

Thank you for your interest in our Child Life Internship! Sanford Children's Child Life Program offers a 14 week internship that currently is offered in the fall semester.

While our internship is highly competitive, we encourage you to explore the profession of Child Life and to please read the following information regarding the internship process very carefully.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Applications not containing all of the following components will be considered incomplete and will not be reviewed. A complete application must include the following:

1. Internship application face sheet
2. A written essay (approximately 500 words) to specifically address the following:
 - a) Personal reasons for seeking child life internship
 - b) Professional goals and objectives to be met as an intern
 - c) Professional short and long term goals upon completion of internship
 - d) Your definition of the Child Life profession
3. Professional resume outlining academic and clinical experiences and other qualifications.
4. An original, current college transcript indicating cumulative GPA.
5. Two letters of recommendation written by faculty, supervisors, employers, advisors, or any individual who has directly observed you working with children, teens, parents.
6. All completed applications must be sent to the Child Life intern supervisor by the deadline to be considered. **It is the sole responsibility of the applicant to ensure the completed application has been received.**

APPLICATION DEADLINES:

Sanford Children's Child Life Program currently offers a Child Life internship experience once a year in the fall semester. All applicants are accountable to meet the following deadlines:

Open Application Process:	January 5, 2009
Application Deadline:	May 8, 2009
Interviews Held:	May 18, 2009 through June 19, 2009
Offer Made:	June 26, 2009
Acceptance Deadline:	July 3, 2009

INTERN SELECTION PROCESS:

Sanford Children's Child Life Program would like to highly stress the competitiveness of the internship selection process. We highly encourage you to apply for multiple Child Life internships if you are serious about the profession. As recommended by the Child Life Council, the following criteria are considered during the intern selection:

1. Academic achievement
2. College major, class concentration
3. Excellent written and verbal communication skills
4. Professionalism
5. Knowledge base of child development, child life theory, hospitalized child, etc.
6. Interpersonal qualities to contribute to working with children, teens, families in high stress situations.
7. Sanford Children's highly recommends coursework in **anatomy, medical terminology and death and dying.**
8. Sanford Children's also highly recommends **volunteer work** within a Children's Hospital prior to applying for internship

INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE UPON ACCEPTANCE:

1. Upon official acceptance of the internship, students are required to have liability insurance. This requires interns to still be affiliated with a university and enrolled with a minimum of one credit. An affiliation agreement between the university and Sanford Health will be established when an intern is accepted. Interns will be held to the same standards and policies of Sanford Health with regard to confidentiality, HIPPA, as well as Child Life policies and procedures.
2. The following reading materials must be obtained and read PRIOR to the internship experience:
 - a) **“Child Life in Hospitals: Theory and Practice”** by Richard H. Thompson and Gene Stanford, C.C. Thomas, Publisher
 - b) **“Psychosocial Care of Children in Hospital: A Clinical Practice Manual”** by Laura Gaynard, et. al.

These books can be ordered directly from:
Child Life Council
11820 Parklawn Drive, Suite 202
Rockville, MD 20852-2529
www.childlife.org

INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The internship entails the following components:

- a) Orientation
- b) Rotations within the Inpatient, Outpatient, Sub-Specialty Clinic, NICU, and Same Day Surgery
- c) Evaluations of intern’s progress and performance at mid-internship and at completion of internship.

Internship experiences and responsibilities include the following, but are not limited to:

- a) Assessment of patient and family.
- b) Planning and implementation of developmentally appropriate play interactions for children of all ages.
- c) Increase knowledge base of coping and stress alleviation techniques.
- d) Interaction and networking with multi-disciplinary team.
- e) Charting skills
- f) Increase knowledge base of medical terminology.
- g) Performing psychological preparations for procedures, medical play, etc.
- h) Education of parents, siblings, etc. regarding hospitalization.
- i) Facilitation of special groups and events.
- j) Increase knowledge base of death and dying theory and interventions.
- k) Completion of assignments: readings, case studies, journaling, special project.

**Sanford Children's Hospital
Child Life Department
Internship Application Face Sheet**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Date of Anticipated Graduation: _____

Enclosed is a COMPLETED INTERNSHIP APPLICATION packet including:

_____ Application Face Sheet

_____ Written Essay

_____ Resume

_____ Original/Official Transcript

_____ Two Letters of Recommendation

I understand it is the sole responsibility of the applicant to ensure and confirm application packet is received.

Date

Signature

RETURN THIS FACE SHEET AND COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKET TO:

Sanford Children's Hospital
Child Life Department
Attn: Carrie Kindopp
Child Life Director
1305 W. 18th St.
PO Box 5039
57117-5039