



Thank you for your interest in the Practicum Student Program with the Child Life Department at Mission Children's Hospital. Our practicum program is offered two times per year during the summer (June/July). The practicum is a 120 hour experience requiring a commitment of 4 weeks. Throughout the practicum, students are supervised by certified Child Life Specialists. To be considered for a practicum, students must have a 3.0 grade point average or higher and have documented experience with children through a paid or volunteer position. If accepted, you must also apply through our volunteer service office.

**Your application packet must be postmarked by January 5th.**

A practicum student completed application includes:

1. The completed application form.
2. A 200-500 word essay describing your philosophy of Child Life, the strengths you will bring to a practicum, what you expect to gain from your practicum experience, how you envision a practicum experience to contribute to your academic and professional goals and what steps you are planning to take to become a Child Life Specialist.
3. Two letters of recommendation (preferably one from an academic advisor and one from someone who has supervised or observed your work with children and families.)
4. A copy of your resume, listing your education and field experience to date.
5. A certified (official) copy of your transcript.
6. If you are completing a practicum for academic credit, a cover letter from your academic advisor that clearly states what academic credit you will receive and any specific academic requirements you will need to accomplish during this experience.

It is the applicant's responsibility to solicit the recommendations and official transcripts. Upon receipt and review of the completed application, The Practicum Coordinator will be in contact with the applicant. Personal interviews/ Phone Interviews/ Spyke Interviews will be conducted following the application review process. Only completed applications will be considered for review.

Please return the entire completed application and materials via the United States Postal System to:

Student Practicum Coordinator  
Attn: Aimee McNeill  
CHILD LIFE  
Mission Children's Hospital  
11 Vanderbilt Park Drive  
Asheville, NC 28803

\*\*Please do not hesitate to call (828) 213-1792 should you have any questions regarding the practicum.

# Mission Children's Hospital

Child Life Department

## Practicum Objectives and Responsibilities

This practicum placement is meant to serve as an introduction to Child Life for students who have an interest in pursuing Child life or a related field as a career. The following is a list of the responsibilities and expected experiences (but not limited to) for a practicum student.

- ❖ Observe the role of a Child Life Specialist in various settings (PICU, outpatient clinics, radiology, in-patient floor, NICU, emergency department, outpatient surgery, etc.).
- ❖ Observe group and individual activities for children ages birth-18 years.
- ❖ Augment knowledge of medical terminology.
- ❖ Observe medical procedures when appropriate.
- ❖ Create and Implement (if time permits) one therapeutic group activity to be facilitated in the hospital playroom.
- ❖ Attend and participate in one support group event provided by the Family Support Network.
- ❖ Complete weekly assignments such as reading educational articles related to child life issues and completing weekly goals & objectives.

Mission Children's Hospital  
Child Life Department  
PRACTICUM APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address

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Current Address

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Current Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Best Time to Reach You \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

University \_\_\_\_\_

Major \_\_\_\_\_

Degree sought    BS/BA        MS/MA (circle one)

Are you completing practicum for college credit?    Yes                      No

Academic/ Practicum Advisor \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

List any organization involvement (clubs, church groups, etc.)

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Which practicum are you applying for?        JUNE                      JULY                      EITHER

**For more information please contact  
Aimee McNeill, CCLS, Practicum Coordinator  
Office: 828.213.1792**