

## Child Life Intern Job Description

The child life intern has an opportunity to experience the Child Life profession through observation, participation, and supervised facilitation of child life interventions. This learning experience is designed to prepare the student for the Child Life Professional Certification Exam and an entry level child life position. Internship placements are for fifteen weeks (40 hours per week) for a minimum of 600 hours.

### Internship Program Components

- Successfully complete rotations in the three program areas (five consecutive weeks in each): Pediatrics/Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Day Surgery Center, and Children's Emergency Department
- Observation, participation, and facilitation in group and individualized interventions under Child Life supervision
- Observation, participation, and facilitation of procedural preparations, distraction, coping, play, medical play, and family support
- Opportunity to observe and participate with trauma and bereavement support
- Enhance communication and knowledge about important topics to the field of child life
- Access to departmental resources such as health care team members, library, and articles
- Opportunities to attend seminars give by Child Life Specialists and other team members, as well as participate in inter-disciplinary meetings and other related learning opportunities

### Internship Program Objectives

Throughout the internship experience, the student will enhance their knowledge and skills to be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the practices of child life and be able to articulate an understanding of current issues and trends in child life practice
- Determine psychosocial needs of patients and families; and work with children and families to develop and implement child life care plans, based upon individual assessments and child life practice
- Demonstrate effective communication skills when communicating with children, adolescents, and family members in the healthcare setting, within professional boundaries
- Facilitate and supervise an environment encouraging general, therapeutic, and medical play
- Demonstrate, explain, and provide developmentally appropriate and family centered medical education and procedural preparations for children, adolescents and their families
- Demonstrate, explain, and provide developmentally appropriate and family centered distraction and coping techniques for children, adolescents, and their families
- Identify the meaning of specific medical terminology, diagnoses and procedures; understand their relationship to the child and family's level of understanding
- Function and communicate as a member of the interdisciplinary team
- Evaluate assessments and interventions, as well as reflect on personal performance

### Assignments

- Complete hospital orientation class
- Reflect upon internship experience by completing weekly journals
- Read articles and handouts as assigned by unit and clinical site supervisor
- Participate in weekly meetings with your unit supervisor(s) and your clinical site supervisor
- Complete three patient assessment evaluations (one per unit)
- Read three articles of choice and write an article reflection on each (one per unit)
- Create a special project assigned by clinical site supervisor, in collaboration with student and assigned project coordinator (CCLS)
- Discuss a variety of important topics related to the field of child life
- Attend multidisciplinary meetings, as deemed appropriate by clinical site supervisor
- Complete one site visit to a child life program of your choice (optional)
- Provide an evaluation of the internship site, supervisors, and internship experience
- Student will be notified in advance of any other requirements as assigned by the clinical site supervisor