



Dear Child Life Intern Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in Ochsner Hospital for Children's internship program. This internship packet will outline details of our hospital, department, and internship program.

The internship is a full time, 15-week, 600-hour program. Students will have potential rotations on the General Pediatric Unit, PICU/CVICU, Surgery Centers, Pediatric Clinics, Radiology, Emergency Department, and other areas child life specialists work based on staffing availability. Supervision is provided by Certified Child Life Specialists, who strive to assist students as they apply theory to practice.

Our Child Life Internship provides clinical development through a systematic learning experience centered on Child Life competencies. The Child Life Intern, with the guidance and supervision of Certified Child Life Specialists, participates in the development and implementation of educational, therapeutic, and developmental activities based on child development. The intern will also be provided with opportunities to build independence in developing assessments and providing appropriate interventions. Our internship sessions are consistent with the recommendations from the Association of Child Life Professionals.

All application materials must be **submitted** by the application due date as determined by the ACLP. Please send completed applications to the following email address: **childlifeinternship@ochsner.org**

Application must contain all the following to be considered complete.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

- Association of Child Life Professionals' Internship Readiness Common Application
 - <https://aclp.smapply.io/>
- Unofficial transcripts of each university attended
- Completed Association of Child Life Professionals Eligibility Assessment
 - Degree from an ACLP Endorsed Academic Program - an eligibility assessment must still be completed
- ***Additional Requirements for Ochsner Hospital for Children Internship Application:***
 - Professional resume detailing career objectives and experiences working with children
 - Practicum Completion Evaluation
 - Optional to also include- Recommendation letter from practicum supervisor
 - Minimum 3.0 GPA

Thank you for your interest in our program. If you have any questions, please contact me at: (504) 703-0186 or kathleen.coad@ochsner.org.

Sincerely,

Katie Coad, MS, CCLS
Child Life Internship Coordinator

Ochsner Hospital for Children Mission and Vision:

We Serve, Heal, Lead, Educate and Innovate

Ochsner will be a global, medical, and academic leader who will change and save lives. We will shape the future of healthcare through our integrated health system, fueled by the passion and strength of our diversified team of physicians and employees.

Ochsner Hospital for Children Overview:

Ochsner Hospital for Children has 70 pediatric inpatient beds which include general pediatrics, pediatric intensive care and cardiovascular pediatric intensive care units. Patients range in age from 0-21 years. Child Life Specialists provide coverage to other areas of the hospital and outpatient settings including same day surgery, radiology, pediatric emergency department, and our pediatric clinics, which includes care in 30 pediatric advanced specialty areas.

Child Life Department Overview:

Child Life Specialists work to minimize fears and stressors associated with procedures, hospitalizations, and other psychosocial aspects of the patient's and family's care creating a more productive environment for patients, families, and staff. Child Life Specialists seek to accomplish this by providing the following services: pre-procedural preparation, procedural support, medical and therapeutic play, educational resources, coping techniques, surgery tours, sibling preparation and bereavement support.

As an intern, you will observe and interact with a skilled and innovative group of multidisciplinary healthcare professionals (physicians, nursing staff, social work, OTs, PTs, spiritual care, etc.) providing family centered care.

Ochsner Hospital for Children Child Life Program Goals:

- Decrease stress and anxiety associated with hospitals through play and preparation
- Increase compliance and cooperation with medical staff
- Coping for mastery (support and distraction provided for procedures as well as non-pharmacologic techniques for pain control)
- Increase family centered care
- Normalization of the healthcare environment
- Advocate for patient and family needs
- Procedural and hospital education
- Provide opportunities for play – medical, therapeutic, or age appropriate
- Directly support the emotional and developmental needs of each patient and family

Application Review

The internship coordinator and the Child Life Student Committee will review all applications. Incomplete applications or applications not submitted by the Association of Child Life Professionals application deadline will not be considered. Selected qualified applicants will be contacted to schedule an initial interview. After the completion of initial interviews, qualified candidates will be invited to participate in an on-site or virtual interview. The selected intern candidate will be notified of their acceptance into the program. Ochsner Hospital for Children Child Life Department follows the Association of Child Life Professionals' recommended offer dates. Applicants that are not accepted will receive notification by email.

Intern Schedule

The intern must be willing to work a flexible, 40 hour per week schedule for 15 weeks (600hrs). Interns will work various shifts including days, evenings, and potential weekends. The intern will complete two five-week rotations. The remaining weeks will include orientation, shadow days, off site visits and independent experiences. The intern start date will be determined by the internship coordinator and the intern. We do not require our interns to be affiliated with a university during the internship experience. If the intern is completing the internship independently, the intern will be required to sign an agreement with Ochsner Hospital for Children. If the intern is completing the internship experience for school credit, an affiliation agreement must be made between the student's university and Ochsner Hospital for Children.

Living Arrangements

Living arrangements are the responsibility of the intern. Additional housing information and guidance may be provided as necessary.

Uniforms

The intern dress code includes a white or navy polo shirt with Ochsner for Children logo monogram, colorful scrub pants, and closed toe shoes. Interns are responsible for purchasing their own uniforms. More information will be provided after internship offer has been accepted.

Requirements upon Acceptance:

- Proof of negative TB test (within 12 months)
- Updated Immunizations
- Flu Vaccination for Fall/Spring Interns
- COVID-19 Vaccination
- Negative Drug screen
- Clear Criminal Background Check
- Current BLS
- Signed Internship Agreement
- Proof of Liability Insurance (if not affiliated with a university)