Program Overview

Golisano Children’s Hospital offers a comprehensive practicum program that assists the child life student in gaining experience working in a hospital setting and seeing the application of developmental theory. Under the supervision of certified child life specialists (CCLS), practicum students will have opportunities to observe a CCLS in the clinical role, become more independent in planning play-based patient interactions, and build professional skills that will assist them in planning for internship. We will accept four practicum students for summer 2019.

Current Program Schedule

Golisano Children’s Hospital currently offers a summer practicum program that consists of 120 hours over the course of 13 weeks, running from May 13-August 9, 2019.

Program Objectives

The goal of the Child Life Practicum is to offer the student a better understanding of the role of the Child Life Specialist. By following a structured curriculum that includes patient observation, interaction and reflection, each student will have the opportunity to build his or her skills in communication, recognize normal responses to stress, and learn about the value of play in a hospital based program.

Program Curriculum

Students selected the practicum program will be required to complete the following assignments:

♦ Article review with summary of how it is applicable to current practices
♦ Biweekly journaling of experiences
♦ 2 observations and reflections of CCLS in medical play
♦ 2 observations and reflections of CCLS in other clinical experiences (this may include diagnostic teaching, procedure preparation or support, developmental assessment)
♦ Create and implement play activities for children at varying developmental levels
♦ Mock interview
♦ Completed evaluation by CCLS
♦ Completion of a professional portfolio
Requirements for Application

- Completed at least 40 hours volunteering or working in a group setting with children
- Currently working toward a degree in Child Life or related field
- Completed Child Life Course taught by a Certified Child Life Specialist prior to start of Practicum

Application Process

Each application must include the following materials:

1) Application form
2) Résumé and Cover Letter
3) One recommendation for someone who has observed your work with children

Applications may be sent to:  CLPracticum@urmc.rochester.edu

Or mailed to:  Wendy Lane, MS, CCLS
UR Medicine’s Golisano Children’s Hospital
Child Life Department [Box 619-11]
601 Elmwood Avenue
Rochester, NY 14642

Application Timeline:

- Submit all materials, received by 3/6/2019*
- All applicants must complete a Skype or phone interview
- Applicants will be notified of placement the week of 3/25/2019
- We will accept four practicum students for the summer of 2019

*Note: Receipt of application does not ensure placement into program

Thank you for your interest.
We look forward to hearing from you!