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Happy March!

March is a special month for child life specialists. As you all know, it is the month we take time to celebrate the child life profession. During Child Life Month, I hope we each take a moment to reflect on all of our accomplishments as child life specialists. If you are new to the field of child life, reflect on the success of completing your exam eligibility and obtaining your certification. If you have been a CCLS for a bit of time, think back on all the lives you have touched by making the healthcare experience better for children, families, and colleagues. Celebrate Child Life Month by taking a moment to consider why being a CCLS is important to you. The reasons are endless, but included in this edition are a few reflections from some fellow CCLSs.

March is more than Child Life Month. It is also the time that we recruit for volunteers for the great committees of ACLP. Have you ever considered joining the Child Life Certification Commission (CLCC) as a volunteer? I remember the day I completed a volunteer interest form and listed CLCC as one of my top choices. Submitting my interest form was one of the best decisions I could have made. Through volunteering with CLCC for a few (or many) years, I have grown as a professional, leader, and person. Volunteering with CLCC has strengthened my connection to our professional organization and expanded my network of colleagues I look to for support. I cannot encompass all of the benefits I have experienced in a list. If you are still considering volunteering, read ahead to gain a little more information and see a few of the benefits of serving on CLCC.

ACLP recently announced the 2021 Virtual Child Life Conference. This is something else to celebrate. Although we all will miss the possibility of networking and spending some time with other CCLSs, the virtual conference has so much to offer. CLCC cannot help but get excited. The conference offers Professional Development Units (PDUs) in each domain and many great ways to engage in our profession, through learning and networking. If this is your first virtual conference or you are still figuring out how to navigate virtual conferences, be sure to check out our tips for making the best out of a virtual conference.

On behalf of CLCC, happy Child Life Month! Thank you for all that you do to uphold the credential, and more importantly, thank you for all that you do to improve the lives of children and families.

Sincerely,

Sherwood Burns-Nader, PhD, CCLS

Child Life Certification Commission Chairperson

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Certification Numbers

Total Current CCLSs: 6319

Residing in:	AK - 7	MS - 23
US- 5831	AL - 83	MT - 7
Australia - 4	AR - 19	NC -229
Brazil - 1	AZ - 128	ND - 13
Canada - 352	CA -577	NE - 41
China - 2	CO - 108	NH - 28
Georgia - 1	CT - 73	NJ-188
Hong Kong - 9	DC - 21	NM -19
Italy - 1	DE - 23	NV - 23
Japan - 57	FL - 276	NY-313
Kenya - 2	GA-172	OH-302
Kuwait - 1	HI - 11	OK - 39
Luxembourg -1	IA - 90	OR - 39
Mexico - 2	ID - 17	PA -212
New Zealand - 3	IL - 240	RI - 17
Norway - 1	IN - 99	SC - 86
Philippines - 3	KS - 48	SD - 14
Puerto Rico - 2	KY - 50	TN-159
Qatar - 7	LA - 64	TX-576
Romania - 2	MA -249	UT - 82
Saudi Arabia - 1	MD -116	VA -110
Singapore - 4	ME - 18	VT - 21
South Africa - 1	MI - 181	WA -111
Spain - 2	MN - 172	WI -120
Switzerland - 3	MO - 181	WV - 9
Taiwan - 5	Other - 22	
Turkey - 1		
United Kingdom - 7		

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We will, together.

Important Dates to Remember

April

1 - Last day to pay certification maintenance before certification becomes inactive

August

10 – Registration deadline for August testing window

15-30 - Testing window

Consider Volunteering with CLCC

Did you know the Child Life Professional Certification Examination is developed by people like you? The examination begins with Certified Child Life Specialists creating questions as Item Writers. You could be one of these Item Writers! Item Writers are paired with an experienced coach who teaches the basics of writing exam questions. Through a five-month period, Item Writers usually develop five questions using the Exam Content Outline. If you are good at written communication, thinking outside the box, and working as a member of the team, serving as an Item Writer could be a perfect fit for you.

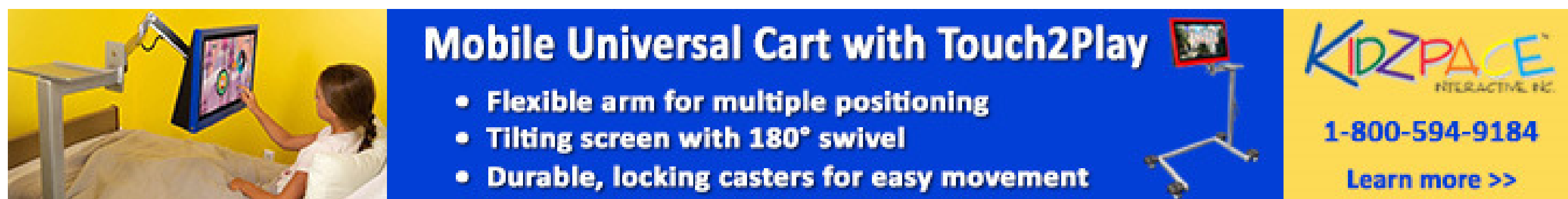
If you are considering volunteering, remember volunteering also comes with some benefits. Below is a summary, not all inclusive, of a few of the benefits of volunteering with CLCC.

