



Child Life Department

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Introduction

NICKLAUS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL is a private, non-profit 283 bed facility that provides medical care services to children from birth through twenty-one years of age. The hospital was established in March 1950 as Variety Children's Hospital.

The Nicklaus Children's Hospital Children's Child Life program is part of the Children's Experience Department which strives to create a positive and optimistic hospital experience through a therapeutic and expressive environment.

In accordance with this goal, the Child Life program's mission is to assess children's psychosocial and developmental needs in order to create an individualized plan of care through advocacy, education, and empowerment thereby normalizing the hospital environment and promoting best possible outcomes with a focus on family centered care.

The Child Life team consists of Certified Child Life Specialists who provide developmental, educational, therapeutic and expressive interventions for children and their families by establishing the most positive hospital experience achievable.

Overview of Child Life Internship

Internship Applicants: Our child life internship program accepts both affiliated and nonaffiliated college students. All applicants affiliated with universities must have a senior level status at the time of internship. Post graduate students should have a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in accordance with coursework suggested by the ACLP

<http://www.childlife.org/Certification/CertificationEligibility/index.cfm>

Suggested Majors for Internship Candidates:

Child Life, Child Development, Family and Human Development, Early Childhood Education, Special Education, Recreation Therapy, and Psychology.

- A. **Application:** A link to the common internship application is included in this packet. Please return the completed application along with an official copy of your University transcript, resume, Association of Child Life Professionals (ACLP) eligibility assessment verification, Child Life course verification, two letters of recommendation, and verification of completion of Child Life Practicum

- B. **Selection of Child Life Interns:** Determination is based on a variety of criteria that include: academics, previous experience working with children in or outside of the hospital setting, references, and an interview. Please note that due to the high number of applicants and limited space, we are unable to grant every applicant an interview.

- C. **Acceptance:** Students will be notified of acceptance into the Internship program on or before the date specified in ACLP application deadline and acceptance guidelines found at:
<http://www.childlife.org/StudentsInternsEducators/InternshipCoordinators/InternshipDeadlines.cfm>
- D. **Internship Hours:** Child Life interns are required to complete 600 hours over 15 weeks (40 hours per week – this can be inclusive of days, nights, and weekends. The selected interns' schedule will follow the work hours of unit preceptor.
**Child Life coverage is provided at the hospital from Sunday-Saturday.
- E. **Housing Arrangements:** The hospital does not provide housing for Child Life Interns
- F. **Stipend:** No stipend is paid to Child Life Interns
- G. **Uniforms:** Interns must comply with Nicklaus Children's Hospital's employee dress code and the dress code of the Child Life Department.

Internship Clinical Rotation Units Currently Available

Child Life interns will have the opportunity to observe child life services provided in 11 clinical areas at Nicklaus Children's Hospital.

Child Life interns will also complete two clinical rotations from the patient care units currently open for students:

In Patient:

- **PICU: Pediatric Intensive Care Unit**
- **3 South: Neurology Unit**

Out Patient:

- **Radiology**

STUDENT INFORMATION

Application Submission Process:

To apply to our Child Life internship program, it is required that the following be completed:

- Common Child Life Internship Application** (created by the Association of Child Life Professionals)
- Official education transcripts** from a University/College
- Child Life course verification**
We ask that internship applicants send verification of their completion of at least one Child Life course taught by a Certified Child Life Specialist (OR proof of registration for upcoming course prior to internship)
- Eligibility Assessment** (verification of eligible child life courses issued by the ACLP)
- Two letters of recommendation**
- Verification of completion of Child Life Practicum**

Internship Application Deadlines and Information

Students interested in applying to a Child Life Internship Program should follow the standard internship deadline, offer, and acceptance dates created by the Association of Child Life Professionals

INTERNSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE, OFFER, ACCEPTANCE, AND 2ND OFFER DATES

<u>Internship Session</u>	<u>Application Deadlines</u>	<u>Initial Offer Dates</u>	<u>Acceptance Dates</u>	<u>2nd Offer Date</u>
Winter/Spring	September 5	2 nd Tuesday of October	Following Wednesday	Following Thursday

To find a copy of the required Common Internship Application forms please visit:

<https://www.childlife.org/files/Common%20Internship%20Application%202015.pdf>

In order for your application to be considered complete please remember to include with the common internship application, an official copy of your University transcript, resume, ACLP eligibility assessment verification, Child Life course verification, two letters of recommendation, and verification of completion of Child Life Practicum. Completed Child Life internship applications for Nicklaus Children's Hospital should be sent to:

Nicklaus Children's Hospital
Child Life Department
Internship Program
3100 SW 62 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33155

Once your application received and reviewed, you will be notified of a possible interview. We appreciate your interest in Nicklaus Children's Hospital. If you have any questions, please contact the Child Life Student Academic Coordinator at 786-624-5482.

This hospital fully complies with the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1968 and the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibits employment discrimination based upon race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, physical disability or veteran status.

A Criminal Conviction record search is made of all prospective students of the hospital. A conviction record does not disqualify applicants from acceptance; factors such as age and time of offense, seriousness and nature of violation and rehabilitation will be taken into account. However, concealment of any conviction on this application shall be cause for disqualification.