

CCLS Connection
May 2022



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can change the world."
- Nelson Mandela

The accomplishment and pride that comes with obtaining the CCLS credential is often a culmination of extensive education, self-reflection, and displays of perseverance and passion. Once certification is obtained and to preserve the value of the credential over time, CCLS must demonstrate a continuing competence through ongoing education keeping pace with evolving practices in the field, current research, and current issues impacting the care of children and their families in a variety of settings.

Throughout this issue of the CCLS Connection, you will find many available resources through ACLP to earn PDUs. This issue provides additional clarification surrounding PDUs and internship supervision as well as a deeper dive into independent learning opportunities.

As my term is ending as Chair of the Child Life Certification Commission (CLCC), I am extremely humbled by the opportunity to walk beside such passionate, knowledgeable, and selfless individuals who give of their time and talents to continue the work of CLCC and ACLP. Countless hours are dedicated to ensuring a credential that is valued and establishes competence in our field. Certification has been a true passion for me personally, and the relationships that I have gained over the years are invaluable and I will cherish them forever.

To all the CLCC Past Chairs that I have had the pleasure of working beside, including Nancy Ramhap, Bindy Sweet, and Sherwood Burn-Nader I thank you for your mentorship, leadership, and dedication of service to certification. To the current CLCC Commissioners, Monica Gibson, Megan Fisher, Caitlin Leary, Rebecka Carlson Dolyniuk, Regina Gohr, Tracey Craddock, Toni-Crowell-Petrungaro, and Lucy Raab thank you for leading each of your committees through extensive work to ensure projects, deadlines, and progress was met with objectivity, professionalism, and encouraging the expression and respect for all opinions brought forth. Special thanks to Sara Reynolds and Rachel Wenthe, for their service and passion for certification and for ensuring the integrity of the exam process was followed and the patient and family voice is at the forefront. I would also like to thank Lindsay Herring, ACLP Representative, and the ACLP Board and Staff for their collaboration and support of CLCC.

Last but certainly not least to Ame Enright, our incredible and amazing Director of Certification. The words Thank You are simply inadequate to describe Ame's role and commitment to certification and the Commission. Ame's incredible knowledge of certification and her unending passion to ensure the validity and credibility of the exam and the certification process is unwavering. Thank you, Ame, for being my guiding light and support throughout this year. It has been a true pleasure to learn from you and work beside you.

Sincerely,

Leslie Daniels, CCLS
Chair of the Child Life Certification Commission

Thank you to our generous sponsor of the CCLS Connection newsletter

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Erikson Institute



Important Dates to Remember

August

10 Registration deadline for the August testing window
15-30 Testing Window



Everday Work and PDUs

Most people are familiar with the phrase, "Work smarter, not harder." While this isn't always the BEST approach, it is something to keep in mind when considering earning professional development hours. There are many tasks that child life specialists take on in their everyday work that qualify as PDUs. We know that child life specialists are busy all day, every day and sometimes it can be challenging to find the extra time to devote to professional development. Below is a list of activities that many of us do within the scope of our jobs that can, and should, be documented as PDUs.

Traditional Professional Development: Employer-Based Learning:

- Many child life specialists that are employed at hospitals attend and/or present at grand rounds. These opportunities are eligible for PDUs if the topic at grand rounds relates to the exam content outline. Remember that mandated training like CPR or HIPPA does not count toward PDUs.

Presenting:

- Child life specialists are often asked by other teams in the hospital to provide in-service training about the role of child life specialists in the hospital. If the in-service/training is longer than 30 minutes, this activity is eligible for PDUs.
- Poster presentation: Many of us are familiar with the poster presentation at the annual ACLP conference. You can also explore opportunities for poster presentation at professional development opportunities at your hospital and in your community.

Internship Supervisor:

- Being an internship supervisor is an activity that is eligible to earn PDUs. (Refer to our article in this issue about the difference between rotation supervisors and internship coordinators to ensure your work is eligible).

Professional Service:

- If you serve on the board of directors, a committee, or a task force whose mission relates to the psychosocial care of children in a healthcare environment, you are eligible to earn PDUs. Many of us are asked to join committees or volunteer our time both in and out of the hospital to promote the psychosocial care of children, and you can often count that time towards your PDUs.

