

childlifeacademicsociety@gmail.com

2025 Strategic Plan Development

The Child Life Academic Society (CLAS) continues to be guided by the original Vision, Mission, & Values. The 2025 Strategic Plan was developed by the board with input from membership via an online survey and data from committee leaders. Dissemination of the Strategic Plan includes an email of the full plan to CLAS membership, posting the plan to the CLAS website, and sharing the CLAS Strategic Plan Summary with Child Life Certification Commission's & Association of Child Life Professionals' leaders.

2025 Strategic Plan Summary

- I. Current Committees
 - a. Governance
 - i. Develop a policy regarding the new Federal Register 668.16(r) based on the Clinical Experience Task Force's research and recommendations
 - ii. Create policy for lapsing membership eligibility
 - iii. Creation of member code of conduct policy
 - iv. Assess potential state licensure and child life certification
 - b. Academic Best Practice
 - i. Academic Program Accreditation Research
 - ii. Collaboration and communication among child life academic programs and clinical programs for student clinical experiences in compliance with U.S. Federal Registry
 - c. Communications
 - i. 2025 annual content planning and maintenance
 - ii. Pursuing Canva Pro account
- II. New Groups
 - a. Clinical Experience Task Force
 - i. Research and benchmark Federal Regulations for student clinical experiences
 - ii. Analyze and summarize impacts on child life profession
 - iii. Create recommendations for responsible stakeholders
 - b. Member Awards Work Group
 - i. Benchmark best practices for Member Awards
 - ii. Draft policy and procedures for Member Awards

Created by: Cara Sisk, CLAS President



2025 Strategic Plan Compiled Membership Data Priority Goals for CLAS

Member Suggested Goals for CLAS	Location in Strategic Plan
Academic programs providing child life internships in alignment with the federal law requiring academic institutions to provide students clinical experiences. (2)	Governance Committee
Endorsement or Accreditation plans	Academic Best Practice Committee
Recommendation/plans for student pathway Child life degree requirement recommendation for certification to CLCC (3)	Academic Best Practice Committee
Evidence-based academic standards/recommendations for child life academic programs: features, staffing, quality indicators (2)	Academic Best Practice Committee
Building strong collaborative relationships with CLCC & ACLP as interrelated organizations	Academic Best Practice Committee
Completing and releasing organizational website to house important content and conversations being created	Communications Committee

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2025 Strategic Plan Governance Committee

Chair: Jeanine Clapsaddle, MA, LMFT, CCLS & Chair-elect: Lindsey Murphy, PhD, CCLS

Work Completed	Ongoing Work	New Work
Confidentiality Policy	Code of Ethics Statement	Develop a policy and
created and Board	draft created and	position statement
Approved	submitted to Board for	regarding the new
	approval	Federal Register 668.16(r)
	 Board Approved 	based on the Clinical
	9/4/24	Experience Task Force's
	Ready for	research and
	dissemination	recommendations
Conflict of Interest	Student Bill of Rights	Create policy for when a
Disclosure Form created	draft created and	member no longer meets
and Board Approved	submitted to Board for	eligibility criteria
	approval	including handling of
	 Board Approved 	payment, access,
	9/4/24 with	communications, etc.
	inclusion of one	
	edit	
	Ready for	
	dissemination	
Membership Dues Policy		Creation of member code
created and Board		of conduct/misconduct
Approved		policy
Membership Dues		Assess the
Reminder created and		role/relationship
Board Approved		between potential state
		licensure and child life
		certification

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2025 Strategic Plan Academic Best Practice Committee

Chair: Cathy Humphreys MSc, CCLS & Chair-elect: Charity Vasquez, PhD, CCLS

Work Completed	Ongoing Work	New Work
Benchmarking & Research External and Internal Disciplines — Recommendations for best practices in Child Life Academic Programs regarding staffing, administration, and implementation - coming in Sept. 2024	Reviewing professional competencies of other disciplines to determine the academic competencies for both academic programs and students graduating from child life academic programs.	Academic Program Accreditation Research including CLAS role as benchmarked with other discipline's academic organizations (optional/required, timeline 7-10 years?)
	Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP Code) Research & Recommendations for child life in U.S.	Collaboration and communication among child life academic programs and clinical programs for student clinical experiences in compliance with U.S. Federal Registry
	Assessment of academic impacts for pathway to the profession decision once determined by the Child Life Certification Commission Ongoing literature review regarding academic program best practices for areas related to child life academic program implementation.	

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2025 Strategic Plan Communications Committee

Chair: Sarah Keyes, MA, CCLS & Chair-elect: Amanda Auttonberry, MSW CCLS

Work Completed	Ongoing Work	New Work
Created CLAS List Serv	Website content	Annual planning for 2025
Policy and Guidelines and	development and	
Board Approved – shared	maintenance in the	
with membership on	works – pending Board	
8/30/24 via List Serv	Approval website to be	
message from Jessika	live on 10/1/24	
	Social media content	Pursuing Canva Pro
	development and	account since free for
	maintenance	nonprofit organizations.

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2025 New Work

Croup Name Croup Charge Outputs Requested			
Group Name	Group Charge	Outputs Requested	
Clinical Experience Task Force • 3-5 members • 1-to-2-year term	 Research Federal Regulations for student clinical experiences in academic programs Benchmark other disciplines clinical experience Analyze impact on child life profession Identify responsible stakeholders (academic institutions, CLCC, ACLP, CLAS, clinical sites) Impact on distance education and in-person education Students with disabilities document resource provided 	 Produce report for board: Outlining federal regulations Benchmarking results Summarizing impact of findings on stakeholders Create recommendations for all stakeholders including CLAS organization 	
 Member Awards Work Group 3 members (1 member from Governance, Academic Best Practice, and Communications Communications 6 month – 1 year term 	 Review Faculty Awards structure of other academic disciplines to ensure best practices Create a Member Awards Structure 	 Draft policy and procedures for Member Awards Disseminate to Governance, Academic Best Practice, and Communications Committees for review Submit to board for review and vote 	

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