

**Cincinnati Children's
Hospital Medical Center
Cincinnati, Ohio**

**Division of
Child Life & Integrative Care**

Child Life Internship Manual

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INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center is a 540-bed Cincinnati Children's hospital. We are affiliated with the University of Cincinnati School of Medicine and School of Health and Nursing Science. Observation, Volunteer Practicum and Internship Experiences in the Division of Child Life are available.

The 16 week internship features experiential learning. The first week includes an orientation to our medical center campus and the Division of Child Life. Your 640 hr. (40 hour/week) commitment will be divided into rotations giving you experience with all ages: infants/toddlers, pre-school/school-age children and adolescents. In varied clinical areas you will have the opportunity to spend time planning developmentally appropriate activities for hospitalized children; assisting in supervision of activity centers; providing 1 on 1 interventions; participating in preparation for and support during procedures and treatments and conducting medical play sessions, all under the supervision of Certified Child Life Specialists. You will also have the opportunity to experience a variety of specialty areas.

Here is the internship Format:

Internship Format

Week 1	Orientation
Weeks 2-7	Foundational Rotation May be Inpatient or Outpatient Assignment Focused on Introduction and Practice of Basic CL Competencies
Weeks 8,9	Enrichment Rotation In summer, 1 week at Camp Flying Horse Farms will be provided. Interns may use additional time for mini-rotations in areas of special interest.
Weeks 10-16	Professional Development Rotation May be Inpatient, Outpatient, or Critical Care Assignment Focused on Practice and Mastery of Advanced CL Competencies
	Concentrated activity Center observation and practice will be assigned individually .

Our division has responsibilities for patient care 365 days a year with morning, afternoon and evening programs. Your schedule during your internship at CCHMC will vary and will require some Saturday and one or more Sunday commitments.

APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY:

Sept. 5 for Spring Semester

Jan. 5 for Summer Semester

March 15 for Fall Semester

PHILOSOPHY AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

DIVISION OF CHILD LIFE & INTEGRATIVE CARE **MISSION STATEMENT**

As a team of healthcare professionals, we are a compassionate presence providing outstanding patient and family-centered holistic care. We are dedicated to providing evidence-based developmental, cognitive, emotional, physical, spiritual and psychosocial support in order to optimize healing and wellness for patients and families.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR INTERNSHIP

1. To become familiar with the Child Life profession, along with the Child Life Program at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.
2. To gain an understanding of the impact of health care encounters on the emotional and developmental needs of children.
3. To have the opportunity to interact with patients on a one-to-one basis and in group situations.
4. To provide an accepting, non-threatening environment to promote healthy interactions between child, staff and family.
5. To become acquainted with the needs of patients in health care and to recognize creative and flexible programming in meeting these needs.
6. To be an advocate and spokesperson for patients and families in their interaction with the health care system.
7. To prepare patients for surgery and other medical experiences through the use of video tapes, books, photo albums, dolls, medical equipment and play.
8. To gain a basic and practical working knowledge of medical procedures and terminology.
9. To develop an understanding of other disciplines working with Child Life in a hospital setting.
10. To strengthen ability to interact and relate to other professionals and divisional members.
11. To develop an understanding of team effort in effecting positive experiences for hospitalized children.
12. To evaluate oneself under the guidance of experienced professionals, and to be measured by professional standards.
13. To begin transition from student to professional.
14. To gain professional attitude, growth, maturity, and judgment.

CINCINNATI CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER

- Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center is nationally recognized as a leader in pediatric health care, with a reputation for excellence in patient care, research and medical education.
- Cincinnati Children's is ranked seventh nationally among pediatric hospitals by *U.S. News & World Report*.
- Cincinnati Children's Department of Pediatrics has been ranked fourth best pediatric program at a medical school by *U.S. News & World Report*.
- Cincinnati Children's is the **only Level 1 pediatric trauma center** in Southwestern Ohio, Northern Kentucky and Southeastern Indiana, with the only pediatric cardiac intensive care unit in the region.
- Cincinnati Children's currently ranks among the top three pediatric medical centers receiving research grants from the National Institutes of Health. (\$81.2 million in Fiscal Year 2004)
- Cincinnati Children's drew patients from **47 states and 57 countries** (Fiscal Year 2014).
- Cincinnati Children's has sixteen patient care sites through the region.
- Cincinnati Children's has 540 beds, about 15,000 employees, and about 875 volunteers
- Cincinnati Children's is comparable to the **top three in the nation** for specialties and subspecialties, including genetic disorders, neck surgery/ENT, kidney transplants, liver transplant and research.
- Cincinnati Children's Hospital is the **first center in the nation** to begin a fellowship program specifically in child abuse and neglect (Mayerson Center for Safe and Healthy Children).
- **1,192,000 patients** walked through the doors in 2014.

History of CCHMC Division of Child Life

Cincinnati Children's Division of Child Life has been in existence for 74 years. When the hospital organized recreation services with a paid staff in 1931, it became just the second children's hospital in the U.S. to create such a program.

