Thank you for your interest in the Child Life Internship at Nemours/Alfred I duPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, Delaware. 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 department-wide 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 needs of families, including SibShop™ workshops and the Chronically Cool Families dual track support group.

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 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/Alfred I duPont Hospital for Children, a complete Child Life Internship application packet must include:

1. Verification of a minimum of 100 hours of hands-on experience with well infants, children, youth and/or families; 75% (or 75 hours) of which must be completed by the application deadline. (ACLP verification form preferred.) In progress experiences will be considered provided that the hour requirements as mentioned above are met.

2. Verification of a minimum of 100 hours of hands-on experience with infants, children, youth and/or families in stressful situations, health care settings and/or programs designed for children with special needs, 75% (or 75 hours) of which must be completed by the application deadline. (ACLP verification form preferred.) In progress experiences will be considered provided that the hour requirements as mentioned above are met.

3. Verification of the successful completion of coursework mandated by the ACLP as outlined in the Eligibility Requirements for Exams After January 2019 https://www.childlife.org/docs/default-source/certification/2019-eligibilitydetails.pdf?sfvrsn=8 In-progress courses will be considered as long as all required coursework will be completed by the anticipated internship start date. Learn more about the coursework review process here: http://www.childlife.org/certification/students/review-my-courses.

4. If a student is enrolled in an ACLP endorsed academic program, verification should be included.

5. Submission of transcripts that reflect a minimum GPA of 3.0. If applicable, provide both undergraduate and graduate transcripts. Unofficial transcripts will be accepted.


7. Submission of a current resume or curriculum vitae.

8. Submission of a statement of your personal philosophy of child life in no more than 500 words.
9. Submission of three references, at least two of which should be from someone who has directly observed your work with children (ACLP recommendation form preferred, though letters will also be accepted) Separate, sealed envelopes are not required.

10. Submission of final evaluations from any practicum experience you have completed. If a practicum experience is in progress, please submit the mid-term evaluation.

Application Packets should be submitted to:
Laura Mitchell, CCLS - Child Life Program
Nemours/Alfred I duPont Hospital for Children
1600 Rockland Road
Wilmington, DE 19803

Association of Child Life Professionals (ACLP) Application and Offer Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Internship Session</th>
<th>Application Deadline</th>
<th>Initial Offer Dates</th>
<th>Acceptance Dates</th>
<th>2nd Offer Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>March 15th</td>
<td>1st Tuesday of May</td>
<td>Following Wednesday</td>
<td>Following Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter/Spring</td>
<td>September 5th</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday of October</td>
<td>Following Wednesday</td>
<td>Following Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>January 5th</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday of February</td>
<td>Following Wednesday</td>
<td>Following Thursday</td>
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</tbody>
</table>