



Highlights of Children's Medical Center Dallas:

- 595-bed facility with many areas of specialization including: designated heart center, solid organ transplant, NICU, nephrology, hematology/oncology, and intensive care
- Children's Medical Center Dallas is a teaching hospital affiliated with UT Southwestern Medical School
- Children's Medical Center Dallas is the first pediatric hospital in Texas with a designated Level I trauma center (we have 3 child life specialists (CLS) in the Emergency Department)
- Oldest Child Life program in Texas, celebrating 40 years this year (2014)
- Among the largest Child Life programs in the country (25 full time CLS)
- Multiple specialties recognized by US News and World Report's Best Children's Hospitals
- The child life department includes: child life specialists, child life assistants, music therapists, an art teacher/special events coordinator, and the Funnyactrics clown program

What we offer:

Daily student seminars highlighting relevant child life topics taught by Child Life Specialists and hospital staff.

- **Practicum:** 192+ hours, 12 weeks long, 2 days a week, 2 rotation placements. We offer fall, spring, and summer practicum experiences at Dallas and spring and fall practicum experiences at Plano
- **Internship:** Child life practicum is required. 600+ hours, 15 weeks long, 5 days a week, 2 main rotation placements with an additional 1 week rotation placement of choice. We offer fall, spring, and summer internships at Dallas only. Designated site visit week for interns to explore other child life programs in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

Requirements:

- Well-rounded volunteer experience working with healthy/typically developing children and hospitalized children
- Up to date immunization record, criminal background check and urine based drug screen completed on your own, prior to starting
- All practicum and intern students are *required* to be affiliated with a university at the time of applying and during the experience
- Documentation of a completed practicum under a certified child life specialist (for internship)
- Coursework review approved by the Association of Child Life Professionals(internship only)
- University affiliated child life course, taught by a Certified Child Life Specialist (internship only)-must include coursework verification form with internship application

Frequently Asked Questions:

- Can I still apply for a practicum or internship if I already have a degree? Yes, but you must be affiliated (enrolled) with a University
- I will graduate before the practicum/internship starts, so I will not be affiliated with a university. Is this okay? No, all candidates must be affiliated
- I really want to do my practicum at Children's; will I still be eligible for an internship at Children's? No, students can complete a practicum or internship at Children's, not both.
- I am interested in gaining more volunteer experience, what can I do? We recommend volunteering at camps, day care centers, children's hospitals, babysitting, etc
- I completed a practicum at my university child development center; will this suffice for the child life practicum? No, a practicum must be conducted under the supervision of a Certified Child Life Specialist

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Visit websites for current and updated information

www.childlife.org and www.childrens.com