



Dear Child Life Intern Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in Ochsner Hospital for Children's Child Life Internship program. This internship packet will outline details of our hospital, our department, and our 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, and other areas Child Life visits 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 a Certified Child Life Specialist, participates in the development and implementation of educational, therapeutic and recreational 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 Child Life Council. All application packets must be **postmarked** by the application due date.

Child Life Department
Ochsner Hospital for Children
1514 Jefferson Hwy
New Orleans, LA 70121
Attn: Internship Coordinator

Thank you for your interest in our program. If you have any questions, please contact me at (504) 842-2068 or Logan.Talbert@ochsner.org

Sincerely,

Logan Talbert, CCLS
Child Life Internship Coordinator

Ochsner Health 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.

Hospital Overview:

Ochsner Hospital for Children has 71 pediatric patient beds which include general pediatrics, pediatric intensive care and cardiovascular intensive care units. Patients range in age from 0-21 years. Child Life Specialists also provide coverage to other areas of the hospital including same day surgery, radiology, pediatric emergency department, and our pediatric clinics.

Child Life Department Overview:

Child Life Specialists work to minimize fears and stressors associated with procedures, hospitalizations, and other psychosocial aspects of the patient and family 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 for the environment
- Patient and family advocate
- Procedure and hospital education
- Opportunities for play whether is it medical, therapeutic, or age appropriate
- Direct support for the emotional and developmental needs of the patient and family.

Application Requirements:

Return completed application packet consisting of:

- Child Life Council's Common Child Life Internship Application (www.childlife.org)
- Professional resume detailing career objectives and experiences working with children
- Unofficial transcripts
- Completed Association of Child Life Professionals Eligibility Assessment indicating **"passed"** in all coursework requirements.
 - o Completion of coursework in six applied areas of study
 - o We **do not accept** ACLP Course in Progress Forms
- Proof of taking a child life course taught by a Certified Child Life Specialist. *Must provide verification.*
- Minimum of 3.0 GPA in related coursework
- Documentation of required experience working with children.
 - o A minimum of 100 hours of direct experience interacting with well infants, children, youth and families, who are typically developing (camps, school, daycare, etc.) *Please use the ACLP Verification of Related Experience Hours Form.*
 - o A minimum of 100 hours must be completed in a child life practicum in a healthcare setting or facility where children with medical and/or developmental challenges are served. The practicum must be under the direct supervision of a Certified Child Life Specialist. Practicum hours must be completed by the time of internship application submission. *Please use the ACLP Verification of Child Life Practicum Experience Hours form.*
- Completion of three recommendation forms with an attached letter of recommendation. *Please use the ACLP Child Life Internship Candidate Common Recommendation Form.* We require the following:
 - o One recommendation form and letter from an academic professor or faculty supervisor.
 - o One recommendation form and letter from the Certified Child Life Specialist that was your child life practicum supervisor.
 - o One recommendation form and letter from a supervisor or employer who has directly observed and can assess your work with children and families.
 - Each recommendation form with attached recommendation letter should be in envelopes signed on the seal by the writer.
 - These recommendation forms and letters must be sent in with the completed application packet.

Application Review

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

Intern Schedule

The intern must be willing to work a flexible schedule for 15 weeks (at least 600 hours). 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 and off-site visits. 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 experience for school credit, an Ochsner Health student affiliation agreement must be signed by the student's university.**

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 Hospital 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 the internship offer has been accepted.

Requirements upon acceptance:

- Proof of negative TB test (within 12 months)
- Updated immunizations
- Flu vaccination
- Negative drug screen
- Clear criminal background check
- Current BLS/CPR certification
- Proof of liability insurance
- Signed Internship Agreement