



FAQs



Helpful answers to commonly asked questions regarding clinical internships at our family of organizations.

What types of clinical internships do you offer?

We primarily work with students who need to fulfill their MSW advanced internship, MHC or MFT practicums. MSW generalist internships are only available for students who are able to complete both the generalist and advanced clinical internships with our agency, and where the school's work differentiation requirements can be met at one agency. Some undergraduate placements are available with priority given to BSW students.

What do interns do at your agency?

Interns participate in **facilitating clinical casework and supervised visitation** in homes and communities.

Can I do therapy as an intern?

Due to our contract with Indiana Department of Child Services, **we cannot allow anyone without a master's degree to lead therapy.** Our advanced interns work in clinical case management, which involves the use of clinical skills like engagement, assessment, intervening and evaluation. Students are encouraged to apply classroom learning such as motivational interviewing techniques, cognitive behavioral skills and trauma-informed care, with clients to practice clinical skills.

Will I transport clients in my personal car?

Yes. We may be out in the community, helping clients access resources or meeting for a supervised visit. This involves transporting clients some of the time. Interns must hold a valid driver's license with a good driving record for at least three years.

What hours do you work?

We meet with our clients when they are available. Since we collaborate with many working families who have children in school, it is typical to work evenings and some weekends. We offer both part-time and full-time internships.

Will I have supervision?

Yes, every intern has employment-based supervision (One hour for full-time, 30 minutes for part-time) and **one hour of internship supervision each week.** All internship supervisors/field instructors hold a clinical license in their field (LMHC, LCSW, LMFT) and are trained in best practices for field instruction.

Is supervision in-person?

Internship supervision takes place individually at a minimum of one hour a week, **via video conferencing software called Zoom.** Since we offer services in client homes across the entire state, our employees and licensed Field Instructors work remotely. Online supervision allows us to effectively match students with qualified Field Instructors to meet their learning needs. Students have access to local employment supervisors, task instructors and clinical supervisors.

What population group does your agency serve?

Variety of populations served including **adults, children and families referred by Department of Child Services, Probation and Department of Correction.**

What kind of training do you provide?

Every new teammate completes our employment training since our internships are employment-based. This involves one week at our headquarters in Fort Wayne, Indiana and five additional weeks of training that is blended online, in person and shadowing. Interns generally get their first cases around week 3.

Do you offer group work?

In some cases, interns can participate in foster parent support groups and residential groups in northern parts of the state. Many times when interns need group hours, they make arrangements for this provision with other agencies in the area.

I go to school online. Can I complete an internship at Lifeline?

Yes, we work with various online programs. One thing to note is that if your school is outside of Indiana, they may not meet the Indiana licensing requirements, even if they are NASW or CACREP accredited. This means that if your program does not meet licensure requirements, you may have to take extra classes or have additional supervision to become license eligible. This does not disqualify someone from completing an internship or becoming a therapist with us, as long as they are actively working towards licensure post-graduation.

