

## GUIDELINES ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT PRE-PRACTICUM SERVICE

Family & Child Studies Major: Emphasis in Child Development

For further information, call:

815/753-6341 (Dr. Linda Derscheid) 815/753-6332 (Dr. Sherry Fang)

**STUDENT: READ mailing instructions below; to be filed in student's folder when completed.**

**PURPOSE:** Pre-Practicum service is designed for students to:

1. Explore careers in child development
2. Have opportunities to observe groups of young children and professionals who serve them and their families.
3. Have practical experience with children and families, so course work is more meaningful.
4. Have opportunities to apply course material (to practice skills).

### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Complete a **total of 50 hours**, prior to enrolling in FCNS 490, Practicum in Child Development
  - A. 25 hours of service completed or begun as pre-majors before applying to CD major.
  - B. 25/50 hours of service completed after admission to the major and before enrolling in FCNS 490.
2. **Be involved in extensive PERSON-TO-PERSON (non-phone) contact** with young children and families.
3. Students may volunteer at more than one site. However, at least a **MINIMUM of 25 HOURS SHOULD BE COMPLETED AT ANY ONE SITE** in order to count in the total.
4. Service experience should be done **over at least 12 consecutive weeks**.

**SITE CRITERIA – location for service experience should meet the following criteria:**

1. Sites where student in this major typically do off-campus internships (*see Approved Sites handout*).
2. Service experience **SHOULD NOT INCLUDE** routine non-client contact such as office work, telephone answering, etc.
3. Sites should be established for year-round work, with full-time paid college graduate professional with a B.S. in CD or Early Childhood Education and, in turn, hire B.S. degree graduates for positions working with young children and their families.
4. Current paid employment in a site that meets the above criteria may be counted towards the 50 hours requirement.
5. Past paid employment within last 12 months at a site that meets the above criteria may be counted toward the 50 hours requirement as long as documentation is provided.

**STUDENT – GIVE below certificate WITH STAMPED PRE-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE to agency.**

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### CERTIFICATION OF PRE-PRACTICUM SERVICE EXPERIENCE

*(to be completed by supervisor at site at which student served)*

This is to certify that \_\_\_\_\_ ZID \_\_\_\_\_  
(student's name)

has completed in a **SATISFACTORY MANNER** \_\_\_\_\_ hours of service, during the period of \_\_\_\_\_,  
while serving as a \_\_\_\_\_  
(title of service/work position or description)

Comments, if any:

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Site Supervisor) (Site Supervisor)

Title/Position \_\_\_\_\_ Agency Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** Please mail in stamped pre-addressed **envelope provided by the student to:**

Student Files: Family & Child Studies – Child Development  
School of Family, Consumer, & Nutrition Sciences  
Northern Illinois University  
DeKalb, IL 60115-2843  
FAX (815)753-1321

## SELECTED LISTING OF PRE-PRACTICUM SERVICE SITES

**Ideally, do your pre-practicum service in agency similar to your career interest.**

**Realize, any agencies meeting criteria (listed on other side) are acceptable. INQUIRE immediately, since volunteer training programs often are held early in the semester. Also, consider volunteering in an agency similar to one where you might do your internship.**

Besides sites listed below, for other leads, check the following out:

1. Voluntary Action Center (VAC), 1606 Bethany Rd., Sycamore, IL 60178 (E. of Sycamore Rd), 758-3932; they maintain a listing of opportunities in the DeKalb/Sycamore area.
2. See listings of Volunteer Action Center, Metropolitan Chicago, (312)322-0530, or similar agencies in other cities.
3. See the Internship in Community Programs Approved Sites list given out at every Child Development Practicum/Internship Meeting (fall and spring semesters) for a more complete listing of potential sties.

\*\*\*\*\***SPECIFIC EXAMPLES OF AGENCIES**\*\*\*\*\*  
and contact person

**Other agencies may be similar to ones back in your home town.**

Community Coordinated Child Care/4Cs

Big Brother/Big Sister Program, Family Service Agency, 3131 Sycamore Rd., DeKalb, 758-8616. Supervisor of Program.

Campus Child Care Center, NIU, Child Care Building, 753-0125

Children's Learning Center, 905 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, DeKalb. 756-3506.

Creative Interventions, 1760 W. State Street, Suite C, Sycamore, IL 60178, 899-1910.

DeKalb County Youth Services Bureau, 330 Grove Street, DeKalb, 748-2010.

Dept. of Children and Family Services, 756-3401, Volunteer Coord.—supervise parent/child visits, transportation of foster children, no car required

The Growing Place, Inc., 909 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, DeKalb. 756-5744,

Rockford MELD (support for teen parents), 428 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 61107, 815/965-8336, Site Coordinator.

\*\*Safe Passage, P.O. Box 621, DeKalb, Residential Program or Children's Program, 756-5228 – women's shelter.

Teen Parents Program, Kishwaukee College, E. Wing, Adult Student Connections, Malta, 60150, 815/825-2086, ext. 238, Teen Parent Advisor – home visits, transportation, support groups.

DeKalb County Special Education Association, 2205 Sycamore Rd., DeKalb, 758-0651.

Rockford Memorial Hospital, Child Life Program, 2400 N. Rockton Ave., Rockford, IL, 61103, 815/971-5309.

Tri-County Head Start, Lincoln Center, Rt. 38, Rochelle, IL 61068, 815/562-3088.

Two-Rivers Head Start, 2425 Bethany Rd., Sycamore, IL 60178, 815/748-3713.

ABC Preschool, 160 Johnson Ave., Sycamore, IL 60178, 815/895-9113

Kishwaukee Community Preschool, Kishwaukee College, 21193 Malta Rd., Malta, IL, 60150, 815/825-2086

**\*\*Has periodic formal training, often early in the semester; call early to inquire.**

If interested in child life, be sure to gain some volunteer experience doing weekend child life volunteering.

If interested in early intervention, be sure to gain some volunteer experience in agencies like Easter Seals.