This list is not all-encompassing we encourage you to refer to the [Child Life Professional Certification Maintenance and Recertification Manual](#) for more ideas and proper calculating and documentation of PDUs.



Coordinating an Internship and PDUs

Certified Child Life Specialists can obtain PDUs for many things associated with their daily work. You can get PDUs for serving on committees, making a presentation, and serving as rotation supervisor for an intern. One might wonder, why then, do you not get PDUs for coordinating an internship?

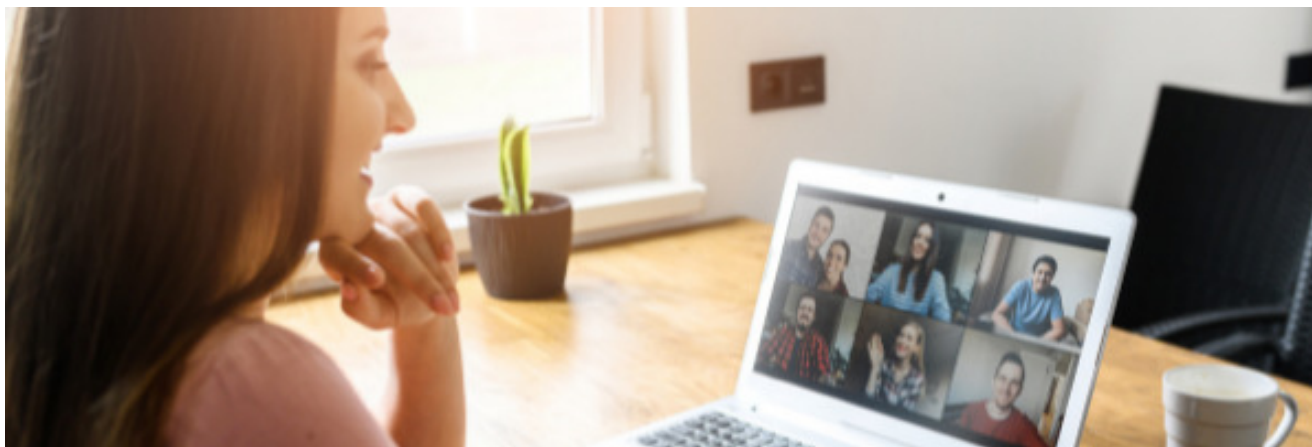
First, let's identify the difference between rotation supervisors and internship coordinators. In many institutions, the coordinator is the person who works with human resources to establish the position, makes sure needed paperwork is signed, and onboarding requirements are met. This person may review applications and conduct interviews with others on the child life team. Many of these tasks are administrative in nature, whereas serving as a rotation supervisor is the day-to-day task of a child life specialist. Tasks that can be related to the Exam Content Outline.

Currently, when one has the responsibility of serving as a rotation supervisor for an intern, you can tie tasks of the job to the Exam Content Outline. You are essentially following the exam content outline to "teach" the intern these skills (whether you realize it or not). Under professional responsibility are the tasks of establishing professional boundaries, advocating for the protection, safety, and rights of the child and family, and adhering to the Code of Ethics. One can see how each and every day you use these in clinical work. It makes sense, then, that when supervising a student, you are instilling these same values and reinforcing your own knowledge and skills

One cannot effectively supervise a student without incorporating practicing within the scope of child life, utilizing the interdisciplinary team appropriately, and applying principles of adult learning. CLCC recognizes that a six-week rotation commitment to an intern is a huge deal on the part of the supervisor. Part of an effective internship is both parties growing and learning from one another. The rotation supervisor must engage the principles of effective communication, learning styles, and giving appropriate feedback. The supervisor is also responsible for overseeing that the student grows as a professional and applies the knowledge that was part of their academic studies. It requires a lot of planning, teaching, and coaching, and is essential to the growth of the profession.

After looking at the Exam Content Outline (which determines what content makes for appropriate PDUs), it becomes a little clearer how the administrative tasks associated with Internship Coordination don't easily align. Internship Coordinators complete the majority of their work prior to the intern's arrival and after departure. Other tasks such as mentoring new rotation supervisors, while necessary, do not fit within the outline.