In the 1960s, there were four staff, a director, a librarian, and two assistants on the payroll. Student nurses pitched in to help, as did volunteers. The dedicated school teacher, Kathleen Dauterich, taught in the hospital classroom from the 1950s well into the 1980s. Now there's a staff of 107, including 71 full-time/part-time and standby child life specialists, 15 child life assistants, 5 fellows, 2 administrative assistants, 1 operations coordinator, 1 purchasing agent, 3 clinical managers, and a full-time education coordinator. There also are 3 school teachers and 1 teacher's assistant. The staff is assisted by hundreds of volunteer hours every week.

Our diverse staff is a group of seasoned and newer individuals who work as a team together to provide family centered care.

Child Life Specialists were certified as certification became available in the 1980s and currently are certified by exam. Our clinical advancement program, established in the 1980s, recognizes child life specialists with advanced clinical skills.

Our Division of Child Life is well recognized throughout the medical center as we work in collaboration with many disciplines to provide the best psychosocially based care for patients and families. We work in inpatient and outpatient areas providing developmentally appropriate activities, procedural preparation and support for patients and families.

INTERNSHIP PREREQUISITES

3. Required readings PRIOR to your internship:
 - Gaynard, L., Wolfer, J., Goldberger, J., Thompson, R., Redburn, L., & Laidley, L. (1990), Psychosocial Care of Children in Hospitals: A Clinical Practice Manual. Bethesda, MD: Association for the Care of Children's Health.
 - Rollins, J, Bolig, R, & Mahan, C. (2005), Meeting Children's Psychosocial Needs Across the Health Care Continuum. Austin, TX: Pro-ED, Inc (1-800-897-3202)
 - Thompson, Richard H., Ph.D, ed., (2009), The Handbook of Child Life, ISBN 978-0-398-07832-4
2. Transcript from college/university.
3. Must have completed a Bachelor's Degree in or have completed through junior year of Bachelor Degree requirement in Child Life, Child Development, Counseling, Education, Expressive Therapies, Psychology or Recreational Therapy.
4. Must have 200 hours of experience with children, 100 hours being in a health care setting (i.e., hospital, camps for children challenged with illness, bereavement center, etc.) (Effective May 1,2015)
5. Must have successfully completed at least 1 three credit hour course taught by a CCLS.
(Effective January 1, 2013).
4. A signed contract of agreement for internship participation with your college/university or with the intern if an independent student (*applies to university affiliates*).
5. Your advisor's plan for communicating with us during your internship; i.e. observations, conferences, correspondence. (*applies to university affiliates*)
8. A copy of the evaluation forms required by your program. (*applies to university affiliates*)
9. List of special assignments or project requirements from your school. (*applies to university affiliates*)
10. Three letters of reference.
11. Documentation of valid infant/child/adult CPR certification by the American Red Cross for; Obtained only after one is accepted into program. (*required after acceptance*)
12. Documentation of your health insurance. (*required after acceptance*)

13. Documentation of your liability insurance coverage. (to be obtained only after one is accepted into our program). (*required after acceptance*)

If you need to purchase an individual policy for student liability insurance during your internship, please contact:

Healthcare Providers Service Organization (HPSO)

159 E. County Line Road

Hatboro, PA 19040-1218

Phone: 1-800-982-9491

Fax: 1-800-739-8818

Email: service@hpso.com

Tell them you are a student in child development and need student liability coverage for Allied Health Internship with 1 million/3million minimum. The cost should be less than \$100 and will be valid for one year.

6. Health Requirements: Students will be in good health before beginning an internship at CCHMC. If students are accepted into the internship program, they should adhere to the pre-placement requirements for Non-CCHMC personnel which will be sent to them at a later date.

15. Potential interviews will be conducted via phone or skype. If accepted into the program, candidates will be invited for an on-site visit.

INTERNSHIP REQUIREMENTS DURING INTERNSHIP

Educational:

7. Formal written case study to be presented to Child Life staff.
8. Formal Research Review and Best Statement
9. Participation in staff led inservices on topics related to Child Life Competencies.
10. Meet weekly with internship coordinator
11. Complete Child Life internship project to be decided with internship coordinator. It will be presented to child life staff.

Clinical Development with inpatients and outpatients:

12. Plan individual therapeutic interventions.
2. Maintain a daily journal of experiences (i.e. interaction with a child – what was successful, what you would do differently).
3. Develop skills – plan and supervise Activity Center programs. Participate and share in supervision of volunteers.
13. Observe and participate in patient education and procedural support and post procedural play.
14. Observe and participate in sibling support.
15. Observe and participate in a multidisciplinary team approach.

INTERNSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

Link to Eligibility Assessment from Child Life Council:

<https://www.childlife.org/Certification/Getting%20Certified/CourseWorkReview.cfm>

Link to Common Application for Child Life internship:

<https://www.childlife.org/StudentsInternsEducators/InternshipCandidates/CommonInternshipApplication.cfm>