

Child Life Practicum Program: Puerto Rico

June 1 - June 26, 2020

Application Due Date: Feb 7, 2020



1. Title of program: Child Life Practicum Program: San Juan, Puerto Rico
2. 100 - 120 hour Practicum (4 weeks)
3. Program dates: June 1st - 26th, 2020
4 weeks (not including travel)
4. Child Life United in partnership with Child Life and Art Therapy Program at San Jorge Children and Women's Hospital

The 4-week practicum consists of rotations in Pre-Operative Care, Emergency Room, Oncology, General Care, and Mental Health (not each student is guaranteed time in each service area).

Child Life United practicums follow and cover all 6 standards recommended by the Association of Child Life Specialist (as stated below).

Child Life Practicum

The Child Life Practicum is designed as an introductory experience for individuals interested in pursuing a career in child life. Through experiential learning and observation of Certified Child Life Specialists, child life practicum students begin to increase their knowledge of basic child life skills related to play, developmental assessment, and integration of child life theory into interventions with infants, children, youth and families. Child life practicum students will increase their comfort level by interacting with infants, children, youth, and families in stressful situations, health care settings and/or in programs designed for special needs populations. Through these experiences, child life practicum students

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will enhance their knowledge of the child life profession and investigate the process of applying child life and developmental theory to practice.

Child Life Practicum Recommended Standards by the Association of Child Life Specialist

(<http://childlife.org/StudentsInternsEducators/PracticumStudents.cfm>)

While the Association of Child Life Specialist (ACLP) does not require specific practices or protocols for child life practicums at this time, and child life practicums are not currently accepted to establish eligibility for the Child Life Professional Certification Examination, ACLP encourages child life practicum programs to follow these recommendations set forth in 2013 by the ACLP Practicum Task Force:

Standard #1: The child life practicum is largely an observational experience with child life practicum students beginning to engage in independent play and developmentally supportive interventions with infants, children, youth, and families as deemed appropriate by the supervising CCLS.

Standard #2: The child life practicum student will be supervised by a Certified Child Life Specialist (CCLS) who has achieved a minimum of 2,000 hours of paid work experience as a child life specialist. The supervising CCLS must be currently practicing in the field of child life; however, the setting of the child life practicum could vary.

Standard #3: The child life practicum encompasses a minimum of 100 supervised hours. The child life practicum experience may include a combination of practicum hours being completed in no more than two different settings given each setting builds upon and strengthens a child life practicum student's continual development and growth as a child life specialist.

Standard #4: Child life practicum hours should be completed in an appropriate setting that provides the child life practicum student with the opportunity to observe and learn from psychosocial interventions that assist infants, children, youth and families experiencing health related or stressful situations. Approved settings can include:

- Hospitals / Medical Centers
- Therapeutic, medical or health related camp settings
- Hospice, grief, or support centers
- Rehabilitation settings

Standard #5: The child life practicum includes observation opportunities for students to explore the following theory and interventions related to child life practice:

- Child life assessments
- Developmental theory integration
- Therapeutic play interventions
- Rapport building

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Standard #6: The child life practicum learning experiences include activities and assignments which allow the child life practicum student to begin to apply and integrate knowledge and theory application for future clinical practice and help to initiate the development of a personal philosophy of child life practice. These learning assignments should include:

- Journaling
- Educational In-services and Discussions
- Specific and Structured Readings

Logistics and Fees

Travel itinerary:

Official Program Dates: : June 1st to June 26th , 2020 (4 weeks – 100/120 practicum hours)

Travel from the student's home country: It is advised that students arrive in country, no later than the Saturday before the start date. This is to allow for a rest day.

(Extended Travel: If you would like to extend your travel, please do so after the program is complete)

Medical and travel insurance will be required.

Cost

Self – Funded Each student will be responsible for self-funding their travel, food, sightseeing during free time and accommodation.	Service Agreement Fee Practicum supervisors transportation and accommodation, practicum course work, 1:1 practicum supervision, focused educational experience, administrative cost.
Medical and Travel insurance	Program cost: \$2,400

Accommodation

You are required to find your own accommodation, however once participants are accepted. Child Life United will connect students if they wish to plan accommodation as a group.

Transportation

You are responsible for your own transportation while in Puerto Rico.

Uber is available.

Application Process

Applications are Due February 7, 2020

Application is located on the Child Life United website

www.childlifeunited.org

Direct all questions to Child Life United

info@childlifeunited.org

morelandccls@gmail.com

(512) 771-3548

International travel makes web based communication more reliable

(Imessage, WhatsApp, Facebook or LinkedIn messenger or email)

Clinical Supervisor



Kia Ferrer, MS, CCLS, GC-C

Certified Child Life Specialist and Certified Grief Counselor

Doctoral student in child development jointly

through Erikson Institute and Loyola University (Chicago)

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Born and raised in Chicago, Kia Ferrer has over 12 years of experience working in urban early childhood education, in palliative and hospice settings, in private practice, and in several children's hospitals including NorthShore Evanston Hospital as a Child Life Coordinator. Ferrer is an adjunct faculty member and a doctoral student at Erikson Institute, a graduate school in child development and has recently founded a Chicago-based private practice for children of adult patients called Mementos©.

Ferrer co-authored "Transforming the Pediatric Experience" and has presented on several child development topics including "Virtualizing Therapeutic Interventions" at Mayo Clinic and "Communicating with Empathy and Compassion" at Make-A-Wish®. Ferrer teaches numerous online distance learning courses and offers seminars in schools, hospitals, and professional conferences around the country.