Child Life 101: A guide for students
ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

10 COLLEGE CLASSES

1 - Child Life Course
2 - Child Development
1 - Family Systems
1 - Play Class
1 - Loss or Death and Dying
1 - Research
3 - Related Courses
CSUF COURSES

WHAT TO TAKE:

1 - Child Life Course - CAS 328
2 - Child Development - CAS 325 A + B
1 - Family Systems - CAS 201
1 - Play Class* - This class is not offered at CSUF
1 - Loss or Death and Dying - SOCI 360
1 - Research - CAS 301
3 - Related Courses - BIO 210 (Human Anatomy)
   KNES 205 (Medical Terminology)
   PHIL 314 (Ethics)

*Play class - UCSB Extension offers
   x370.3 - Therapeutic Role of Play in Pediatric Care

The course is fully virtual, and admission to UCSB in NOT needed.
(This class will NOT count for CSUF credit)
FIRST STEPS: volunteering
GREAT FIRST STEP TO GAIN EXPERIENCANCE

HOURS ARE NEEDED IN 3 AREAS (100 HOURS MIN):
*As of November 2022 for summer 2023 application*

HEALTHCARE - INPATIENT/OUTPATIENT
(THIS CAN BE IN THE FORM OF A PRACTICUM)

STRESSFUL SITUATION - MEDICAL NEEDS OR SPECIAL NEEDS
(ABA THERAPY)

WELL CHILDREN - AFTERSCHOOL CARE, NANNY, COACH

Local Programs
Children's Hospital of Orange County
Miller Children's and Women's Hospital
UCI Health
Children's Hospital of Los Angeles

*Please refer to hospitals' websites for information regarding COVID and programs*
PRACTICUM

THIS IS LIKE VOLUNTEERING BUT MORE STRUCTURED

NOT ALL INTERNSHIPS REQUIRE STUDENTS TO DO A PRACTICUM, BUT IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

*If you are a CAS major wanting to pursue Child Life, you will want to choose Family and Community Context for your emphasis*

CAS 494 -ADVANCE PRACTICUM
YOU CAN COMPLETE YOUR HOURS FOR SCHOOL CREDIT AND FOR YOURSELF!

LOCAL PROGRAMS
CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL OF ORANGE COUNTY
MILLER CHILDREN’S AND WOMEN’S HOSPITAL
CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL OF LOS ANGELES

*Please refer to hospitals’ websites for information regarding COVID and programs*
THIS IS THE HARD PART, DO NOT GET DISCOURAGED

The application process will be changing for fall 2023, be sure to check ACLP website for those updates
INTERNSHIPS ARE TYPICALLY 600 HOURS FOR 15 WEEKS

START YOUR APPLICATION EARLY!
(2 - 3 MONTHS BEFORE IT IS DUE)

DEADLINES FOR APPLICATIONS:
- FALL - MARCH 15TH
- SPRING - SEPTEMBER 17TH
- SUMMER - JANUARY 5TH

APPLY EVERYWHERE YOU CAN, EVEN IF THAT'S OUT OF STATE

PROGRAMS
- CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF ORANGE COUNTY
- MILLER CHILDREN'S AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL
- RADY CHILDREN'S SAN DIEGO
- CHILDREN'S PHOENIX
- TEXAS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

ALCP HAS A FULL LIST OF AFFILIATED HOSPITALS
Diversity Scholarship

Supports students from diverse backgrounds who may otherwise be challenged in completing an internship as well as students who are uniquely qualified to work with diverse populations. (Applications done on the ACLP website)

VALUE: $5000 AND AN ACLP ASSOCIATE LEVEL MEMBERSHIP FOR ONE YEAR.

WINTER / SPRING 2023
APPLICATION OPENS: OCTOBER 21, 2022
APPLICATION DUE: NOVEMBER 11, 2022
RESULTS AVAILABLE: BY END OF DECEMBER 2022

SUMMER 2023
APPLICATION OPENS: MARCH 17, 2023
APPLICATION DUE: APRIL 3, 2023
RESULTS AVAILABLE: BY END OF APRIL 2023

Only apply for the semester in which you have secured your internship.
BEFORE YOU APPLY

ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

This is through ACLP. It is to verify the classes you took are aligned with ACLP standards. This will also be used to verify your internship when finished in order to sit for the exam. It is a rate fee of $80

*Official transcripts are needed to verify class, sent from the school

Note that it will take 4-6 for ACLP to approve classes
Exam times - March, August and November

$300 if an ACLP member
$450 if not

150 multiple choice - 4 hours to complete

ALCP had many study resources

*Once you have completed your internship and eligibility assessment*
2nd Year: Fall - BIO 210 & CAS 201  
Spring - CAS 201  
*(Start applying for volunteer/practicum opportunities)*

3rd Year: Fall - PHIL 314, CAS 325 A & CAS 328  
Spring - CAS 325 B, KNES 205 & SOCI 360

4th Year: Summer - Play course

After you complete all class send official transcripts to ACLP

Start application for fall in December - January to be finished by February to allow for corrections and mail time to make the March 12th deadline

*or*

if wanting to apply for spring, start in June - July to be finished by August to allow for correction and mail time to make the September 7th deadline
Tips for future students

- Start the progress early
  Some programs (CHOC) may take a few terms to get in

- Join Facebook groups
  Child Life Connection: Student Forum

- Utilize CSUF advisement
  TDA, education plan

- Continually check ACLP website