

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) 815/752-7063 (Dr. Yan Wang)

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
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 with a supervisor with a B.S. degree in child-related field.
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.

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, because volunteer training programs often are held early in the semester. Also, consider volunteering in an agency you would like to be hired.

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

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

Community Coordinated Child Care/4Cs, 155 N. Third Street, Suite 300, DeKalb. 815/758-9149
Campus Child Care Center, NIU, Child Care Building, 753-0125
Children's Learning Center, 905 S. 4th Street, DeKalb. 756-3506.
The Growing Place, Inc., 909 S. 4th Street, DeKalb. 756-5744,
Rockford MELD (support for teen parents), 428 N. 1st 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 Services, Kishwaukee College, E. Wing, Adult Student Connections, Malta, 60150, 815/825-2086, ext. 312, Teen Parent Advisor – home visits, transportation, support groups.
DeKalb County Special Education Association, 2205 Sycamore Rd., DeKalb, 758-0651.
NIU Child Development Laboratory, Gabel Hall 169 & 170. 815/753-1150.
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.