

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/the-child-life-profession>

Q. How do I know if I'm eligible for a Child Life internship?

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

Q. How many students does your Child Life internship accept?

A. We currently take 1 Child Life intern per semester.

Q. Do you accept affiliated and non-affiliated students?

A. No, we currently only accept students who are enrolled in college. If students will be completing an internship 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 program.

Q. When are Child Life internship and practicum 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 received by the deadline in order to be considered. Late and/or incomplete packets will not be considered.

Q. Do you accept Child Life internship students over the summer?

A. No, we do not have a summer internship available during the summer at this time.

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. 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.

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 of the Child Life internship program?

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

Q. What is the size and framework of the Child Life Department?

A. We have a Lead Child Life Specialist who oversees the Child Life Specialists, but as a group we are a part of a larger department called Patient and Family Centered Care, which is comprised of Child Life Specialists, Social Workers, and Chaplains. We currently have 6 FTE Child Life Specialists who cover both inpatient and outpatient patient areas, including but not limited to Hematology/Oncology, Surgical Services, Radiology, Pediatric Intensive Care, Cardiac Intensive Care, Inpatient Rehabilitation, and the Emergency Department. We also have a Music Therapist 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 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.