



# Center for Children and Families

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

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## 2021 Summer Treatment Program—Elementary Classroom Aide Positions

The Center for Children and Families at Florida International University announces Summer Treatment Program Classroom Aide positions for 2020. 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 dates of employment for Classroom Aides are **Monday, June 14, 2021** through **Friday, August 13, 2021**. The hours of employment are 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

Classroom aides will be paid \$10/hour, with overtime pay for any hours in excess of 40 per week. Total compensation will be approximately \$3,600. In addition, Classroom Aides may continue to work with the children during aftercare activities and until 8:30 PM 1-2 evenings each week while parents participate in weekly parent training groups, and will receive overtime pay for these hours. Current students may also 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.

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 feedback to children, for providing small-group instruction, and for performing other classroom duties as required.

The Art 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. The Art Classroom Aides provide individual assistance to children, evaluate classroom rules, and provide feedback to children when they violate classroom rules. The Art Aides also conduct small-group instruction and demonstration of appropriate techniques. Art 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 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 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 active role-plays.

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. The STP has been conducted since 1980 and 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. 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 and the Department of Children and Families (DCF).

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.

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