



## **Child Life Practicum Student Role Description**

The practicum student is exposed to the child life profession through observation and supervised participation in activities. The practicum experience is designed to prepare the student for a more career-oriented pursuit of child life training. Practicum students are expected to complete a minimum of 120 hours and enter the program through Volunteer Services.

### **Program Components**

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

### **Practicum Objectives**

- Increase familiarity with the child life profession
- Recognize common child, adolescent, and family member reactions to stress, illness and pain
- Recognize and be able to verbalize the value of play and psychosocially appropriate interventions within the healthcare setting
- Develop communication skills with children, adolescents, family, and interdisciplinary health care team members
- Self evaluation of skills and knowledge level, with set goals for learning

### **General Practicum Requirements**

- Complete a Needs Assessment & discuss with Child Life supervisor
- Meet with Child Life supervisor bi-weekly
- Meet with University supervisor as required
- Write up practicum goals & objectives & share by the second meeting with your child life supervisor
- Maintain a daily journal (see attached format) and discuss with Child Life supervisor
- Complete a project to be left at the practicum site
- Develop and implement one activity in the Playroom or Teen room

- Observe one medical play session conducted by a child life specialist
- Opportunities to observe pre op tours and procedures will vary based on availability and appropriateness
- Attend child life seminars and meetings as requested
- Special events & programs at the University of Maryland Hospital for Children which involve child life may involve the practicum student if applicable
- Weekly maintenance of Ronald McDonald Room supplies
- View Child Life educational videos:
  - "Child Life in the Healthcare Setting"
  - "Working Safely with Pediatric Patients"
- Read provided child life readings

**Child Life Practicum  
Daily Journal**

**Practicum student:**

**Date:**

**Objective Observation:**

**Subjective:**

**Supervisor's Comments:**