

HDFS Internship Information and Resources

Selecting an Internship

To ensure your best internship experience, start exploring your options early and talk with as many potential sites as possible. The purpose of the HDFS Internship is to put your education into practice and to gain experience that will support your post-graduation goals. *Your final internship selection must match your HDFS concentration and be approved by the HDFS Internship Director.*

A variety of internship opportunities can be identified by using the attached hand-out, viewing the information available to you in 206 Spidle Hall, using the internet, and talking with the HDFS Internship Director, your faculty advisor, family and friends, and members of your professional network.

Completing your Internship Internationally

Internships can be completed internationally except in travel warning countries as identified by the U.S. Department of State (<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>). You also must register with the Auburn Abroad Office. Register your study abroad experience as “embedded” in HDFS 4920.

Reliable internet access is required for the duration of your internship. You also will be required to maintain communication with the HDFS Internship Director regarding your travels within the country where you intern.

You also can complete study abroad experiences through the CHS Office of Global Studies, such as the J.S. Bruno Italy, South Africa, Fiji or Nepal programs to fulfill your internship requirement. See Dr. Sailors for approval.

Child Life Internships

Only students who complete a Child Life internship under the supervision of a Certified Child Life Specialist in a hospital setting will be able to apply for certification with the national Child Life Council. Internships in non-traditional settings do not meet the requirements for certification as a Child Life Specialist. Keep in mind that no one outside of HDFS understands the term “non-traditional child life”. If “non-traditional” applies to you, choose your terms carefully and market yourself creatively.

Dining Exemption

If your internship requires you to be away from the Auburn University campus, you can request that your mandatory dining fee be waived. This applies to fall and spring internships only. In order for the exemption to be in effect, you need to submit all required documentation before the 10th class day. See the HDFS Internship website (*How do I request an away from campus dining accommodation . . .?*) for detailed instructions <http://www.humsci.auburn.edu/hdfs/ugrad/internship.php>.

Request for Certificate of Insurance

As an HDFS major, you have been paying for Student Professional Liability Insurance beginning in your sophomore year. Sometimes your internship site will request that you provide them with a “Certificate of Insurance” as proof of your liability insurance coverage. Typically, the only sites that request a Certificate of Insurance are hospitals where our students have been accepted for a Child Life internship placement. If your site asks you for a Certificate of Insurance, use the attached “Request for Certificate of Insurance Form”.

A word of advice: Keep all of your Internship materials together in a location where you can find them

Some of the Sites Requesting HDFS Interns

A+ Children's Programs, Tahoe City CA Contact: Debbie Wohler (530) 583-2925	Keeping Family Connections, Opelika, AL Contact: Micaela White (334) 502-8600 x103
AL Cooperative Extension 4-H, Auburn University, AL Contact: Joy Scott (205) 612-2790	Lifeline Children's Services, Birmingham AL Contact: Lindsey Grist (205) 967-0811
AL Marriage/Relationship Education Initiative, AU Contact: Roberta Jackel rrh0001@auburn.edu	Little HAPIE Tree, Auburn, AL Contact: April Rapp (334) 887-4958
AL Prison Birth Project, Auburn AL Contact: Ashley Lovell (334) 539-8048	Make-a-Wish Georgia, Atlanta GA Contact: Priscilla Rodriguez (770) 916-9474
AL Educational Television, Birmingham, AL Contact: Tiffany Armstrong tarmstrong@aptv.org	Magic Moments, Birmingham AL Contact: Courtney Carson (205) 939-9372
AL Rural Ministry, Opelika AL Contact: Lisa Pierce info@arm-al.org	Marriage and Family Therapy Program, AU Contact: Scott Ketring ketrisa@auburn.edu
Auburn University Early Learning Center Contact: Sharon Wilbanks (334) 844-4696	National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Birmingham AL Contact: Laura Pemberton (205) 879-8546
Alzheimer's Association, Birmingham, AL Contact: Angela Rosen (205) 379-8065 x8328	Prescott Child Advocacy Center, Birmingham AL Contact: Maribeth Thomas (205) 930-3633
Asthma Camp Eagle, Auburn University, AL Contact: Linda Gibson-Young gibsolm@auburn.edu	Project Horseshoe Farm, Greensboro AL Contact: www.projecthsf.org
Big House Foundation, Opelika AL Contact: Micah Melnick (334) 363-2634	Rape Crisis Counselors of East AL, Opelika AL Contact: Vicki Dearing (334) 741-0707
BraveHeart Center, Auburn University, AL Contact: Angie Burke burquad@auburn.edu	Ronald McDonald House Charities, Birmingham, AL Contact: Emily Wright (205) 638-7372
Child Care Resource Center, Opelika AL Contact: Susan Fordham (334) 749-8400	Ronald McDonald House, Atlanta GA Contact: Cat Lewis (678) 910-6160
Children's Harbor, Birmingham, AL Contact: Vicki Tuggle (334) 857-2021	Sleep, Health and Development Lab, Auburn University; Contact Bridget Wingo (334) 844-3294
Circle of Care Center for Families, Valley AL Contact: Adrian Carpenter (334) 768-4091	Smile-A-Mile, Birmingham AL Contact: Kellie Reece (205) 323-3427
Circles USA, Opelika, AL Contact: Regina Meadows (334) 203-1860	Sportsplex Adult Activity Center, Opelika AL Contact: Varleri White (334) 705-5560
Harris Early Learning Center, Birmingham AL Contact: Robbie Roberts (205) 252-5060	Storybook Farm, Opelika AL Contact: Dena Little (334) 444-5966
Help Me Grow Alabama, Opelika AL Contact: Chandler Barret (334) 745-5540	United Way of Lee County, Opelika, AL Contact: Becky Benton (334) 745-5540
Jones Valley Teaching Farm, Birmingham, AL Contact: Zoe Burgess (617) 921-5264	YMCA Camp Cosby, Alpine AL Contact: Karen Kasprzak (256) 268-2003

