Dear Student:

Thank you for your interest in child life at St. Joseph's Children's Hospital. Our hospital and child life department are committed to and excited about providing quality education and meaningful experiences for future child life professionals. Our internship is designed to meet the student’s professional needs. At this time we can only accept internship applicants who are independent of a college or university, or student applicants whose college or university do not require an affiliation agreement with our hospital. For further clarification feel free to contact the Internship Coordinator at the telephone number or email address below. This 600 hour/15 week internship will provide students with a comprehensive experience in clinical skills as well as professional development.

If you would like to apply for the child life internship at St. Joseph’s Children’s Hospital, please submit your completed application packet by the deadlines stated below. Only complete application packets will be considered and must include the following:

- Child Life Council Common Application
  CLC Common Internship Application
- Current resume
- Official or Unofficial transcripts from each university attended
- Documentation of a minimum of 100 completed practicum experience hours, working within a child life department under the direct supervision of a Certified Child Life Specialist
- 2 letters of reference, one from a professor and one from a professional who has observed your work with children
- The Evaluation Report/Eligibility Assessment provided by the Child Life Council showing proof of completed coursework
  www.childlife.org
- Documentation showing proof of completion of a child life course taught by a Certified Child Life Specialist (CCLS)

After evaluation of your application, you may be contacted for an interview. Please remember that the Child Life Council must approve your coursework for eligibility to sit for the certification exam. If you are selected for and accept the internship, you will be required to furnish proof of a negative drug screen and a criminal background check prior to starting your internship. All other information will be provided upon potential acceptance. Thank you for your interest in Child Life and St. Joseph’s Children’s Hospital.

Sincerely,

Leah J. Maloney, MS, CCLS
Internship Coordinator
(813) 357-0590
Internship.childlife@baycare.org
Child Life Internship Coursework Requirements

MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

Completion of 10 college courses within the following areas:

- Child Life
- Child/Family Development
- Family Dynamics
- Human Development
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Counseling
- Education
- Expressive Therapies (i.e. play, music, dance, and art)
- Therapeutic Recreation

Preferred Coursework

Child Life in Hospitals
Play Therapy
Medical Terminology
Group Activities/Group Dynamics
Early Childhood Education
Abnormal Psychology/Behavior Psychology
Medical Sociology/Ethics
Anatomy/Physiology
Multicultural Awareness
Interpersonal Relationships

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<tr>
<th>Internship During</th>
<th>Application Postmarked by</th>
<th>Initial Offer Date</th>
<th>Upon an offer acceptance is expected within 24 hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>January-April (Winter/ Spring)</td>
<td>September 5th</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday of October</td>
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<td>May-August (Summer)</td>
<td>January 5th</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday of February</td>
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<td>September-December (Fall)</td>
<td>March 15th</td>
<td>1st Tuesday of May</td>
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The 600-hour/15 week Child Life Internship at St. Joseph's Children's Hospital provides students with supervised and guided experience with children. The intern will be supported in the acquisition of professional child life skills. The basic components of the internship are organized around the child life competencies and include:

A. Orientation to departmental and hospital policies and procedures as well as observations in the child life department and in other areas typical to a child’s healthcare experience.

B. The intern, in addition to direct work with children, will participate in and attend in-services developed in accordance with the clinical internship curriculum of the Child Life Council. These in-services will enhance clinical learning based on lectures, readings, and discussion.

C. Assignment to various inpatient and outpatient clinical areas. During these assignments, the student works under the supervision of a child life specialist in implementation of child life services to the population served. Potential rotations include: surgical, general pediatrics, special procedures, emergency department, pediatric intensive care unit, and cardiac intensive care unit. The rotations will be determined by the internship coordinator.

D. Participation in multidisciplinary meetings such as patient care conferences, medical rounds, psychosocial rounds, etc.

E. Participation in clinical assessment, intervention, and charting.

F. Completion of the following assignments:

1. Two case presentations: A verbal presentation to the child life staff of work with the patient and family.
2. A presentation about a pediatric diagnosis and implications for child life work.
3. A comprehensive Development Assessment: a verbal presentation to the child life staff of an evaluation of a patient’s developmental level using Piaget, Kohlberg and Erikson’s theories.
4. Weekly behavior observation study or developmental assessment
5. Prepare for and give a nursing in-service on the role of child life for student nurses or selected department.
6. Prepare weekly small group activity with a written plan.
7. Prepare and facilitate two special events.
8. A project developed to meet an identified need within the department, including presentation to the staff.
9. Shadow two other Child Life Departments and submit a one page written reflection of the experience.
10. Daily journal entry reflection on clinical experiences and observations.
11. Required weekly readings.
12. Complete weekly evaluations.
13. Complete evaluations of each rotation.
14. Complete an evaluation of the overall experience at St. Joseph's Children's Hospital.
G. Interns will work the same hours as their preceptor. Additional evening and weekend experiences may be available or required for the intern.

H. Student evaluation is based on:
   1. Written mid-term and final evaluations using a tool based on the Child Life Council’s competencies
   2. Objectives determined by the student.
   3. Objectives established by the student’s academic advisor.

Required Reading Prior to Internship


Recommended Reading:


Child Life Council (2002). The official documents of the child life council

