Thank you for your interest in the Child Life Internship at Nemours Children’s Hospital, Delaware, located in Wilmington. Our program is accredited, which indicates that our curriculum is in alignment with the Association for Child Life Professionals’ methodology for preparing students to enter the field of Child Life.

Over the course of 16 weeks (640 hours) students will contribute to the psychosocial care of our patients and their families in two different clinical areas during their primary rotations. The opportunity to spend a two-week mini rotation in a third clinical area will also be provided.

During their rotations, students will become an integral part of the treatment team, spending approximately 80% of their time with their rotation supervisor. Their clinical work will evolve along a continuum; beginning with observations, progressing towards collaborative work with their supervisor, advancing towards independent work where they are observed by their supervisor and culminating in independent clinical experiences where no observation is required. There is a separate continuum for each intervention, allowing the student’s skills to develop in accordance with the clinical needs of the patient population they are caring for during their rotations. Clinical rotations are carefully considered to provide students with the most well-rounded experience possible.

Students will be expected to participate in departmentwide initiatives such as Medical Play Morning, Clubhouse activities as well as Special Event & Community Entertainment programming. As these programs are designed to promote normalcy for our patients and their families, programming will vary based on semester. Students will also be given the opportunity to contribute to our programming specifically designed to meet the various needs of families.

In addition to providing opportunities to develop clinical skills, students will be expected to attend in-services as well as complete all readings and projects as assigned. This robust syllabus was designed to help students translate developmental and psychosocial theory into practice. This work may include, but is not limited to interdisciplinary
staff interviews, research article presentations, programming development, case studies, and reviews of tools/resources.

Throughout their internship experience, students will be given feedback on their work and encouraged to develop their own self-assessment skills. They will participate in separate weekly meetings with their rotation supervisor and their clinical coordinator. Formal evaluations will be completed at the both the mid-point and the completion of the internship experience. Students will be given guidance on resume and cover letter writing and will also participate in a mock interview to help prepare them for the job search.

To apply for the Child Life internship at Nemours Children’s Hospital, Delaware:

1. Submit a completed Child Life Internship Readiness Common Application through the ACLP. [Internship Readiness Common Application - Application Portal (smapply.io)]

2. We do not require any additional submission components to our application process. However, if you are selected for an interview, we may ask for any formal evaluations of previous experiences.

Application Packets should be submitted to:
[childlifestudentprograms@nemours.org]

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