Public School Internships. *Auburn City Schools:* See Dr. Sailors (206-F Spidle) to obtain a letter of introduction and then contact Ms. Kathy Tyler (Assistant to Cristen Haring) at (334) 887-2100. Placement requires a current TB test result.

Daycare and Childcare Centers. Internships working with young children in daycare or a childcare center must be with a program that is accredited by *NAEYC, NAC, or NECPA*, or in the self-study process of accreditation.

East Alabama Mental Health Services. Drug testing is required.

Child Life Internships

The rules guiding a Child Life placement are different from other HDFS Internships. Most hospitals require a special **affiliation agreement** to be established with HDFS. Establishing the agreement can take months and it is **not always possible** for an agreement to be reached due to the legalities involved. Even though you may be accepted by a hospital for a Child Life internship, it does not automatically mean it will be approved by HDFS.

The lists below provide information the current agreements with have with Child Life programs/hospitals, agreements we have had in the past, and hospitals with whom we are unable to reach an agreement for internship placements. **A current agreement does not guarantee acceptance into any Child Life program. A past agreement ensure a future agreement will be reached. Do not apply to any Child Life programs where we have been unable to reach an agreement in the past.**

Current/Active Agreements

- Children's Healthcare of Atlanta/Egleston and Scottish Rite, Atlanta, GA
- Children's Health System, Birmingham, AL
- Cox Health, Springfield, MO
- Dwayne & Cynthia Willet Children's Hospital at Memorial Health, Savannah, GA
- East Tennessee Children's Hospital, Knoxville, TN
- Erlanger Health System, Chattanooga, TN
- John Hopkins All Children's Hospital, St. Petersburg, FL
- LeBonheur Children's Hospital, Memphis, TN
- Beverly Knight Olson Children's Hospital, Navicent Health, Macon, GA
- Mercy Health, Rockford, IL
- University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS
- WakeMed, Raleigh, NC

Past (Expired) Agreements

- American Family Children's Hospital, Madison, WI
- Baptist Health/Wolfson Children's Hospital, Jacksonville, FL
- Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, TN
- Barbara Bush Children's Hospital, Portland, ME
- Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center, St. Louis, MO
- Children's Hospital of Greenville Hospital System, Greenville SC
- Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Cincinnati, OH
- Children's Memorial Hermann, Houston, TX
- Duke Children's Hospital, Durham, NC
- Huntsville Hospital for Women and Children, Huntsville AL
- INOVA Fairfax Hospital for Children, Falls Church, VA
- James and Connie Maynard Children's Hospital, Greenville, NC
- Medical University of South Carolina Children's Hospital, Charleston, SC
- Miami Children's Hospital, Miami, FL
- Mission Children's Hospital, Asheville, NC
- Our Lady of the Lake Hospital, Baton Rouge, LA
- Palmetto Health Children's Hospital, Columbia, SC
- Sacred Heart Health System, Pensacola, FL
- St. John's Hospital, Springfield, IL
- St. Louis Children's Hospital, St. Louis, MO
- Tulane University Hospital & Clinic, New Orleans, LA
- USA Children's and Women's Hospital, Mobile, AL
- Vanderbilt University Hospital, Nashville, TN
- Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital, New Haven, CT

Agreements that Cannot be Reached (Do not apply):

- Dallas Children's (TX)
- Hasbro Children's Hospital (RI)
- Presbyterian Children's Hospital (NYC)
- Levene Children's Hospital (NC)