

Missouri State University • Child and Family Development • Child Life Option

Application for admission to the Child Life Option program

Admission Requirements

1. **Completed Application Form** (online)
2. **Child Life Essay:** Typed, double-spaced essay of three pages or less addressing the following questions. (1) What is a child life specialist? (Please include foundational principles and values of the field) **and** (2) Why do you want to be a child life specialist? (More specific reasons than that you love children).
3. **100 documented hours of pediatric hospital experience:** Students are required to provide documentation of 100 hours of experience with pediatric patients in a hospital environment. Documentation should be from the hospital where hours were completed and include the dates and total number of hours completed. Please apply if hours are in progress.
4. **Two letters of recommendation:** Students will provide two confidential letters of recommendation:
 1. Hospital Site: One letter must be from the hospital supervisor where the student completed their hospital experience.
 2. Professional Reference: The other letter must be from a non-family member and may address the student's character and skills in working with children, or from a *non-child life faculty member* addressing the student's ability to compete in a competitive academic program.

Both confidential letters of recommendation must be submitted directly from the email address of the recommender as an attachment. Students cannot forward an email with a letter of recommendation. Letters of recommendation can be submitted separately from the student's application packet.
5. **GPA $\geq$ 3.0**
6. **Completed CFD 160 and completed or currently enrolled in CFD 260**

Application Procedures

The Child Life Option is a selective admission program, separate from admission to the University or filing your degree program. It is recommended that you apply for the Child Life Option in the Spring of your sophomore year. Students should meet with their academic advisor prior to applying.

Applications for the Child Life Option are only accepted in the Spring semester for Fall admission.

Applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on February 1st
All materials must be submitted electronically via email:
Emailed to ChildLifeStudies@MissouriState.edu

Transfer students: Please check with your Child Life advisor about the appropriate semester in which to apply for admission. Transfer students who have not yet applied to Missouri State University must provide an official, sealed transcript with the application.

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Name:

Street address:

City:

State:

Zip code:

Phone number:

Bearpass Number:

MSU Email address:

Student's overall GPA:

Student's grade in CFD 160:

Semester enrolled in CFD 160:

Academic advisor: (primary)

(secondary)

Date of application:

*You will be notified by email if you are admitted
to the Child Life Option program.*
