
As we enter the holiday season, I am reflecting on how thankful I am for the certification program and all the Certified Child Life Specialists. Thank you to all the child life specialists who have newly certified and those who continue to recertify.

- Thank you to our volunteers of the Child Life Certification Commission
- Thank you to Item Writing, Item Review, and Exam Assembly Committees for your time and dedication to exam development
- Thank you to the Recertification Audit Committee for their thoroughness in helping us recertify credential holders through PDUs
- Thank you to Appeals and Ethic Committees for your wisdom and guidance
- Thank you to the Communication Committees for their messaging and clarity
- Thank you to the Executive Committee for their leadership and direction

As you can see, it takes many people to continue the amazing work of the Child Life Certification Commission. As the Child Life Certification Commission becomes a 501(c)(6), we will need even more volunteers to continue this work. Please consider joining us in this work by volunteering with us.

In addition, in early 2023, you will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the Job Analysis. This survey will come to your email. Please fill out this survey, so we can capture your input. Thank you in advance for your feedback.

Happy Holidays,

Monica Gibson
Chair of the Child Life Certification Commission

Important Dates to Remember

December

- 20: Deadline to submit transcripts and other documentation in time to apply for the [2022 Winter/Spring Internship](#)
- 31: Last day to [reinstate lapsed CCLS credential](#)

January

- 31: Annual certification maintenance fees due

March

- 10: Registration deadline for March testing window
 - 15-30: March exam administration
-

Upcoming Changes to the Child Life Internship Application

There's been a lot of buzz lately surrounding the new Internship Readiness Common Application. Please, take the time to update yourself on these changes!

Why were changes made?

- To increase efficiency for all stakeholders
- To reduce bias within the application
- To improve accessibility

What do internship candidates have to do?

1. Complete the application (includes demographic information, coursework information, description of up to six relevant experiences, demonstration of Knowledge and Skills and Abilities [KSAs], and depth of interactions with children and families in five written responses)
2. Upload their unofficial transcripts as a PDF and
3. Upload their eligibility assessment as a PDF

What's the anticipated impact?

- For students: Less time-consuming, reduced costs, and a single application can be submitted to multiple sites electronically
- For internship sites: A more efficient review process, reduced opportunity for bias, and application components help identify internship-ready candidates
- For academics: In-progress forms, letters of recommendation and references are no longer required and the application process is simple and consistent for all students

Where can I get more information?

- You can watch this [two-minute video](#) and you can visit the [webpage](#) for more comprehensive information.

I want to know more about the rationale of removing certain components from the application.

- Please read the Removal of Application Components Rationale available [here](#).

Where can I find tips for internship sites accepting electronic applications?

- The tips for Internship Sites can be located [here](#).

Volunteer Experiences

Now that pandemic restrictions are reduced, more related volunteer and work experiences are opening up geared toward those pursuing certification.

For child life students pursuing certification, volunteer experience is imperative to their ability to learn about the child life profession and secure clinical experiences. The COVID-19 pandemic restrictions greatly impeded opportunities for students to volunteer at most locations, both in-hospital and in community settings.

Although pandemic restrictions are still lingering, they have been dramatically reduced, allowing for students to participate in in-person or virtual volunteer opportunities that will aid in pursuing child life certification.

Soon, medical camps across the world will be seeking volunteers for their summer camp programming. Volunteering in the medical camp setting is a fantastic opportunity for students to build their skill sets by interacting with children of all ages and with diverse medical backgrounds. Volunteer opportunities in the camp setting comes in all shapes and sizes, too. Students may be interested in a camp counselor role, creating and implementing craft activities, or organizing large group games for campers. Most likely, there is a role in the camp setting that will align with what they are wanting to do and get experience in.

Encourage students to take a closer look into their community to learn more about non-profit organizations that support children and families. Many local organizations are offering in-person volunteer experiences again. For example, Ronald McDonald House Charities (in several locations) who serve families with critically ill or injured children have volunteer opportunities that are a great fit for child life students. Additionally, with schools back in-person, afterschool programming for youth has resumed. Afterschool programming is a great opportunity to enhance skills in facilitating large group play activities.

Virtual volunteer opportunities have become abundant during the pandemic and continue to be a great option for child life students pursuing certification. Some organizations have been created to provide virtual play programming for children, such as KiDS NEED MoRE and Project Sunshine. Both organizations depend on volunteers to help provide interactive play and activities to children who are facing medical challenges in or out of the hospital.

Although this list is not exhaustive, these are some ways that child life students can begin volunteering both in-person and virtually, in order to support their growth as a child life student and journey to child life certification.

Please encourage child life students to use ACLP Connect as a platform to share what volunteer opportunities they have had success in!

