



EDGEWOOD COLLEGE

MASTER *of* SCIENCE *in* **CHILD LIFE**

BECOME A CERTIFIED CHILD LIFE SPECIALIST

The Child Life program at Edgewood College is committed to educating and preparing future child life specialists of the highest caliber and quality.

According to the Association of Child Life Professionals, a Certified Child Life Specialist (CCLS) is a child development expert who works to ensure that life remains as normal as possible for children in health care settings and other challenging environments.

Child life specialists provide services in a variety of health care settings, including inpatient units, surgery areas, intensive care units, emergency departments, clinics and outpatient treatment areas. Child life specialists also provide services in other settings such as dental offices, community organizations, special needs camps, and a variety of other areas.

To an ever increasing extent, child life specialists are involved in providing grief and bereavement services not only in the hospital-setting, but in hospice programs, home hospice, community organizations, bereavement centers, support groups, and grief groups and camps.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The Henry Predolin School of Nursing, Business, and Health Sciences at Edgewood College is the only college in Wisconsin that offers students the opportunity to earn a master's degree in Child Life.

Students who graduate from the Child Life program go on to become child life professionals that serve children and families not only in Wisconsin, but throughout the United States, and in other countries around the world.

Through the program, you'll develop expertise in helping children and families cope with stressful and traumatic events, including acute and chronic illness, hospitalization and medical encounters, pain and medical procedures, grief and loss.

You will benefit from:

- One-on-one academic and internship advising
- A cohort model program with small class sizes to enhance the therapeutic relationship
- Access and collaboration with child life programs within the region

The Edgewood College Child Life Graduate Program is an Association of Child Life Professionals (ACLP) endorsed academic program.



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To be considered for admission, applicants must provide all of the following items. Only completed applications will be reviewed by the Henry Predolin School of Nursing, Business, and Health Sciences, Child Life Program for admission consideration:

1. Provide evidence of a baccalaureate degree with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. The cumulative grade point average is computed on the highest degree held at the time of application to the Edgewood College graduate program.
2. Complete and submit graduate application (including \$30 fee).
3. Request that official transcripts for all undergraduate and graduate academic credits received from any post-secondary institutions be sent directly to Edgewood College Graduate and Professional Studies.
4. Two letters of recommendation speaking to applicant success within a masters level program and the field of Child Life. One letter must be from a Certified Child Life Specialist (CCLS).
5. 25 hours of work with well children (paid or non-paid).
6. 75 hours of volunteer work in a child life setting
7. One college course in child development or lifespan development strongly preferred.
8. A written statement is required when applying to the Child Life Program. This essay should include the following:
 - Interests & motivation for wanting to be a Child Life Specialist
 - Ability to succeed in graduate school
 - What preparation, or accomplishments to date that impact your success as a future Child Life Specialist
9. An interview with the Program Director and an admissions team is mandatory. This interview can occur online or face to face prior to acceptance into the program.

Additional evidence may be reviewed by the School of Education. This could include information in such areas of the candidate's background as:

- a) General intelligence;
- b) Emotional stability and maturity;
- c) Academic achievement;
- d) Physical stamina and health;
- e) Moral and ethical fitness;
- f) Demonstrated competence in speech;
- g) Knowledge of correct spoken and written English;
- h) Demonstrated ability to work with children, youth, and others in child life settings;
- i) Conduct and competency background checks and practicum evaluations.

These criteria reflect the policy recommendations and professional expectations of various national and state organizations related to the preparation of child life professionals. Edgewood College considers these criteria to be significant and appropriate guidelines for judging the professional merit of candidates in child life. Students who have successfully pursued their academic work, have been actively involved in planning their programs with appropriate advisors, and who responsibly and reflectively participate in activities related to their professional preparation for child life should have no difficulty in meeting the criteria for admission to the child life program. International Students may have additional admission requirements.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 1st

Completed applications received before the deadline will be reviewed for admittance as received.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

To receive the Master of Science in Child Life, you must have:

- Earned 39 credits in prescribed Child Life Courses
- Completed 600 clinical hours of Child Life internship
- Maintained a 3.00 grade point average

CHILD LIFE COURSES

- CHLF 600-History of Child Life
- CHLF 601-Introduction to Child Life
- CHLF 610-Infant, Child, Youth, and Adolescent Development for the Child Life Professional.
- CHLF 620-Psychosocial Care of Hospitalized Children and Families
- CHLF 630-Medical Terminology for Child Life

- CHLF 640-Child Life Seminar I: Communication and Collaboration
- CHLF 650-Child Life Seminar II: Leadership and Internship Preparation
- CHLF 660-Pediatric Conditions and Effects on Child Growth and Development
- CHLF 670-Materials and Methods of Play for Child Life
- CHLF 680-Loss, Bereavement, and Trauma for Child Life
- CHLF 700-Child Life Field Experience

INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSES

- ED 603 Introduction to Research
- ED 692 Research Capstone Project
- PHIL 642 Ethics for Health Care Professionals



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We want to hear from you!

For a personal consultation about the MS in Child Life program

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