- You earn PDUs- serving a year with CLCC is worth 1 PDU in Professional Responsibility
- Your child life team and students benefit from a person who has firsthand experience with the certification process and can act as a resource to help address questions about certification and recertification
- You experience the opportunity to network with professionals across the globe
- You engage in leadership development
- You contribute to the profession and influence the future of the profession
- You participate in continued learning as you review references, allowing you to stay abreast to the latest resources that shape our field

The 2021 Volunteer Selection Process is Open; please click [HERE](#) for more information.

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Making the Most of the ACLP Virtual Conference

The 2021 Child Life Annual Conference will be virtual. It is a great way to earn your certification PDUs. You can attend from any location and attend sessions according to your schedule. Here are some tips for attending virtual conferences:

- Create an environment for learning
 - Check your technology prior to conference. Make sure you have all the necessary capability (microphone, camera, sound, reliable internet access, etc.).
 - Find a quiet space free from distraction.
 - Gather supplies to support your learning style. Have a notebook and pen for additional notes. Print any handouts that you want to reference during the session.
- Engage and network
 - Be an active participant in virtual discussions.
 - Discuss sessions that you attended with your peers.
 - Watch sessions with your peers who are also attending the conference.
 - Attend networking sessions.
- Recharge prior to your next session
 - Have snacks and water available.
 - Stand and stretch or take a walk in between sessions.
 - Pace on-demand sessions that best fit your schedule. On-demand sessions will be available for a year.
- Join ACLP at the 2021 Child Life Annual Conference on May 24th– May 28th. Registration is open, click [HERE](#) for more information.

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The Results are In!

Thank you to all of those CCLSs who took our 1 minute quiz in the last CCLS Connection!

In the November issue, CLCC surveyed ACLP membership, asking “Why is certification important to you?”. In celebration of Child Life month, here is what the membership had to say.

- Gives credit to our profession and makes us more at a level of other professions we work with.
- Validates the professional status of Child Life. Unifies the experience shared by others in the profession
- Certification shows that I have completed the requirements, competencies and knowledge needed to provide patient and family centered care at a high level. Certification shows other professionals that we have credentials to be practicing and are experts in our field. It is extremely important to remain a respected part of the healthcare team!
- Because it is a reflection of the professionalism and education required to become a CCLS.
- Show your hard work to pursue the job.
- You took everything else away from me, but you cannot take away what I worked hard for.
- It validates our training and experience
- It indicates a commitment to excellence in serving children and their families.
- It denotes a level of education and training that should be required for anyone in the sensitive and important role of Child Life Specialist.

Happy Child Life Month!

For the Child Life Community

**COVID-19
RESOURCES**

By the Child Life Community

CLCC Statements in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

In response to inquiries and feedback resulting from the public health emergency, ACLP and CLCC have issued the following statements.

[ACLP Statement in Support of CLCC Decision on Clinical Hours](#)

[CLCC Statement for Interns](#)

[CLCC Statement for Academics](#)

[Guidance for Remote Internship Activities](#)

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Certification Highlights

Certification Exam Administration

The Child Life Professional Certification Examination was administered in November with the following results:

# Candidates	# New CCLs	% Passing
160	135	84.38%

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Certification Maintenance

March 31, 2021 is the last day to pay the annual certification maintenance fee before certification becomes inactive. There are 260 CCLs who still owe this fee for 2021. If unpaid on April 1st, their certification status will change to inactive, and they would need to reinstate the credential by paying an additional fee. [Reinstatement](#) applications will be accepted through December 31, 2021.

Roughly 95% of CCLs who owed this fee have made their payment.

Thank you for maintaining your certification!

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Recertification

Number of CCLs due to recertify in 2021: 993

CCLs may either retake the exam or submit an application to recertify through Professional Development Units (PDUs) by October 31st.

Thank you for recertifying!

REMEMBER: If you recertified in 2020, your first certification maintenance fee payment for your new certification cycle will be due on January 31, 2021. You did not pay this fee in 2020.

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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, Monica Gibson

Members:
Sarah Framarin, Shannon Meland, Jennifer Mangers

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