It Pays to Pay on Time

While fee due dates are not anyone's favorite day, it pays to pay on time. ACLP has three fees; two mandatory, and one optional (and beneficial). Certification maintenance is paid annually except on recertification year, and Recertification is paid once every five years, and these are mandatory fees that protect the CCLS credentials and allow you to proudly place CCLS after your name.

Those who fail to pay certification maintenance fees will lose the CCLS credential and must begin the certification process anew by meeting the current eligibility requirements and passing the examination. For example, if you completed a 480-hour internship in 2000, you would now have to complete an additional 120 hours before sitting for the certification exam to regain the credential.

If you passed the March, August, or November 2022 exam, your first certification annual maintenance fee payment is due by January 31, 2023. If you re-certified during 2022, your first annual maintenance fee payment for your new cycle is due by January 31, 2023.

ACLP will send you reminders about fee due dates. Check your user profile to ensure your email address is up-to-date. If you notice a lapse in your certification fee or need to update your contact details email certification@childlife.org.

	Certification Fees	Recertification Fees	ACLP Membership Fees
Required to use CCLS credentials	Yes	Yes	No
Frequency of Payment	Annually, except recertification year	Every 5 years	Annually
Fee due date	January 31	Based on certification	Based on date joined

Certification Maintenance Fees		Recertification Fees	
Standard (paid by January 31)		Recertify through PDUs	
ACLP Member	\$48	ACLP Member	\$120
Non-Member	\$68	Non-Member	\$220
Late (paid February 1 - March 31)		Recertify by Exam	
ACLP Member	\$83	ACLP Member	\$300
Non-Member	\$103	Non-Member	\$450
Late (paid April 1 - December 31)			
ACLP Member	\$143		
Non-Member	\$163		

Introducing ... the Ethics Corner!

For the next several issues of the CCLS Connection, we plan to highlight common ethical issues that may arise for CCLSs in their daily work. We are kicking off this effort by making sure that CCLSs know where they can go when they're faced with an actual or potential ethical issue.

- All CCLSs should be familiar with our Child Life Code of Ethics and how to reference it if needed. From the ACLP home page, click "Certification" and "Code of Ethics". This will lead you to the Code of Ethics, Social Networking Guidelines, and instructions on how to file an ethical complaint.
- The second edition of *Making Ethical Decisions in Child Life Practice* was published in 2021. Updated and expanded considerably from the first edition, this text offers vital information for CCLSs looking to solidify their foundational ethics knowledge.
- The Summer 2019 issue of the Child Life Bulletin is ethics themed. Accessible for ACLP members, topics include research ethics, ethics of preparation, ethics of increasing diversity of our profession, and ethics for child life home care, among others.

We want the Ethics Corner to be valuable for readers, if you have any suggested topics or questions, please forward them to certification@childlife.org.

Make Your Mark: Volunteering with ACLP

One of the very best parts about child life is how accessible it is to get involved at a higher level. The individuals who make up the many committees, task forces and work groups of ACLP are doing real, boots-on-the-ground work of making progress in our field. ACLP wants and needs member involvement on its volunteer committees. Certified Child Life Specialists who live and work all over the world are involved in these volunteer efforts. These Certified Child Life Specialists are at all levels of experience, from fairly new graduates to retired experts in the field, and it is this diversity of experience that makes the volunteer community so rich. Volunteering on an ACLP committee is an excellent way to build your professional network, beef up your resume, and have a real and lasting impact on child life.

The 2023 Volunteer Interest Form (VIF) will come out in early April, but it's not too early to start perusing the available committee opportunities to see where your skills might best serve the child life community! The [Committees, Task Forces and Work Groups](#) page on the ACLP website includes details on what the committee's responsibilities are and the expected time commitment.

Some commonly asked questions from Certified Child Life Specialists who are considering volunteering are:

Am I eligible to volunteer?

- If you are a current ACLP member, yes!

What's the time commitment?

- Typical terms on a committee are two years and the exact time commitment and workload varies by committee.

What's the first step?

- Keep an eye out for the VIF form, coming out in early April

Please feel free to reach out to membership@childlife.org with questions. ACLP Connect is another great way to reach out to members directly to discuss their volunteer experiences.

Certification Updates

Certification Exam Administration

The certification exam was administered August 15-30 with the following results:

- # of Candidates: 175
- New CCLSs: 138
- Pass Rate: 79%

The Child Life Certification Commission would like to congratulate the following new CCLSs!