**Every 40 hours of intern floor supervision = 1 PDU under Professional Development. You may earn a maximum of 10 PDUs for supervising an intern during each 5-year recertification cycle.*



Identifying Unique PDU Opportunities

Other than more traditional methods of receiving PDUs through the ACLP, such as conference attendance or webinars, there are several other ways you can receive PDUs to help maintain certification! Check out the list below for ideas:

1. Purchasing a 2022 Professional Development Subscription

- This package provides both live and on-demand access to all the 2022 programming and includes webinars across all exam domains. Another great perk of this package is that you will retain access to live and on-demand 2022 webinars for one year from the purchase date.

2. Attending the 2022 Child Life Virtual Conference

- Whether it's a keynote address, educational session, exhibit hall discussion, poster presentation, or virtual networking session, you have access to it all! The Virtual Conference includes virtual sessions over a 5-day period, with all sessions being recorded and able to view on-demand for one year, and the ability to earn up to 15 PDUs.

3. Certify in Emotional Safety through the Emotional Safety Series Package

- This package contains five webinars that cover the Emotional Safety Framework. Once you have completed this webinar package you will be recognized as an Emotional Safety Leader.

4. Attend Introduction to Foundations of Racially Conscious Collaboration

- These sessions will not be recorded, so make sure to register and mark your calendars to attend live in order to earn PDUs.

5. Write an article for the ACLP Bulletin

- The ACLP bulletin provides a forum for CCLS to share their work experiences, challenges, solutions, new resources, best practices, innovations, milestones, and successes.

6. Think about attending webinars through other organizations, such as:

- [The Beryl Institute](#)
- [UPedia](#)
- [Association for Play Therapy](#)

7. Attend training workshops through other organizations, such as:

- [Bo's Place](#) offers training programs that seek to increase understanding of the grief process and to offer guidance about how to support the bereaved.
- [Life is Good, Playmaker Program](#) is a 3-phase workshop series focused on the Playmaker approach.

Want access to a longer list of ideas? Check out this [ACLP webpage](#) for more PDU ideas!

Disclaimer: The non-ACLP PDU options in the list above are random sources chosen after searching for opportunities to receive PDUs. The ACLP does not endorse these options mentioned in the above article.

