Background
There are three components of eligibility for the Child Life Professional Certification Examination. All three must be met prior to the application deadline for the exam administration. Refer to the Candidate Manual for more details.

1. Minimum of Baccalaureate Degree: Applicants must hold a bachelor’s degree or the international equivalent.
2. Course Work: Applicants must have completed a total of 10 college-level courses in child life or a related department/subject including a minimum of one child life course taught by a Certified Child Life Specialist (CCLS).
3. Clinical Child Life Experience: Applicants must complete a minimum of 480 hours of child life clinical experience under the direct supervision of a Certified Child Life Specialist who meets specific qualifications. Hours may be completed as an internship or fellowship. This is the form on which these hours are documented.

Definition of Clinical Experience
The clinical experience being verified should involve training and education in a manner that results in a minimum, entry-level competence in each of the following areas by the end of the training experience, whether at one site or several:
- Developmentally-supportive play and social interactions with infants, children, youth and families, in individual and group settings
- Long- and short-term goal-setting based upon assessment of infant, child, youth and family stress potential
- Individual, therapeutically-oriented interactions, including: psychological preparation and development of associated coping processes, stress reduction techniques, health care education, health care play, expressive interventions, nonpharmacological pain management techniques and procedural support
- Collaboration with families regarding developmental issues and the impact of stressful events
- Consideration of diversity and socioeconomic issues
- Interaction and coordination with interdisciplinary team members, including participation in team meetings
- Instruction and practice of documentation in institutional records
- Materials management
- Supervision/coordination of volunteers and special events
- Prioritization of daily workload in relation to patient and administrative responsibilities
- Evaluating self (skill level, professionalism, personal coping styles, professional boundaries) and overall programming, implementing appropriate changes when needed
- Developing knowledge regarding medical terminology, etiology, disease process, and medical procedures
- Maintaining a therapeutic relationship with infants, children, youth and families
- Incorporating family-centered care practices
- Exhibiting an understanding of and adhering to departmental and organizational policies and procedures
- Administrative planning and implementation, when appropriate

Purpose of the Clinical Experience Requirement
Clinical preparation programs exist to complement and support the child life profession. These programs are vital to child life as the excellence of any profession depends on the performance of its practitioners. The Child Life Certification Program cannot bestow competence on individuals but rather recognizes it. It is the responsibility of academic and clinical preparation programs to put forth competent individuals who are prepared to establish their eligibility to sit for and pass the Child Life Professional Certification Exam.

Important Notes
- Candidates must exhibit minimum, entry-level competence as indicated by the clinical supervisor on the reverse of this form in order to establish eligibility for the Child Life Professional Certification Examination
- A minimum of 480 hours must be successfully completed on or before the exam application deadline. If a training experience is longer than 480 hours, it may continue after the deadline.
- Candidates are permitted to accrue the required 480 hours at multiple institutions. This form must be completed by the supervisor at each institution.
- Photocopies of the original form are accepted as documentation when establishing eligibility for the exam.
- Exam candidates are encouraged to keep a copy of this form for their records.
- The supervising CCLS at his/her discretion may assign other child life specialists to provide training during rotations as long as he/she maintains formal supervision of the individual

Instructions
Complete the requested information on the reverse and submit by fax at 301-881-7092, scan/email to certification@childlife.org or mail to:

Child Life Council
11821 Parklawn Drive, #310
Rockville, MD 20852
By signing this form you attest that all conditions and requirements set forth on both pages of this form have been met.

By stating that the applicant exhibits minimum, entry-level competence, you attest that he/she has been adequately trained relevant to the Standards for Clinical Preparation Programs, supervised by an appropriately qualified CCLS, has shown him/herself to be minimally competent in the Child Life Competencies, and meets the clinical experience requirement to establish eligibility for the Child Life Professional Certification Exam. (Please see the Official Documents of the Child Life Council and the Child Life Certification Candidate Manual for details.) Note: If clinical training was completed at more than one institution, multiple forms should be submitted—one completed by the CCLS at each institution.

Applicant Name

Institution Name

Start Date for these Hours ________________ Date these Hours were Completed ________________

During this Period, Applicant Has Demonstrated Minimum, Entry-Level Competence as Described on the Reverse of this Form (Check one)  

Yes  No

Internship or Fellowship (circle one)

Number of Hours Completed

Certification #

CCLS Supervisor Name (Please print) ____________________________

Certified From ____________________________ to ____________________________ Date (Month/Year) to Date (Month/Year)

CCLS Supervisor Signature ____________________________ Date ____________________________

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