



**Child Life Practicum**

**Information Packet**



## Child Life Practicum

Our Child Life program at INTEGRIS Children's at Baptist Medical Center is committed to providing meaningful education and training for prospective child life professionals. The Child Life Practicum is an introductory level experience that is organized to give students the opportunity to gain insight and exposure to the child life profession and help students understand the unique needs of hospitalized children and their families. The student will be able to observe a Child Life Specialist during a multitude of clinical interventions. Education is offered in congruence with observations through structured seminars, assignments, and readings.

Our practicum experience is 12 weeks in which students will participate for 16 hours/week consisting of two 8-hour days.

**Accepted practicum students are encouraged to seek future internship placements at other facilities to broaden perspectives and diversify experiences.**

### Potential observational experiences:

- **Medical Play:** Individual/group play experiences centered around a patient's hospitalization.
- **Preparation:** Individual teaching and play experiences provided to patients regarding specific medical treatments and procedures.
- **Coping and Procedural Support:** Techniques and activities offered to patients and families during hospitalization and specific medical experiences to assist with comfort and control.
- **Developmentally Supportive and Recreational Play:** Programming for normalization offered to patients and siblings throughout hospitalization.
- **Bereavement:** Resources and memory making for families and children after the death of a loved one

	<b>Spring practicum:</b>
<b>Application Packet Due Date:</b>	September 19 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Initial Offer Dates:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday of October
<b>Must Accept By:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday of October
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Offer Date:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of October

*(All applications must be post marked by the due date.)*

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## Child Life Practicum Application Process

To be considered for the practicum, you must submit completed **typed** application materials to:

**Attn: Laura Linville; 3300 NW Expressway, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, PICU Hallway,  
Child Life Office #10E1004; Oklahoma City, OK 73112**

### **Mailed Application Packet must include the following materials:**

- Completed and **typed** application form. *\*Hand written applications will not be accepted.*
  - Resume
  - Cover Letter
  - Current enrollment in a college/university in a related field with applicable course work and working towards a career in child life.
    - Applicants must show the following courses with a final passing grade on the academic transcript.
      - ✦ (1) Child Development Course
      - ✦ (1) Play Course
      - ✦ (1) Child Life Course – taught by Certified Child Life Specialist
- \*these are 3 out of the 10 ACLP required courses for Academic Eligibility\**
- Official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended; GPA of 3.0 or above
  - Documentation of a minimum of 100 volunteer hours with children and families experiencing hospitalization, crisis, and/or stress
  - Documentation of a minimum of 100 volunteer or working hours with well children and families (i.e. daycares, schools, camps, or other related setting)
  - School guidelines/requirements for student education experience if applicable (hours per week, number of weeks, projects, journals, papers, etc.) **Students accepted into the practicum must be enrolled in a college or university at the time of the proposed practicum, but not necessarily at the time of application.**
  - Two completed recommendation forms. Recommendation forms should be completed electronically and submitted **from an institutional/organizational email address and DIRECTLY from the recommender to [ChildLifePracticum@integrisok.com](mailto:ChildLifePracticum@integrisok.com)**.
    - It is the applicant's responsibility to provide the recommenders with the form and information for submission. Recommendations should be able to speak to your professionalism and/or those who have directly supervised your work with children. *Personal references are not accepted.*

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## ACLP Child Life Practicum Recommended Standards

- **Standard 1**

The child life practicum is largely an observational experience with child life practicum students beginning to engage in independent play and developmentally supportive interventions with infants, children, youth, and families as deemed appropriate by the supervising Certified Child Life Specialists® (CCLS).

- **Standard 2**

The child life practicum student will be **supervised by a CCLS who has achieved a minimum of 2,000 hours of paid work experience in the field.** The supervising CCLS must be currently practicing in the field of child life; however, the setting of the child life practicum could vary.

- **Standard 3**

The child life practicum encompasses a **minimum of 100 supervised hours.** The child life practicum experience may include a combination of practicum hours being **completed in no more than two different settings** given each setting builds upon and strengthens a child life practicum student's continual development and growth as a CCLS.

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- **Standard 4**

Child life practicum hours should be completed in an appropriate setting that provides the child life practicum student with the opportunity to observe and learn from psychosocial interventions that assist infants, children, youth, and families coping with the stress and uncertainty of illness, injury and treatment. Approved settings can include:

- Pediatric in-patient units including critical care units and in outpatient areas including emergency departments, radiology and imaging, specialty care clinics, behavioral and rehabilitation.
- Community outreach programs
- Private practice ○ Hospice services and home health
- Camps for children with healthcare needs
- Private medical and dental practices
- Services to children of adult patients

- **Standard 5**

The child life practicum includes observation opportunities for students to explore the following theory and interventions related to child life practice:

- Child life assessments
- Developmental theory integration
- Therapeutic play interventions
- Rapport building

- **Standard 6**

The child life practicum learning experiences include activities and assignments that allow the child life practicum student to begin to apply and integrate knowledge and theory application for future clinical practice and help to initiate the development of a personal philosophy of child life practice. These learning assignments should include:

- Journaling
- Educational in-services and discussions
- Specific and structured readings

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