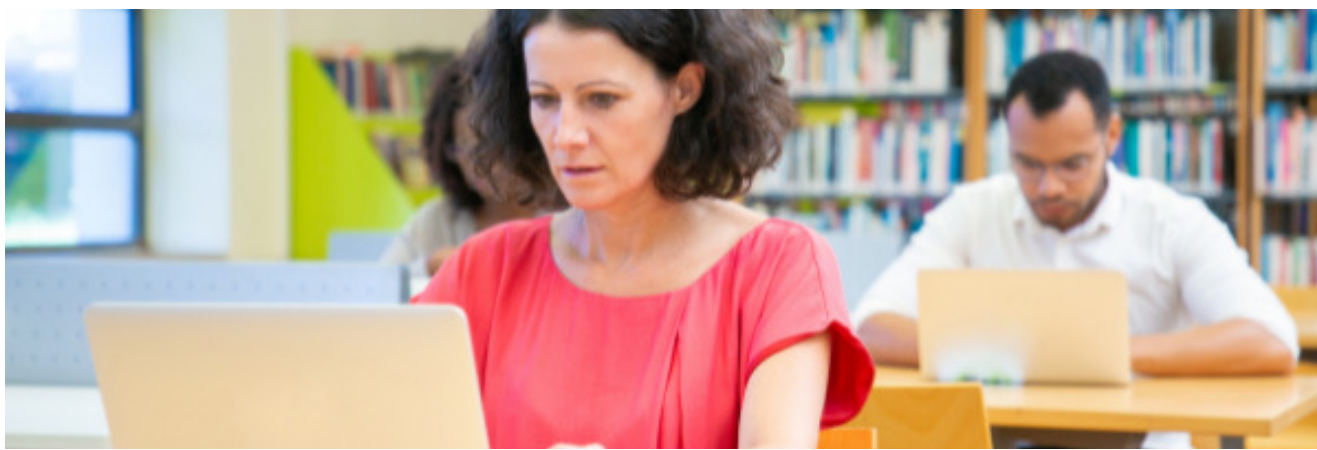


Maintaining Certification During a Pandemic

Feeling overwhelmed trying to maintain certification during the pandemic? Check out some of the supports ACLP has in place to help you maintain this important credential.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to produce uncertainty, anxiety, and trauma to the healthcare system. With the rise of the Omicron variant, additional stress is being added to an already stressed healthcare system and profession. We know that this has greatly impacted the physical and mental health of CCLSs. Your commitment is critical for the children and families we serve, and it is the ACLP Board's and the CLCC's priority to support you in this important endeavor by helping in these ways:

- **Providing access to free educational opportunities:** Over 20 webinars have been made available to the child life community at no cost. There is a search button on the left side of the page that will let you seek out free webinars.
- **ACLP Webinar Scholarships:** Individuals can apply to receive a 2022 webinar at no cost via this new scholarship program. There are options for both individuals and programs with exceptional need.
- **Membership Access Program:** CCLSs who are in good standing, able to demonstrate need, and are not currently ACLP members can apply for a free one-year professional membership. Over 100 memberships were granted in 2021. The spring program will be opening soon. Check out ACLP's social media and website for updates.
- **Updated recertification extension request policy from the Child Life Certification Commission:** This revised [policy](#) now includes appeals due to a pandemic.
- **COVID-19 Resources Database:** Contains nearly 100 resources for children, teens, parents, professionals, and others on COVID-19.



Certification Exam Administration

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

- # of Candidates: 164
- New CCLSs: 127
- Pass Rate: 77%

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

Shaherin Aftab
Danielle Agleam
Elena Albanese
Kaley Albien
Anne Baker
Kendall Baker
Grace Barnett
Nikki Beard
Brooke Belville
Sydney Bendtsen
Emma Bensimon
Laura Bethel
Megan Birely
Caroline Borden
Danielle Boyland
Morgan Braun
Mary Bueche
Rachel Burger
Colleen Cain

Robin Lowes
Rebecca Lubatty
Audrey Luecke
Bridget Lynch
Nataly Magana
Elyse Mahoney
Lauren Marsan
Mariah Martin
Rylee Martin
Carol Matthews
Amanda McGee
Jolia Mehany
Savannah Meyer
Joanna Mosher
Zoe Mosow
Abby Mysona
Claire Nameth
Rylee Neal

Tracy Carranza	Hannah	Nitso
Ruth Charendoff	Kathleen	Oberle
Madeline Collins	Caleigh	O'Leary
Amanda Cunningham	Alexis	Overholt
Abigail Davis	Nicholette	Pagan
Misty Davis	Emma	Page
Hannah Day	Francesca-Marie	Pandolfi
Allyson DeBok	Taylor	Park
Amanda Dennis	Taylor	Parks
Gretchen Dermatas	Shannon	Peer
Jennifer Deuble	Lillianna	Piccini
Krista Dolan	Lauren	Redden
Morgan Dolan	Claire	Rekeweg
Melissa Fair	Eleanor	Ridgeway
Natalie Featherston	Elizabeth	Roach
Julie Fine	Kaci	Roche
Elizabeth Gallagher	Catherine	Rodgers
Jessie Gibb	Abby	Rose
Carly Gibbs	Megan	Rowland
Sydney Goudie	Katie	Schreiner
Estelle Greb	Kerri	Sellers
Alexia Gretkowski	Vanessa	Shields
Katie Hanna	Christina	Sinak
Brianna Hansen	Shelby	Skipper
Maggie Harris	Alexandra	Smith
Brooke Hauser	Ellen	Smith
Kristin Heath	Suzanne	Southerland
Amanda Hennessy	Daniela	Spada
Breanna Hintz	Sydney	Stigge
Hannah Howard	Micah	Stipp
Matthew Hunter	Jordyn	Stokes-James
Jessica Jefferis	Alix	Stovall
Clare Johlle	Ashlyn	Strathman
Molly Johnston	Lauren	Swenson
Lindsey Jungwirth	Adriana	Torres
Kyra Kamiya	Abigail	Walker
Megan Keller	Cydney	Westen
Lilli Kelley	Emma	Williams
Kasia Krasny	Kaitlin	Williams
Christine Kudrewicz	Carlie	Wingen
Jessica Lamas	Michaela	Wood
Margot Lee	Annalise	Wright
Melissa Leonard	Alyssa	Yanez
Addison Lewis		
Angeles Lopez Meza		

