Dear Student,

Thank you for your interest in Bronson Children’s Hospital Child Life Internship Program. We look forward to receiving and reviewing your application.

During our Child Life Internship, students learn about the stressors children and families face in the hospital and how hospitalization can impact a child’s development. Through hands-on activity and observation students will become proficient in performing patient assessments, as well as planning and providing appropriate interventions to meet the needs of each individual patient/family. As a community hospital, our patient population varies, so students will have contact with children of varying ages, diagnoses, and cultural/economic backgrounds. A Certified Child Life Specialist will provide direction/supervision for all intern activities.

We offer our internship program during the spring and fall semesters. Please note that we will no longer be offering a summer internship. The intern will spend 16 weeks at Bronson Children’s Hospital, working approximately 40 hours per week. As hospital schedules can vary within departments, the intern will be required to work some nights and weekends. A car is essential, as the local bus system does not run after 9pm. Bronson Children’s Hospital generally offers experiences in the Inpatient Pediatrics, PICU, Emergency, NICU, Surgery, and Radiology departments and in the Outpatient Clinics (subject to change due to staffing).

An internship at Bronson Children’s Hospital will provide an intern with opportunities to:

- Care for the emotional and psychosocial needs of children and families
- Develop and improve assessment skills
- Observe various medical procedures
- Educate children about medical procedures and the medical experience
- Teach relaxation and coping skills
- Learn non-pharmacological pain management techniques
- Experience charting in the medical record
- Gain supervision experiences
- Work as a member of a multi-disciplinary team
- Apply theoretical knowledge to the clinical setting

As our intern positions are limited, we ask that you fulfill all prerequisites for internship before sending your application.

The requirements include:
- Work experience with children and families
- Minimum 100 hours practicum experience within a Child Life Program (may be in progress)
- If not affiliated with a university, students selected for an internship must obtain liability insurance.
- Copy of the ACLP Eligibility Assessment form
- Minimum 3.0 GPA (on 4.0 scale)
- Working towards certification as a Child Life Specialist
- Must be available for an in-person interview

If you meet these requirements, please submit the following for consideration as an intern. Please send all materials together in one mailing. Please do not staple pages together.

- Completed common program application (can be found at www.childlife.org, please note there is a new form for 2019)
- Resume
- Transcripts (unofficial transcripts are acceptable)
- Three recommendation forms (see common application form), at least one from practicum preferred (these should be sent with your application packet)
- Proof of registration/completion of child life course
- Practicum verification form or practicum in progress form
- Eligibility Assessment form
Mail completed packet to:
Karin Rourke
Bronson Children’s Hospital
601 John St., Box 53
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Deadlines for applications are as follows:
March 15th for Fall Semester
September 5th for Winter/Spring Semester

Once the application is received we may contact you for an interview. Interviews will only be granted to those applicants who meet all the requirements for an internship. We conduct our first round of interviews via telephone, and the second round at Bronson. Candidates must be available for an in-person interview for consideration for an internship. We recommend applying to other facilities as well, as spaces are very limited at Bronson. Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee interviews to all candidates who apply.

Thanks again for your interest in our Child Life Program. For more information or if you have any further questions, please contact me at 269-341-7608. For more information on child life and certification as a Child Life Specialist, please refer to the Association of Child Life Professionals website at: www.childlife.org

Best regards,

Karin D Rourke

Karin Rourke, MS, CCLS
Child Life Internship Coordinator