other areas typical to a child's hospital stay. Orientation to departmental and hospital policies and procedures is also included in this initial time.
- B. The intern, in addition to working with children, participates in a weekly departmental case presentation seminar and intern seminar four to five times per week. Curriculum for seminar provides progression in learning based on lectures, readings and discussion.
- C. Assignment to two different clinical areas of the child life department, each for six weeks. In these assignments the student works under the supervision of a CCLS in implementation of child life services to the patient population served. (For example, cardiology patients, surgery patients, general pediatrics, etc.)
- D. Participation in multidisciplinary meetings such as patient care conference, rounds, etc.
- E. Completion of the following assignments:
 1. Two case presentations: a verbal presentation to the child life staff of work with a patient and family using the assessment, planning, intervention and evaluation format.
 2. A presentation about a pediatric diagnosis and its implications for child life work.
 3. A project developed to meet an identified need within the department, including presentation about it to the staff.
 4. A weekly journal assignment based on their work, responding in it to specific topics and guidelines.
 5. Required readings in the basic curriculum, covering the following areas:
- F. Children's Medical Center provides Child Life services to Parkland Memorial Hospital through a contractual arrangement. Specialists are assigned to the Burn Unit, Newborn Intensive Care Unit, and Newborn Nursery. The intern may also participate in these program components.
- G. Additional learning experiences may be developed with the student to meet specific areas of interest or to address the academic institution's requirements.
- H. Interns typically work the same hours as their clinical supervisor. Additional evening and weekend experiences may also be available to the intern.
- I. Student evaluation is conducted using:
 1. Written mid-term and final evaluations using a tool based on the Child Life Council's competencies.
 2. Objectives determined by student.
 3. Objectives established by the student's academic department.
 4. Completion of all required assignments.

Internship Application
Child Life - Child Development Department

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Telephone: _____

Academic Major, Institution, Degree and (expected) graduation date (most recent first):

Desired Date of Internship: _____

If you will be receiving academic credit for your internship, please provide the name and address for your university affiliated contact person:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail address: _____

Please forward all materials together:

- Transcripts from all universities attended (student copy acceptable)
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Signed

Date

Please return to: Internship Program, Child Life Department
Children's Medical Center Dallas
1935 Motor Street, Dallas, TX 75235
Phone: 214-456-6280