



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, 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 Clinic, 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.

Applications must be **postmarked** by:

Winter/Spring Internship

- Application Deadline: September 5

Summer Internship

- Application Deadline: January 5

Fall Internship

- Application Deadline: March 15

Please send completed application to the following address:

Child Life Department
Ochsner Hospital for Children
1514 Jefferson Highway
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 Hospital 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 58 pediatric patient beds which include general pediatric, pediatric intensive care and cardiovascular pediatric 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 and our pediatric clinic.

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 it is 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)
- Resume detailing career objectives and experiences working with children
- Unofficial transcripts
- Eligibility Assessment from the Child Life Council showing all coursework as "passed".
 - Completion of 10 academic courses
 - Completion of coursework in six applied areas of study
- Three letters of recommendation, one from an academic professor or faculty supervisor, one from a Certified Child Life Specialist supervisor who has directly observed your work with children, and one from a supervisor or employer who has directly observed and can assess your work with children and families. Each recommendation letter should be in envelopes signed on the seal by the letter writer.
- Documentation of required experience working with children. We accept the Verification of Related Experience Hours form. (www.childlife.org)
 - 100 hours of experience working with well infants, children, youth and/or families (camp, school, daycare, etc).
 - 100 must be completed in a child life practicum in a healthcare setting or facility where children with medical and/or developmental challenges are served and must be under the direct supervision of a Certified Child Life Specialist.
- Proof of taking a child life course taught by a Certified Child Life Specialist (course can be in progress at the time of application)
- Minimum 3.0 GPA in related coursework
- Typed answers to the following questions:
 - What are your goals for your internship?
 - What qualities and skills do you possess that will help you in your internship and later as a specialist?

Application Review

The internship coordinator and Child Life team will review all applications. Incomplete applications or applications not postmarked by the Child Life Council application deadline will not be considered. Selected qualified applicants will be contacted to schedule for 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 Child Life Council's 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 (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 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
- Negative Drug screen
- Clear Criminal Background Check
- Current BLS
- Signed Internship Agreement
- Proof of Liability Insurance (if not affiliated with a university)