



**UPSTATE GOLISANO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL  
CHILD LIFE PROGRAM**

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in our child life practicum. Three times a year we offer entry-level training in the Child Life Program.

The training is intended to introduce the undergraduate student to child life as well as the variety of experiences facing children and adolescents in a healthcare setting. A certified child life specialist (CCLS) will supervise the student as he or she participates in individual and group activities with children and families.

Practicum students must have completed core curriculum, including child development course work, and must have demonstrated successful experiences with children. Non-traditional Child Life students must have taken the Intro to Child Life course or completed a minimum of 50 hours of volunteer work within a Child Life Program. This type of training is highly recommended for those students who are considering a career as a child life specialist. Practicum students must complete 8-10 hours per week for a minimum of 100 total hours.

Application submission deadlines are as follows:

<u>Training dates:</u>	<u>Application deadline</u>
January	November 1st
May/June	March 20th
September	April 15 <sup>th</sup>

Application for practicum training requires submission of a completed application as well as an on-site interview. Application is not a guarantee of acceptance. Due to the expectation that we provide students with quality supervision and education during placement, a limited number of students are accepted per semester. Should you have any further questions, please call the Child Life Program.

Sincerely,

Regina Lozito-Yorton, MSED, CCLS  
Certified Child Life Specialist  
Student Placement Coordinator  
315-464-7506

Rachel Hannon, BS, CCLS  
Certified Child Life Specialist  
Student Placement Coordinator  
315-464-7587

## **PRACTICUM STUDENT JOB DESCRIPTION**

The practicum student is widely exposed to the child life profession through observation and supervised participation. This (minimum 100 hours) exposure is designed to prepare the student for a more intensive career oriented training experience in child life or a related field.

### **Program components:**

- Observation of inpatient and outpatient child life services
- Supervised participation in group and individual activities
- Utilization of departmental resources

### **Practicum objectives:**

Through observation, collaboration with various child life staff, active participation in child life programming, and ongoing supervision and feedback, the practicum student will:

- Become familiar with the child life profession.
- Recognize various child, adolescent and family member reactions to stress, illness and pain.
- Develop communication skills with children, adolescents and family members in the healthcare setting.
- Recognize the value of play and psychosocially supportive interventions.
- Develop abilities to interact with members of the interdisciplinary team.
- Evaluate own performance and set goals for learning.
- Identify ways to integrate knowledge with practice.

### **Expectations:**

If the student's academic program/supervisor does not specify practicum requirements, the following guidelines will be used. If the academic site identifies similar or very different tasks, guidelines will be adjusted accordingly.

1. Written goals for practicum experience.
2. Observation and supervised participation in inpatient and outpatient program areas.
3. Weekly journal or evaluation of experience, including discussion with site supervisor.
4. Develop a project to be determined with site supervisor.

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**PRACTICUM STUDENT APPLICATION  
(100 hour minimum; part time)**

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Training Semester: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person for message/emergency: \_\_\_\_\_

Relation to applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_

College Education:

Institution	Major	Graduation Date
_____	_____	_____

Supervisor/Advisor Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor/Advisor Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Relevant experience (any setting; list most recent experience first):**

1. Name of Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Hours: \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Description of Experience: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Name of Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Hours: \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Description of Experience: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Name of Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Hours: \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Description of Experience: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Continue on additional page as necessary)

**Note: If you have completed a practicum or field placement in child life, please attach a copy of any evaluation form and or indicate the name of your supervisor.**

In order to be considered for placement, you must submit a completed application along with:

1. A 200 to 500 word essay describing your philosophy of child life and how you propose that a practicum experience will contribute to your professional goals.
2. List of (minimum 4) personal/professional goals for the training experience at Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital.
3. Most recent academic transcript (student copy is acceptable).
4. One letter of recommendation (someone who has observed your work with children)
5. Description of academic requirements and the role of the university supervisor (i.e. letter from practicum supervisor and list of academic requirements for placement).

**Return completed application and materials listed above to:**

Regina Lozito-Yorton  
Child Life Program/Dept. of Pediatrics  
Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital  
750 East Adams Street  
Syracuse, NY 13210

