

Practicum Placement Process and Requirements

Summer Session

Practicum goals and objectives

Gain insight and exposure to the child life profession through observation of clinical interventions

Observe interactions with patients on a one-to-one basis and in group situations

Gain an initial acquaintance with the needs of hospitalized children and their families

Develop assessment skills and therapeutic play skills

Complete readings and assignments that encourage the application of child development theories

Develop professional attitudes, growth, maturity and judgment by functioning in a professional environment

Practicum schedule

The practicum student is required to complete a five-week practicum with varying hours from June 1 to July 1. Part-time hours will vary each week, with occasional evening and weekend shifts. The student will gain exposure to various inpatient and outpatient pediatric areas with weekly and biweekly rotations.

Practicum responsibilities (other responsibilities may also be required)

Shadow certified child life specialists

Observe medical play and procedural preparation and support

Create and implement therapeutic activities

Complete readings, assignments and a mini-project

Promote developmental play with supervision

Student requirements

Have at least sophomore status or have completed the second year of college or university in a related field with applicable coursework (non-affiliated students will also be considered)

Have a minimum 3.0 GPA

Have at least 50 hours of experience working with healthy children or adolescents (hospital experience beneficial)

Commit to learning and advancing knowledge of child life in a hospital setting

Practicum Placement Process and Requirements (continued)

Application requirements

Printed, completed and signed application

Resumé

Most recent transcripts (unofficial transcripts from graduate and/or undergraduate school accepted)

Three signed and sealed recommendation forms written by child life/volunteer supervisors, employers or advisors (at least one reference must be able to attest to your work with children)

Verification form showing a minimum of 50 hours of experience with infants, children, youth and/or families (hospital experience preferred)

Application postmark deadline

January 10

Practicum offer date

February 21

Submit your application to:

Central DuPage Hospital
Attn: Practicum Coordinator,
Child Life Services
25 North Winfield Road
Winfield, Illinois 60190

Contact information

If you need more information, please contact:

Mia DeRoin

Certified Child Life Specialist and

Practicum Coordinator

630.933.6176 (TTY: 711)

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