



Frequently Asked Questions

Will a virtual practicum “count” toward certification?

This is a very appropriate question to be asking. A virtual practicum model is a new and innovative approach to the practicum experience, as such there are a lot of unknowns. Child Life United can NOT guarantee that attending the CLU Virtual Child Life Practicum will be accepted by every internship review team. However, we can guarantee that this practicum experience will provide a robust learning experience, advance your knowledge of the field and provide an opportunity for a practicum experience at a time in which opportunities are limited.

This experience will not be right for every student. We at CLU encourage you to evaluate your options and proceed based on what is right for you. For students that choose to apply to the Child Life United virtual practicum, we feel certain that it will be a meaningful and valuable experience.

The Child Life United Virtual Child Life Practicum does meet the [ACLP recommended standards](#).

Why did CLU develop this program?

Child Life United developed our brand new virtual practicum program because we believe in accessibility in the field of child life. While we truly acknowledge that there is incredible value in the traditional, clinical practicum approach, we also are aware of incredible opportunities that lie outside of a hospital based experience. Over the past several years Child Life United has worked to connect with multifaceted psychosocial care professionals and expand the growth of opportunities globally. We now have created the opportunity to bring the learning experiences to you through this virtual practicum, diversifying the approach, both from a standpoint of accessibility and scope.

What are the prerequisites?

- Completion of a Child Life course, taught by a child life specialist.
- Completion of at least one child development course.
 - (Both courses must be completed by the start of the practicum but not necessary before you apply.)

- 100 volunteer hours within a hospital is strongly preferred but not required due to the limited availability of volunteer opportunities at this time. * Please Note: Internships will still require this, meaning lack of volunteer hours will affect your ability to move forward into an internship.

What does it cost?

This program is \$1,000 for those that are not annual members of the [Child Life United Together Community](#). For Community members who have purchased the annual plan, the cost \$950.

Child Life United believes in an equitable approach and does not want finances to be a barrier of access for this program, therefore CLU is offering a needs based scholarship. If this applies to you, please check the box while completing the application. For those that are interested in this scholarship, we will require an additional application upon review of all applications.

What is the time commitment?

This practicum will result in ~ 120 hours of experience. This is approximately 15 hours over the course of the 8 weeks. We will have blocks of time each week that are dedicated practicum hours. These times will be within the weekday work week. The required hours will be determined closer to the time of the practicum start date. There will also be additional hours of requirements each week outside of our meeting times.

What topics will be covered?

One of the fantastic benefits to the virtual practicum is the number of topics we will be covering. You will learn from CCLS in many different areas of a hospital setting as well as community based providers. This practicum will incorporate both skills-based learning and experience-based learning, covering everything from assessment and preparation, to “*what is it like to work in the emergency room?*”

What is the format?

- Large group educational sessions
 - Hosted on Child Life United Together (Thinkific)
 - Both live and recorded content
 - Weekly Topic Driven Q+A
- Weekly clinical supervision group (small group)
- Weekly 1x1 supervision call
- Access to Child Life United Together Community (6 months)
- Weekly Journals and Assignments
- Participation in live and recorded “hands on” experiential hours
- Required hours participating in external experiences

