



CHILD LIFE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Thank you for your interest in the Child Life Internship Program at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. The internship is a fifteen week, forty hour a week program, for students pursuing a career as a Child Life Specialist. The internship is designed to teach students to recognize and respond to the emotional and psychosocial needs of hospitalized children and their families. The internship includes multiple rotations which may include:

- ◆ Pediatric and Adolescent Units
- ◆ Pediatric Intensive Care Unit
- ◆ Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Unit and Outpatient Clinic
- ◆ Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
- ◆ Pediatric Hemodialysis Unit
- ◆ Pediatric Emergency Department
- ◆ The Family Teaching Program/Same Day Services

The internship is available for credit at both the undergraduate and graduate level, as well as on a non-credit basis for recent graduates in the field. One student is accepted per semester. Students should apply using the Common Child Life Internship Application found on the Child Life Council website (www.childlife.org). In addition, we require official verification of volunteer hours, CLC coursework review and 2 reference letters (one from an academic advisor and one referencing your abilities in working with children). All documents should be sent together in one packet to the address below.

If you have any questions regarding the program do not hesitate to call me at (732) 418-8038.

Very truly yours,

Barbara Romito, MA, CCLS
Director, Child Life Program
The Bristol-Myers Squibb Children's Hospital at
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital
1 Robert Wood Johnson Place
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901

Child Life Internship Program
The Bristol -Myers Squibb Children's Hospital
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital

OVERVIEW

The Child Life Internship Program at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital is designed to teach students to recognize and respond to the psychosocial needs of hospitalized children and their families. The internship offers exposure to all aspects of Child Life programming, including both hands on experience with patients and accompanying academic work. The internship is designed to meet the core competencies as set by the Child Life Council. Students work under the supervision of Child Life Specialists in all units of The Children's Hospital, including the Pediatric Unit, Adolescent Unit, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Hematology/Oncology Unit, Pediatric Dialysis Unit, the Emergency Department and the Family Teaching Program. The internship is a 15 week, 40 hour a week program, including some evenings and weekends.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Applicant must be an undergraduate student, graduate student, or recent graduate in Child Life, Child Development or a related concentration. A minimum 3.0 GPA is required.
- Applicants must demonstrate a solid academic background in normal growth and development.
- Applicants must have a minimum of 50 volunteer hours in a Child Life Program, completed prior to application deadline date.
- Following application review, students may be selected for an onsite interview. Onsite interviews are required as part of the selection process.

OBJECTIVES

Prior to beginning the internship program, students are required to read: Child Life In Hospitals: Theory and Practice (Stanford and Thompson).

At the conclusion of the internship, the participant will be able to:

1. Discuss the philosophy of Child Life as well as the specific programming at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.
2. Discuss the scope of service and patient population for each unit.
3. Describe the normal growth and developmental patterns for infants through adolescents.
4. Interact with patients in group and individual settings.
5. Describe the different psychosocial effects of acute/chronic conditions.
6. Describe the different psychosocial effects of planned vs. unplanned hospitalizations.
7. Provide age appropriate art and recreational activities for various populations within the hospital.
8. Provide pre-operative teaching and medical play opportunities for patients and siblings.
9. Discuss basic medical procedures/terminology.
10. Identify how Child Life functions as part of an interdisciplinary team.
11. Describe the administrative aspects of Child Life Programming.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

****In addition to the overall program goals, each individual rotation begins with a special goal/objective list, as well as specific assignments per rotation.**

1. Work under the supervision of the assigned Child Life Specialist for eight hours per day, five days per week for a minimum of 15 weeks
2. Understand all Child Life policies/procedures, as well as related ones from other departments.
3. Maintain a daily written log on hospital experiences, to be reviewed weekly by the supervising Child Life Specialist.
4. Complete weekly assigned readings to be discussed with supervisor.
5. Complete 2 case studies that follow a patient from admission to discharge.
6. Complete a 5 – 8 page paper of a specific disease or illness or a project.
7. Complete one formal lesson plan for each unit/rotation, in addition to unit based projects.
8. Plan and implement one full week of activities in the Pediatric Unit, including lesson plans and objectives.
9. Attend appropriate psychosocial rounds.
10. Participate in the supervision of Child Life volunteers.

INTERRELATIONSHIPS

Patients, families, medical staff, nursing and hospital personnel.

PHYSICAL FUNCTIONS

Frequent pushing, pulling, lifting, walking and standing and reaching. Intact vision, hearing and speech. Manual dexterity. Must be able to function under rapidly changing and stressful conditions.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Exposure to blood, excrement and possible exposure to infectious and communicable diseases.

EVALUATIONS

Interns will be evaluated by the supervising Child Life Specialist following each rotation. The Director will also complete a final evaluation of the student. Students will also be required to complete a self-evaluation during each rotation and an evaluation of the internship program.

Application, Offer Schedule

Internship Session	Application Deadlines	Initial Offer Dates	Acceptance Dates	Offer Dates for Winter / Spring 2011 & Summer & Fall 2012	Acceptance Dates for Winter / Spring 2011 & Summer & Fall 2012
Winter/Spring	September 5	2 nd Tuesday of October	2 nd Wednesday of October	Tuesday, 10/11/2011	Wednesday, 10/12/2011
Summer	January 5	2 nd Tuesday of February	2 nd Wednesday of February	Tuesday, 2/14/2012	Wednesday, 2/15/2012
Fall	May 5	2 nd Tuesday of June	2 nd Wednesday of June	Tuesday, 6/12/12	Wednesday, 6/13/12