

CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

To practice as a Certified Child Life Specialist (CCLS), an individual must obtain the CCLS credential by passing the certification exam. The requirements for certification are listed below. Please review the Certification Candidate Manual for a complete list of all certification requirements.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

An individual must complete the following academic requirements to sit for the certification exam:

1. Bachelor's Degree in any field of study
2. Coursework. This can be obtained in one of two ways:
 - o Graduation from an ACLP-endorsed academic program OR
 - o 10 specific college courses

CLINICAL INTERNSHIP

An individual must complete a clinical internship that is under the direct supervision of a CCLS who meets certain requirements.

Although not required by ACLP, some internship programs may have specific requirements to participate (i.e. practicum, work/volunteer experience, etc).

ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

The ACLP Eligibility Assessment is the way ACLP verifies that an individual has completed the academic and clinical requirements needed to sit for the certification exam.

The Eligibility Assessment can be started at any time and individuals can add their degree, coursework, and clinical experience information as they complete it.



SUBMIT AN ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Once an individual has completed the academic requirements as well as a clinical internship, they submit their coursework, degree, and clinical experiences to ACLP for verification.

PASS THE CERTIFICATION EXAM

To sit for the exam, an individual must have completed the academic requirements, a clinical internship, and an eligibility assessment. Upon passing the certification exam, an individual will earn their CCLS credential.

Learn more at childlife.org/BecomeCertified