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 97% of CCLSs who owed this fee have made their payment.

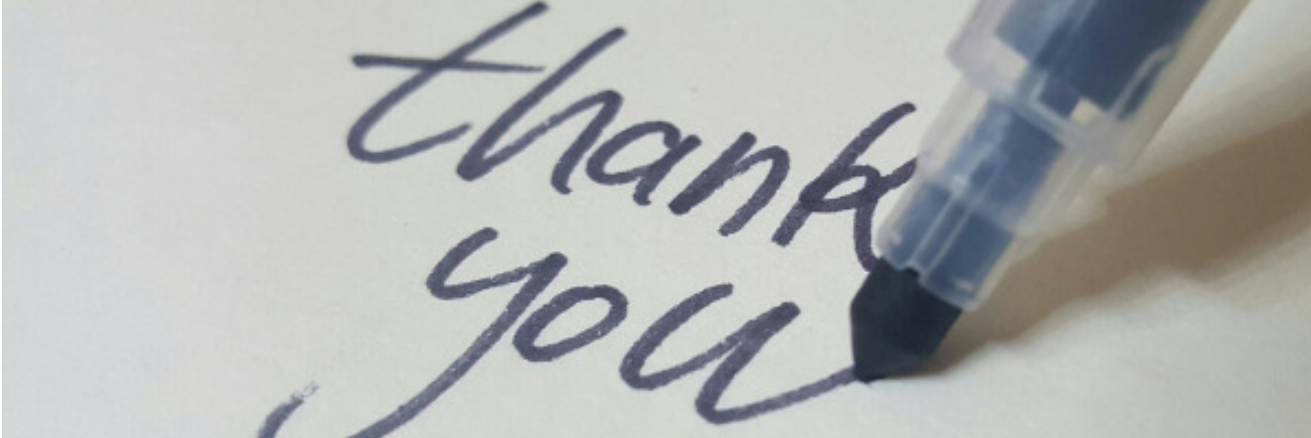
Thank you for maintaining your certification!

- # of CCLSs to recertify in 2022: 1,086
- # of CCLSs who did not recertify in 2021: 109
- Retention Rate: 89%

CCLSs by Geographic Regions

Countries		U.S. States	
Australia	4	AE	3
Brazil	1	AK	8
Canada	367	AL	80
China	2	AR	38
Georgia	2	AZ	138
Hong Kong	9	CA	603
India	1	CO	114
Japan	61	CT	80
Kenya	2	DC	21
Kuwait	2	DE	25
Luxembourg	1	FL	274
Mexico	2	GA	173
New Zealand	3	HI	10
Norway	1	IA	91
Philippines	4	ID	18
Puerto Rico	1	IL	255
Qatar	4	IN	96
Romania	2	KS	48
Saudi Arabia	1	KY	56
Singapore	4	LA	68
South Africa	1	MA	264
Spain	2	MD	118
Switzerland	3	ME	17
Taiwan	5	MI	178
Turkey	1	MN	165
United Kingdom	10	MO	186
		MS	25
		MT	8
		NC	238
		ND	13
		NE	39
		NH	30
		NJ	178
		NM	22
		NV	23
		NY	297
		OH	309
		OK	45
		OR	44
		PA	210

PR	1
RI	16
SC	92
SD	17
TN	148
TX	585
UT	86
VA	106
VT	20
WA	126
WI	110
WV	9
WY	1
Other	15



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, Tracey Craddock Chair-Elect, Sarah Framarin
 Members: Jenna Robertson, Caitlin Vasquez, Katie Walker



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