



Dear applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the Child Life practicum at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital. The purpose of the child life practicum program is to provide students with the opportunity to become familiar with the child life profession and children's reactions to hospitalization and illness. Students will be exposed to the child life profession through observation and supervised participation by a certified child life specialist. This practicum consists of a total of at least 160 hours. The practicum involves two rotations, with the student gaining experience in both inpatient and outpatient settings.

### **Practicum Goals**

1. Demonstrate a personal level of comfort within the hospital environment.
2. Observe a variety of clinical experiences, including medical procedures, resulting in a basic understanding of child life's role in a health care setting.
3. Demonstrate knowledge regarding children's responses to hospitalization, developmental issues, and planning to meet individual patient needs.
4. Demonstrate increasing knowledge in basic approaches of preparation and medical play.
5. Develop the ability to build rapport with patients and to engage them in therapeutic activities.
6. Learn how to introduce self and child life services to patient and families.
7. Demonstrate the ability to set goals and objectives to enhance personal and professional development.
8. Attend and participate in weekly seminars provided by a certified child life specialist.
9. Complete weekly assignments and appropriate readings on time.
10. Conduct self in a professional manner (appearance, punctuality, flexibility)

### **Acceptance Requirements**

To be considered for SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital's child life practicum program, students must be seeking a Bachelor's (minimum of a junior status) or Master's degree in child life or a related field. Students must also have a minimum of 100 documented hours of working with children; 50 must be in a hospital setting, and a minimum of a 3.0 GPA.

## **Application Process**

A completed practicum application includes:

1. The completed application forms
2. Resume
3. Cover letter
4. Unofficial transcript (official may be requested after application review)
5. Two letters of recommendation emailed directly from recommender to [cgchildlife@ssmhealth.com](mailto:cgchildlife@ssmhealth.com) (preferably one from an academic advisor and one from someone who has observed the student interact with children/families).
6. Letter verifying hours working with children

Applications should be emailed by January 1<sup>st</sup> for the summer semester. All application packets are reviewed thoroughly. **Incomplete and late applications will not be considered.** Top candidates will be contacted to arrange an interview.

All components of the application must be submitted as separate attachments to the submission email. Application documents should either be in a PDF or Word format. No other formats will be accepted.

**Submission email address:** [Cgchildlife@ssmhealth.com](mailto:Cgchildlife@ssmhealth.com)

**Subject:** Practicum Application- Candidate Name

For questions regarding the practicum program please email Emily Bozzer, MS, CCLS at [cgchildlife@ssmhealth.com](mailto:cgchildlife@ssmhealth.com).

Sincerely,

Emily Bozzer, MS, CCLS  
Child Life Practicum Coordinator