Mallory Adams
Amanda Agate
Hannah Albertson
Emily Armant
Lynsie Bailey
Lauren Berger
Kaleigh Bieling
Tia Blodgett
Emily Boulos
Isabella Bozzo
Claire Burak
Alyssa Carew
Josephine Casey
Sherry Cheng
Erin Clark
Diana Coelho
Abigail Cohen
Caitlyn Coleman
Sheena Coleman
Jessica Congleton
Jessica Connolly
Megan Considine
Julie Cord
Alexandra Cullen
Megan DeFluri
Emily Deimling
Sarah Donlan

Mallory Lang
Jennifer LeBlanc
Olivia LeFevre
Chui LamLeung
Kari Levek
Caroline Lewis
Eve Lukowski
Rachel Malieswski
Shannon McCann
Ashley McGee
Hallie McGrew
Cassandra Mendez
Miranda Metzler
Carlos Meza
Emma Moore
Kaylin Morford
Megan Nicks
Hanna Paradise
Abigail Parish
Cammie Payne
Taiz Pineda
Alyssa Ponce
Madison Potter
Abigail Price
Wren Puckett
Ho Rachel
Rachael Raney

Selene Dorantes Villalobos
 Clara Duggan
 Julianne Edwards
 Mary Edwards
 Patricia Egan
 Sydney Ehinger
 Emily Eylon
 Bridget Franklin
 Sophia Fuciarelli
 Margaret Garrett
 Kayla Geistman
 Meredith George
 Sarah Goldberg
 Sophie Goldberg
 Clare Gordon
 Keara Gordon
 Mia Grau
 Paxton Green
 Elyssa Hoffmann
 Kearstin Hofstetter
 AshtonHowe
 Lauralanni
 Jessicalnnell
 Emily Jansen
 Jaime Kempe
 Morgan Kennedy
 Chloe King
 Kate Klatt
 Emily Kleschinsky
 Jordana Klugsberg
 Brittany Lane

Maryann Riley
 Jessica Rodriguez
 Stephani Rodriguez
 Gretchen Rowenhorst
 Deanna Rubal
 Sabrina Salas
 DeJuanet Sanford
 Maren Seljevold
 Caitlin Shelby
 Morgan Sigur
 Graham Sippel
 Kirsten Sites
 Sophia Smith
 Maria Sohail
 Alyssa Spansel
 Abigail Staley
 Valerie Stokes
 Gabriele Stornant
 Makenzie Strabala
 Mustafa Swaleh
 Joan Timberlake
 Rachel Traxler
 Chelsea Vaughn
 Melanie Velez
 Cassandra Williams
 Tami Williams
 Rebecca Willy
 Denae Wolf
 Aaron-Ashley Yorn
 Lindsay Zerebny

Certification Maintenance

Existing annual maintenance fees for 2022 were due by 1/31/2022; to avoid loss of the CCLS credential, reinstatement is due by 12/31/2022. Roughly 98% of CCLSs who owed this fee have made their payment.

Invoices for 2023 certification maintenance will be sent around December 15, 2022. Payment is due by January 31, 2023.

Thank you for maintaining your certification!

Recertification

- Number of CCLSs due to recertify in 2022: 1,086
 - Number of individuals who did not recertify: 190
 - Retention Rate: 82.5%
-

CCLSs by Geographic Regions

Total CCLSs: 6,593

Countries		U.S. States	
Australia	4	AE	1
Brazil	1	AK	9
Canada	372	AL	82
China	2	AR	44
Georgia	1	AZ	140
Hong Kong	9	CA	613
India	1	CO	120
Japan	61	CT	79
Kenya	2	DC	18
Kuwait	1	DE	26
Luxembourg	1	FL	280
Mexico	3	GA	184
New Zealand	3	HI	9
Norway	1	IA	97
Philippines	4	ID	19
Puerto Rico	2	IL	260
Qatar	6	IN	98
Republic of Korea	1	KS	50
Romania	2	KY	58
Singapore	4	LA	65
South Africa	1	MA	271
Spain	2	MD	117
Switzerland	3	ME	18
Taiwan	5	MI	186
Turkey	1	MN	172
United Kingdom	10	MO	194
		MS	26
		MT	9
		NC	245
		ND	13
		NE	41
		NH	32
		NJ	183
		NM	24
		NV	22
		NY	299
		OH	310
		OK	48
		OR	46
		PA	220
		RI	18
		SC	96
		SD	16
		TN	155
		TX	595
		UT	86
		VA	108
		VT	20

WA 126
WI 114
WV 10
WY 1
Other 25

Thank you CLCC Communications Committee

CLCC would like to recognize the team of volunteers who serve on the CLCC Communications Committee and make this newsletter possible! Thank you!

Chair, Sarah Framarin Chair-Elect, Katie Walker
Members: Caitlin Vasquez, Bindy Sweett, Toni Crowell-Petrungaro, Katherine Burley

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