



# Center for Children and Families

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

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## 2019 Summer Treatment Program Classroom Aide Positions

The Center for Children and Families at Florida International University announces Summer Treatment Program Classroom Aide positions for 2019. The Summer Treatment Program (STP) provides services to children with Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Conduct Disorder, Oppositional-Defiant Disorder, learning problems, and related behavior problems. The program provides treatment tailored to children's individual behavioral and learning difficulties. Classroom Aides will work in the STP-E, for children ages 6-12 in elementary school. The Center for Children and Families is directed by William E. Pelham, Jr., Ph.D., who is a Distinguished Professor of Psychology and Psychiatry at Florida International University. Erika Coles, Ph.D., is the Program Director for the STP-E.

The dates of employment for Classroom Aides are **Monday, June 10, 2019** through **Saturday, August 10, 2019**. The Classroom Aide hours of employment are 7:30 AM to 7:00 PM, Monday through Friday, and on Saturday, August 10. In addition, Classroom Aides continue to work with the children until 8:30 PM one evening each week while parents participate in weekly parent training groups.

Full-time and part-time Classroom Aide positions will be available. The salary for the full-time Classroom Aide position is \$3,750. The salary for part-time positions will vary depending on the number of hours worked. In addition, current students may be able to arrange for academic course credit through their university departments.

In the STP-E, children and counselors are assigned to groups that remain constant for the duration of the program. Each group consists of four or five counselors and 10 to 15 children of similar age. Children participate in a variety of classroom-based and recreational activities. Counselors supervise children during recreational activities and a team of Teachers and Classroom Aides supervise children during classroom activities. All staff members implement an extensive behavior modification treatment program during all program activities. The behavior modification program includes feedback and associated consequences for positive and negative behaviors, daily and weekly rewards for appropriate behavior, social praise and attention, appropriate commands, and age-appropriate removal from positive reinforcement. All Classroom Aides will also be responsible for recording, tracking, and entering daily records of children's behavior and response to the treatment. All Classroom Aides will work under the supervision of the Classroom Teacher and experienced faculty and staff members and will receive regular feedback about their performance. A brief description of daily classroom activities follows:

In the STP-E, children participate in two daily academic periods. Children complete assignments in typical age-appropriate subjects such as arithmetic, reading, and language arts. The classroom activities focus on improving children's on-task behavior, following

teacher directives, and exhibiting appropriate classroom behavior, in addition to providing practice at the children's current grade level to avoid summer learning loss. Classroom Aides are responsible for preparing assignments and classroom materials, for assisting teachers with classroom management, for grading children's assignments and providing performance feedback to children during the period, for providing small-group instruction, and for performing other classroom duties as required.

The STP-E Art Classroom Aides are responsible for assisting the Art Teacher in project preparation and room setup each day. Children work on a variety of projects such as painting, sculpting, and drawing. During the Art class period, the Art Teacher and the Art Classroom Aides provide individual assistance to children, evaluate classroom rules, and provide feedback to children when they violate classroom rules. The Art Classroom Aides also conduct small-group instruction and demonstration of appropriate techniques. Art Classroom Aides are responsible for keeping records of children's behavior in the art room.

In addition to their classroom responsibilities, Classroom Aides will coordinate and supervise daily aftercare activities for children whose parents require a late pickup time. Aftercare activities may include homework supervision, educational activities, and other indoor games and activities.

Prior to the start of employment, Classroom Aides will be required to read the applicable treatment program manual and to be extensively familiar with behavior modification program and rules and procedures for daily classroom activities. Classroom Aides will be required to memorize, verbatim, the operational definitions for the behavior modification system categories and other related information. Classroom Aides will need to spend a significant amount of time preparing prior to the start of employment.

During the first week of employment, Classroom Aides will participate in a variety of training activities. Training will consist of lectures, slide and video presentations, testing, and daily active role-plays during which staff members will act as Teachers, Aides and children during classroom activities and time out. On the last day of employment, Classroom Aides will complete rating scales regarding progress children made in the program and children's response to treatment. In addition, Classroom Aides will prepare and summarize information to be included in children's final treatment reports.

The Summer Treatment Program has been conducted at Florida State University from 1980 to 1986; at Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic from 1987 to 1996; at the University at Buffalo from 1997 to 2009; and at Florida International University since 2010. 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. The STP has also been used in clinical trials conducted under the auspices of the National Institute of Mental Health and SAMHSA, and has been named a program of the year by CHADD, the national parent advocacy group for children with ADHD.

Experience in the STP may be helpful to prepare students for further study or employment in the fields of education, mental health, physical education, pediatrics, psychiatry, recreational therapy, behavior analysis, social work, counseling, and related areas. Staff members have uniformly reported the experience to be the most demanding but also the most rewarding clinical experience of their careers.

Desired qualifications for Classroom Aides include: undergraduate-level study in Education, Special Education, Psychology, Behavior Analysis, Social Work, or related field; experience working with children or adolescents in settings such as summer camps, after-school programs, sports programs, daycare programs, and educational programs; and experience with activities such as art, music, dance, theater, journalism, photography, and videography.

Additionally, participation in the STP requires staff to ensure the safety, well-being and treatment of children and adolescents with mental health, learning, attention and behavior problems. Classroom Aides must be able to visually scan the environment, effectively attend to and hear verbal exchanges between children, provide neutral, corrective feedback on children's misbehavior (which can include aggression), and provide a consistent, warm, positive climate for children.

All finalists must clear a Criminal Background Check initiated by the Division of Human Resources at FIU before an offer of employment will be made. All finalists must be digitally fingerprinted and cleared by the FIU Division of Human Resource before beginning assignment.

Employees placed on Temporary Appointments are not eligible to participate in employee benefit programs (i.e., paid leave, health insurances, etc.) but are enrolled in the FICA Alternative plan.

Florida International University is a member of the State University System of Florida and is an Equal Opportunity, Equal Access Affirmative Action Employer.

Applications for STP positions will be accepted beginning in October, 2018. Applicants are required to complete an online application form and to submit 3 letters of recommendation and an official transcript. There is no cutoff date for applying. Applications received after all positions have been filled will be placed on a waiting list. Positions are competitive so interested individuals should apply as soon as possible.

**For detailed descriptions of each program, and to apply for this position, please visit <https://ccf.fiu.edu/opportunities/summer-treatment-program-opportunities-and-training/>**