

## **Frequently Asked Questions About Child Life Internship Programming**

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

A. Please visit the Association for Child Life Professionals (ACLP) website for detailed information about child life certification. <http://www.childlife.org/child-life-profession>

Q. Where is the Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children hospital located?

A. Our address is: 1600 Rockland Road, Wilmington, DE 19803

Q. Does Nemours Children's Hospital (NCH) in Lake Nona, Florida have student programs?

A. For more information about student programming at NCH, please contact their program directly. Lead Child Life Specialist Emily Bradley, CCLS can be reached via email at [Emily.bradley@nemours.org](mailto:Emily.bradley@nemours.org)

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

A. General information about internship eligibility can be found on the ACLP website ([www.childlife.org](http://www.childlife.org)). For specific information about internship application requirements at our hospital, please visit our web page (<https://www.nemours.org/content/nemours/www2/services/support/naidhcsupport/childlife.html>)

Q. Is your internship program accredited? What does that mean?

A. Yes, our child life internship is accredited which means that our curriculum is in alignment with the ACLP methodology for educating students.

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

A. At this time, we accept one (1) child life intern per semester.

Q. Does your hospital offer a Child Life Fellowship?

A. No.

Q. Do you accept both non-matriculated and matriculated students?

A. Yes, we accept both independent students and students who will be completing their internship for academic credit. If a student will be enrolled in school during their internship, an affiliation agreement must be signed between their school and our hospital. Affiliation agreements may be pursued after a student has been accepted into our internship.

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 complete and postmarked by the deadline in order to be considered. Late and/or incomplete packets will not be reviewed. Internship offers will be made in accordance with the ACLP guidelines.

Q. Are there fees associated with your program?

A. No, there are no fees. However students are expected to have reliable transportation and will be responsible for their meal each day.

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

A. No, our student programs are unpaid and housing is not provided. However, parking is provided at no cost.

Q. How long are the child life internship and practicum programs?

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

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

A. The internship is full-time, 40 hrs/week. In addition to one (1) week of orientation, there will be three (3) clinical rotations. The first rotation will be six weeks (6) followed by a mini rotation which is two (2) weeks. The second rotation will be seven (7) weeks. The scheduled hours vary, depending on the clinical needs of the unit and 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 should be completed outside of the student's scheduled hours.

Q. What is the size and framework of the Department of Child Life, Creative Arts Therapy, and School Programs?

A. The reporting structure in our department includes an administrator and two (2) clinical programming managers. We currently have approximately 14 FTE Child Life Specialists who cover both inpatient and outpatient patient areas, including but not limited to Hematology/Oncology, Surgical Services, Radiology, Day Medicine, Dialysis, Intensive Care, Rehabilitation/Orthopedics, Pulmonology/Gastroenterology, Palliative Care, Neonatology, Surgical Step-Down and the Emergency Department. We have both a Music Therapist and Art Therapist on staff. Our

Teachers see patients both in the classroom and at the bedside. In addition, our program has activity coordinators who supervise our centralized playroom and assist with programming on the units.

Q. Can I shadow a child life specialist at your hospital?

A. Students may participate in a shadowing experience if: a) they are enrolled in college and are actively pursuing child life certification and b) they have volunteered in a Child Life program for a minimum of 50 hours. Students who meet these criteria can contact the Child Life Internship coordinator for scheduling availability.

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

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