



Music Therapy State Recognition: National Overview

The American Music Therapy Association (AMTA) and the Certification Board for Music Therapists (CBMT) collaborate on the State Recognition Operational Plan, a joint national initiative to achieve official state recognition of the music therapy profession and the MT-BC credential required for competent practice.

Current Recognition

California (https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200AB1540)

Music therapy title protection established in 2019. Practitioners must hold the MT-BC credential.

Connecticut (<https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Practitioner-Licensing--Investigations/Music-Therapit/Music-Therapist>)

Music therapy title protection established in 2016. Practitioners must hold the MT-BC credential.

Georgia (<http://sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/59>)

Music therapy license established in 2012. Overseen by the Secretary of State using a volunteer Advisory Council.

Iowa

Music therapy title protection signed into law 2021. Practitioners must hold the MT-BC credential.

Maryland

Music therapy license signed into law 2021. Overseen by the newly expanded State Board of Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language-Pathologists, and Music Therapists.

Nevada (http://dpbh.nv.gov/Reg/MusicTherapist/MusicTherapists_-_Home/)

Music therapy license established in 2011. Overseen by the State Board of Health using an Advisory Council.

New Jersey

Music therapy license created January 2020. Overseen by the State Board of Creative Arts and Activities Therapies.

North Dakota (<http://ndbihc.org/>)

Music therapy license established in 2011. Overseen by the newly created Board of Integrative Health.

Oklahoma (http://www.okmedicalboard.org/music_therapists)

Music therapy license established in 2016. Managed by the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision.

Oregon (<http://www.oregon.gov/OHA/PH/HLO/Pages/Board-Music-Therapy-Program.aspx>)

Music therapy license established in 2015. Managed by the Health Licensing Office.

Rhode Island (<http://health.ri.gov/licenses/detail.php?id=287>)

Music therapy registry established in 2015. Managed by the Department of Health.

Utah (<https://dopl.utah.gov/music/>)

Music therapy state certification established in 2014. Managed by the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing.

Virginia

Music therapy license created March 2020. Overseen by the Board of Social Work.

Wisconsin (<https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/Professions/MusicTherapist/Default.aspx>)

Music therapy registry established in 1998.



AMTA and CBMT State Recognition Operational Plan **Desired Outcomes**

- Establishing a state-based public protection program to ensure that “music therapy” is provided by individuals who meet established training qualifications.
- Improving consumer access to music therapy services

Inclusion within state health and education regulations can also have a positive impact on employment opportunities funding options, while meeting requirements of treatment facilities and accrediting organizations.

Anticipated 2022 Legislative Activity

The following states have introduced or are planning to introduce legislation to recognize music therapy education, clinical training, and credentialing qualifications:

**Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri,
Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Ohio,
Pennsylvania, Vermont, Washington**

State Legislator Resources

The following legislators have agreed to serve as resources for state legislative offices interested in learning more about successful passage of music therapy licensure legislation:

Senator and President Pro Tempore Moises (Mo) Denis (NV)
Moises.Denis@sen.state.nv.us

Delegate and Speaker Pro Tem Sheree Sample-Hughes (MD)
sheree.sample.hughes@house.state.md.us

Senator Jill Holtzman Vogel (VA)
district27@senate.virginia.gov

Senator Malcolm Augustine (MD)
Malcolm.augustine@senate.state.md.us

For more information, please visit www.musictherapy.org and www.cbmt.org