

ADHD & Learning Center 2024 Summer Treatment Program Undergraduate Internship Positions

The Summer Treatment Program (STP) at Cleveland Clinic Children's announces positions for summer internships for undergraduate students and recent graduates in Psychology, Special Education, Pre-medicine, Child Development, Social Work, and related fields. Interns will work as paraprofessional counselors in the children's Summer Treatment Program (STP) for children with Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). The program provides treatment tailored to children's individual behavioral and learning difficulties and serves children ages 6-14 years old. Cleveland Clinic's STP is directed by Hallie Fetterman, Ph.D., BCBA-D, COBA (Clinical Director) & Eric Geyer, LPC (Program Director). In 1993, the STP was named as a Model Program for Service Delivery for Child and Family Mental Health by the Section on Clinical Child Psychology and Division of Child, Youth, and Family Services of the American Psychological Association, as well as the model for the Multi-Site study in ADHD funded by the National Institute for Mental Health and United States Office of Education.

Interns are employed for 10 weeks from June 3rd through August 9th, 2024. Undergraduate counselor hours of employment are approximately 8:00 AM until 5:30 PM, Monday through Friday. In addition to professional and clinical experience, Group Counselors are paid an hourly wage starting at \$10.45/hour as Cleveland Clinic student employees. Academic course credit may also be arranged through the student's own university, dependent upon individual arrangements of the credit-granting department or university.

During the Summer Treatment Program, children and counselors are assigned to groups that remain constant for the duration of the program. Each group consists of 5-6 counselors (4-5 undergraduate counselors and a lead counselor) and 10 to 12 children of similar age. Counselors implement behavior modification treatment during recreational activities such as basketball, soccer, softball, and swimming. During these activities, counselors provide behavioral feedback related to children's behavior and its consequence within the context of a token economy / point system (e.g., "You earn 10 points for Helping"). Children exchange the points that they earn for prizes from a "point store" and home-based rewards. In addition to these rewards, children also earn weekly reward privileges on "Fun Friday," and social honors such as "High Point Kid" and "Honor Roll Status" based on their behavior during the treatment day. Counselors also conduct sports skills training, social skills training, and problem-solving training. Counselors and children participate together in group cooperative task sessions and counselors facilitate dyadic friendship development. In addition, children participate in Academic Learning Centers each day. During these periods, classroom staff implement behavior modification programs that are designed to treat children's problems in a classroom setting. Counselors use the learning center periods to plan activities, design and revise individualized programs and targets for children's daily report cards, and meet for supervision with clinical staff members. In addition to the behavioral programs described above, all staff members implement time out procedures when a child exhibits intentional aggression, intentional destruction of property, or repeated noncompliance, and are trained in nonviolent crisis intervention to manage escalated behavior or crisis situations should they present.

Undergraduate counselors will be required to memorize the operational definitions of the point system behaviors used in the behavior modification program and the rules for daily activities *prior* to the start of the internship. Students will learn the goals and procedures of the program, and they will learn to function as paraprofessional counselors during the seven-week Summer Treatment Program (June 17th – August 2nd, 2024). Training for the internship will include:

1. learning the etiology, nature, and prognosis of ADHD, CD and ODD;
2. learning the behavioral treatment program (i.e., the token economy system, time out, physical management, etc.);
3. learning behavioral assessment procedures for pinpointing and monitoring behavior change;
4. learning to develop and to implement individualized behavior modification programs;
5. learning social skills and problem solving training procedures for children with peer relationship problems;
6. learning to record behavioral data and learning to enter behavioral data into database.

Undergraduate counselors who have worked in the program have found it a valuable opportunity to receive intensive training in behavioral intervention, to gain professional experience with children in a clinical setting, and to obtain letters of recommendation to support their future career development. Sample comments from past staff include:

"I have never worked with people so highly educated, fun, kind-hearted, supportive, and relatable in my entire life."
– Undergraduate Counselor

"I believe I grew up immensely over the summer in both professionalism and communication skills in the workplace."
– Classroom Aide

"Fun, rewarding, enriching, formed awesome relationships with other staffers. Would highly recommend!"
– Undergraduate Counselor

Approximately 25-30 positions will be available, and applications will be competitive. Students who wish to apply for more than one position (e.g., classroom aide and undergraduate counselor) should submit only one set of application materials. **Applications are available online on the Cleveland Clinic website (<https://ccf.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/ClevelandClinicCareers>) during the application window February 1st – February 16th, 2024.**

The interview process will begin in February and applicants are hired on a rolling basis until all positions have been filled. Therefore, prospective staff are encouraged to apply early. A second application window may be opened only in the event that additional positions remain available.

For questions or additional details, please contact Eric Geyer, LPC, STP Program Director, by email at geyer@ccf.org or by phone at 216-448-6020.