



Child Life Program
Nemours Children's Hospital
6535 Nemours Parkway
Orlando, FL 32827

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is a child life specialist? How do I pursue certification?

A. Please visit the Association of Child Life Professionals website for detailed information about child life certification.

<https://www.childlife.org/Practice/Why-Child-Life>

Q. How do I know if I'm eligible for a child life internship?

A. Please visit our web page for application requirements for student programming.

Q. How many students does your child life internship accept?

A. We currently take 1-2 students per semester depending on rotation supervisor availability.

Q. Does your hospital require flu and/or COVID vaccination?

A. We require flu vaccination. We do not require COVID vaccination. Vaccine records are required prior to start date.

Q. Do you accept affiliated and nonaffiliated students?

A. We currently only accept affiliated students who are enrolled in college for both practicum and internship. If students will be completing an internship/practicum for course credit, their school must have a current affiliation agreement with Nemours Children's Hospital, or an affiliation agreement may be arranged after acceptance into the practicum and internship programs.

Q. When are child life internship applications due? How will I be notified if I am accepted?

A. Our hospital follows the guidelines determined by the Association of Child Life Professionals. Application packets must be completed and received by the deadline to be considered. Late and/or incomplete packets will not be considered.

Q. Are there fees associated with your program?

A. No, there are no fees. However, students are expected to have reliable transportation.

Q. Is your student program paid? Is housing provided for your student programs?

A. No, our student program is unpaid and housing is not provided. However, parking is provided at no cost, and we provide one meal voucher to our cafeteria per week of internship.

Q. Do you offer a child life practicum program?

A. Our practicum experience is provided through the UCF shared practicum experience. For more information on this, please contact Jenna Read at jenna.read@ucf.edu.

Q. How long is the child life internship program?

A. Our child life internship program is 640 hours, 40hrs/week for 16 weeks.

Q. What is the schedule for the child life internship program?

A. The scheduled hours vary, depending on the schedule of the rotation supervisor. The schedule may include daytime, evening, and/or weekend hours. In addition, there are required readings and assignments that must be completed outside of the student's scheduled hours.

The internship is full-time, 40 hrs/week. There are two assigned 6-week long rotations.

Q. What is the size and framework of the child life department?

A. We have a Manager of Child Life and Creative Arts who oversees the child life specialists and creative arts teams. As a group we are a part of a larger department called Patient and Family Services, which is comprised of child life specialists, social workers, and chaplains. We currently have 7 FTE child life specialists who cover both inpatient and outpatient patient areas, including but not limited to Hematology/Oncology, Surgical Services, Pediatric Intensive Care, Cardiac Intensive Care, Inpatient Rehabilitation,

Acute Care, Radiology, and the Emergency Department. We also have a Music Therapist, Art Therapist and Gaming Technology Specialist on staff.

Q. What guidance do you have for a student who might want to pursue child life as a career but are not yet eligible for a child life practicum or internship?

A. Those interested in pursuing a career in child life are encouraged to volunteer in a hospital child life program, grief centers, or a camp setting with a child life specialist. Students looking to pursue an internship are highly encouraged to participate in a child life practicum.