



Child Life Fellowship

The child life fellow works in conjunction with ten other child life specialists to provide psychosocial support to pediatric inpatients and outpatients. This includes providing normalizing playroom and bedside activities, procedural preparations and support, sibling support, bereavement support and teaching positive coping techniques.

A child life fellowship is another opportunity for learning and growing as a child life specialist once a child life internship has been completed and the candidate is eligible for certification. The fellowship position is for an individual with a commitment to advance professionally as a certified child life specialist, giving the new child life professional a chance to improve their child life skills before entering the workforce. It also increases knowledge of the medical field in general including diagnoses, procedures, and the value of being part of a multidisciplinary team.

The child life fellowship is a year-long position, beginning in the fall, and is a paid and fully-benefited position. Fellows are also encouraged to attend funded conferences and symposiums pertinent to the child life field. The fellow works 8 hour days, Tuesday through Saturday. The position may include an area/population that is solely covered by the fellow and/or may provide support to units with established child life coverage. The position also involves monitoring playroom sessions, supervising visiting groups, and participating in special events. Our fellows are involved in staff planning and development, volunteer training and supervision, and many other aspects of the hospital and child life department.

Child Life Mission Statement:

The Child Life Department advocates for and assists in meeting the psychosocial needs of patients and their families. By providing developmental support, preparation for medical events and maintaining a normalized environment; the department strives to minimize hospital induced stress, maximize positive coping and promote a family centered culture throughout OU Medical Center.