

March 1st, 2024
Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital
501 6th Avenue, South,
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am writing to express my keen interest in the nursing positions available in the Pediatric Cardiovascular ICU (CVICU) and the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital. As a senior at the University of South Florida College of Nursing, my journey through nursing school has solidified my passion for pediatric nursing, particularly in high-acuity settings where complex care meets innovation and compassion.

My journey into pediatric critical care began with an introduction to the field in my Women, Children, and Families course at the College of Nursing, where I found the lectures on pediatric critical care particularly captivating. This foundational knowledge was significantly enhanced through hands-on clinical experience at AdventHealth Pediatrics, where I saw the positive impact that the nurses made on the lives of the patients and their families. Throughout my academic and clinical experiences, I have been drawn to the challenges and rewards of pediatric critical care. A defining moment in my pursuit of a career in pediatric critical care was the opportunity to observe a pediatric open-heart surgery, including the placement of a Berlin Left Ventricular Assistive Device (VAD) on an infant born with a congenital defect which caused formation of only one of the normal three cusps in the aortic valve. Due to this, the patient was placed on the wait list for a pediatric heart transplant and received the Berlin device to improve the infant's quality of life while they were on the waiting list for a heart transplant. Learning about this patient's story, combined with my clinical rotations on pediatric floors, specifically in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, has been pivotal in shaping my career aspirations. Witnessing the intricate balance of technology, skill, and compassionate care in such a high-stakes environment has fueled my commitment to this field.

Outside of my nursing program, I have worked as a Nurse Technician in the Transplant 1 Unit at Tampa General Hospital, caring for recipients of kidney, pancreas, liver, heart, and lung transplants, as well as patients with Left Ventricular Assist Devices (LVADs). Furthermore, my role as a Resident Assistant in the University of South Florida College of Nursing Living Learning Community allowed me to develop essential soft skills such as leadership, time management, mentorship, and effective communication. These roles highlighted the critical importance of interdisciplinary teamwork, vigilance, and a relentless pursuit of excellence in patient care. Making a tangible, positive difference in the lives of my patients and their families has been profoundly rewarding. As a nurse, I want to expand upon my current skill set to foster an environment conducive to growth and well-being and to collaborate effectively with a multidisciplinary team in the dynamic environment of the Pediatric ICU.

I am eager to bring my passion for pediatric nursing, my clinical experience, and my commitment to excellence in patient care to the Pediatric ICU team. I am confident that my background and skills make me a strong candidate for this position. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to your team and to further discuss how I can contribute to the high standards of care at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital.

Thank you for considering my application. I am excited about the possibility of joining your team and contributing to the care of your pediatric patients.

Sincerely,
Rachel Kline