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 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 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.
**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)
mia.deroin@nm.org