Master of Science
Child Life

This master's degree program prepares students for careers working with medically fragile children and hospitalized children from birth through adolescence in a variety of settings.

The Child Life Specialist is a trained professional who strives to minimize the stress and anxiety children, adolescents, and families experience while undergoing medical treatment.

The Specialist employs a variety of interventions, including clinical education, therapeutic medias, family centered care, pain management techniques, care plans and grief interventions that provide opportunities to enhance the children's self-esteem, coping skills, independence, development, behavior, and healing.

Admission Requirements
Admission to the Master of Science, Child Life program requires the following:

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university that includes related fields of Child Development, Education and Human Development
- A bachelor's degree in fields other than those noted above requires - 15 units or 5 courses in Child Development or related fields - approved by Child Life Program advisor
- One year professional work experience in educational institutions or related institutions - approved by Child Life Program advisor
- A GPA of 2.75 or above for the last 60 semester units of undergraduate study and a GPA of 3.0 for any graduate study
- Three positive references attesting to the applicant's academic and professional competency
- Demonstrated ability to write at an acceptable level for graduate study
- Internet access capability

Academic Requirements
- This degree program requires completion of 36 semester hours in the following combination:
  - Core Courses – 27 semester hours
  - Electives – 3 semester hours
  - Culminating Activity – 6 semester hours

Transfer Credit
Up to six semester hours of credit may be transferred into a University of La Verne graduate degree program if:

- the units were acceptable as graduate degree coursework in the transferring school,
- the units are applicable to the chosen degree program at the University of La Verne,
- a grade of “B” or better was earned for the units, and
- the coursework was taken from an accredited institution within five years prior to transfer to the University of La Verne.

Program Requirements
Students in the Master’s degree program must maintain at least a 3.0 grade point average. All degree coursework must be completed within five years of registration as a graduate student. To accommodate students' professional schedules and personal needs, many courses are offered in late afternoons and evenings.

Courses
(Each course is 3 semester hours)

Core Requirements
EDUC 530A Parenting the Medically Fragile Child
EDUC 530M Helping Children Cope in a Hospital Setting
EDUC 530T Pediatric Educational and Therapeutic Interventions – 120 hour practicum
EDUC 530 Child Life Administration and Program Development
EDUC 530S Developmental Process of Grieving

Advanced Courses
EDUC 530H Effects of Disease and Injuries on Hospitalized Children Part A
EDUC 530I Effects of Disease and Injuries on Hospitalized Children Part B

Electives (Selected on the advice of the program chairperson)
SPED 457 Identification and Remediation of the Exceptional Child
EDUC 451 Infant/Toddler Group Care and Curriculum
EDUC 530C Technology for the Child Life Educator
EDUC 550 Human Development
EDUC 558 Cognition and Brain Development
EDUC 551 Studies in Attachment
EDUC 503 Educational Psychology
EDUC 454F Early Childhood Teaching
EDUC 573 Counseling Diverse Populations
EDUC 599 Independent Study - Child Life Focus

Culminating Activity
EDUC 504 Methods of Research
EDUC 596 Graduate Seminar
Why students choose the University of La Verne

Personalized Attention
- Accessible faculty
- Small class size

Program Quality
- Interactive classes
- Content that blends theory and practice

Flexibility
- Flexible course times reflect an understanding of a working professional’s schedule.
- Students can attend either full time or part time.

Accreditation
The University of La Verne is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and is approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

Next Step
For information regarding admissions and a graduate application, contact:

Graduate Office
University of La Verne
1950 Third Street
La Verne, CA 91750
909-593-3511, x4244

To ask questions or make an appointment with a College of Education and Organizational Leadership representative, contact:

Education Department
University of La Verne
909-593-3511, x4626

University of La Verne
College of Education and Organizational Leadership
Master of Science
Child Life
An advanced degree program for those working with medically fragile children and adolescents.