**Child Life Practicum Application Overview:**



**Summary:** Our Child Life Practicum is designed for students interested in pursuing child life who would like to gain further exposure to the child life field. Students will be able to learn through observation, therapeutic play and developmentally supportive interventions. There is a minimum requirement of 120 hours for our child life practicum. \***We will be offering a child life practicum for students beginning Fall 2022.**

Our practicum consists of an introductory, hands on experience, intended to familiarize students with the child life profession. Our program is designed to build on the theoretical and foundational knowledge gained in the academic classroom. Our practicum gives students opportunities to observe applications of child life practice through a variety of activities including shadowing child life specialists; facilitating play sessions, and practice in documentation, therapeutic interventions, and developmental assessment. In addition, our practicum students are expected to complete assigned readings and projects intended to advance their own understanding of child life theories and application. It is our expectation that upon successful completion of the practicum program, students will be well equipped to find success in their internships, and future child life professional work.

**Requirements to Apply:**

* Current enrollment in or completion of a Bachelor’s or Master’s Degree from the fields of child life, child development, early childhood education, human development and other related fields.
* A minimum of a cumulative GPA of 3.0.
* A minimum of 50 hours of volunteer experience in a hospital setting under the supervision of a certified child life specialist OR in a pediatric hospital setting with direct contact with pediatric patients
* A minimum of 50 hours of experience with well infants, children, youth and/or families in a structured environment (camps, schools, afterschool programs, etc.)
  + *The care of children at home, such as being a nanny or babysitting does not count toward this requirement.*

**Application Process:**

Applicants who meet the above requirements must submit an application by email to be considered for an interview. We have a rolling application deadline. If you are interested in reaching out about a practicum experience with our program. Please reach out to [kbeyer@northshore.org](mailto:kbeyer@northshore.org) and “Attn: Practicum Inquiry”. Please send all practicum application materials to:

[kbeyer@northshore.org](mailto:kbeyer@northshore.org) with “Attn: Student Name, Practicum Application for Fall or Summer XXXX”

A completed application includes:

* Completed Practicum Application Cover sheet
* Cover Letter
* Resume
* Typed application form
* Verification of experience hours
* Unofficial transcripts from ALL colleges/universities attended
* Two letters of recommendation (2 total – 1 who has directly observed your interactions with children in a structured environment)

**Electronic Email Submission:** Please submit application materials, with the exception of recommendations in one email addressed to Katelyn Beyer, Child Life Coordinator and Katherine Altieri, Certified Child Life Specialist to the emails below: [kbeyer@northshore.org](mailto:kbeyer@northshore.org) and [kaltieri@northshore.org](mailto:kaltieri@northshore.org)

***Thank you for your interest in our practicum program. Prior to completing the cover sheet below, please ensure review of our Child Life Practicum Application Overview. This cover sheet is to confirm that you have all application components prior to submission of your electronic application.***

**Practicum Application Cover Sheet:**

Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Undergraduate School: Click or tap here to enter text. Major: Click or tap here to enter text. GPA: Click or tap here to enter text.

Graduate School: Click or tap here to enter text. Major: Click or tap here to enter text. GPA: Click or tap here to enter text.

Please X or provide **#** of hours, as specified below:

1. Cover Letter
2. Resume
3. Typed application form
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_Hours of volunteer experience in a hospital setting under the supervision of a certified child life specialist OR in a pediatric hospital setting (with verification)
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_Hours of experience with well infants, children, youth and/or families in a structured environment (with verification)
6. Unofficial Transcripts from ALL colleges/universities attended
7. Two letters of recommendation (2 total – 1 who has directly observed your interactions with children)

Thank you for your interest in our practicum program. We look forward to reviewing your application and will be in touch once we’ve reviewed all applications.

Sincerely,

**NorthShore Child Life Services Team**

**Child Life Practicum Application**

**Personal Information**

Full Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Preferred Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Mailing Address: Click or tap here to enter text.

Permanent Address: Click here to enter text.

Telephone: Click or tap here to enter text.

Email: Click or tap here to enter text.

**In Case of Emergency**

Emergency Contact: Click or tap here to enter text.

Relationship: Click or tap here to enter text.

Telephone: Click or tap here to enter text.

Address: Click or tap here to enter text.

**Desired Practicum Session:**

Summer

Fall

Winter

**Student Affiliation**

University-affliated **\*Must be affiliated with a university in order for placement\***

Academic Advisor’s Name: Click or tap here to enter text. Email: Click or tap here to enter text.

Phone: Click or tap here to enter text.

University Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

University Department Address: Click or tap here to enter text.

**Academic Background**

1. College or University Name: Click or tap here to enter text.
2. City, State/ Province: Click or tap here to enter text.
3. Dates Attended: Click or tap here to enter text.

Graduation Date: Click or tap here to enter text.

Major and Minor: Click or tap here to enter text.

Degree Earned: Click or tap here to enter text.

Cumulative GPA: Click or tap here to enter text.

2. College or University Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

City, State/ Province: Click or tap here to enter text.

Dates Attended: Click or tap here to enter text.

Graduation Date: Click or tap here to enter text.

Major and Minor: Click or tap here to enter text.

Degree Earned: Click or tap here to enter text.

Cumulative GPA: Click or tap here to enter text.

**Experiences with Hospitalized Children and Families**

***Please list your volunteer experience in a hospital setting under the supervision of a certified child life specialist.***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Experience** | **Dates** | **Total Hours** | **Brief Description of Responsibilities** | **Supervisor** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. |

**Experiences with Well Children and Families**

***Please list your experiences working with well infants, children, youth and/or families in a structured environment. Experience may be paid or volunteer.***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Experience** | **Dates** | **Total Hours** | **Brief Description of Responsibilities** | **Supervisor** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text. |

**Essay Questions**

*Maximum 250 word count for each answer*

1. What is the most interesting aspect of a child life specialist’s work in the hospital setting?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. What is your philosophy of the child life profession?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. How does a child life specialist address the developmental needs of patients and families?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. What are your expectations for a child life practicum?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Tell us three personal or professional attributes that you will bring to us as a child life practicum student?

Click or tap here to enter text.