

Professional Licensure Board Requirements in States Music Therapy

Updated December 2023

STATE	State Licensing Agency & Details
Alabama	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Alaska	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Arizona	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Arkansas	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
California	Music therapy title protection was established in 2019. After July 31, 2019, an individual who provides music therapy shall not refer to oneself using the title of "Board Certified Music Therapist" unless the individual is an MT-BC.
Colorado	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Connecticut	Music therapy title protection in Connecticut was transformed to a music therapy license in June of 2023. Governor Ned Lamont signed into law HB 6733, which included language to create a music therapy license overseen by the Department of Public Health. Music therapy title protection was initially established in 2016. After October 2016, music therapy services can only be provided by those who hold the MT-BC credential, and only an MT-BC can call themselves a music therapist or a Certified Music Therapist. Application procedures for licensure can be found on their website .
Delaware	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
District of Columbia	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Florida	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Georgia	A music therapy license was established in 2012. Music therapists are required to be licensed in the state of Georgia. Visit the Georgia Secretary of State's website for more information and an application. Contact info@cbmt.org to have verification of your MT-BC certification electronically sent to the Georgia Professional Licensing Board.
Hawaii	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Idaho	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Illinois	A music therapy license was established in 2022. On Friday, May 27, 2022, Governor J. B. Pritzker signed into law SB 2243. This bill establishes a music therapy license within the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation and a Music Therapy Advisory Board to assist the Department in matters concerning the license. Application procedures for licensure are currently being developed and will be posted when complete.
Indiana	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Iowa	Music therapy title protection was established in 2021. On May 20, 2021, Governor Kim Reynolds of Iowa signed into law HF 285, legislation that established title protection for music therapists. Individuals may not refer to themselves as a music therapist, a board-certified music therapist, or an MT-BC without holding the MT-BC credential.
Kansas	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Kentucky	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Louisiana	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Maine	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Maryland	A music therapy license was established in 2021. Maryland SB 82 was enacted into law on June 2, 2021. This bill establishes a music therapy license overseen by the newly expanded Board of Audiologists, Hearing-Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists. Procedures for applying for licensure are available on their website .
Massachusetts	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.

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Michigan	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Minnesota	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Mississippi	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Missouri	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Montana	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Nebraska	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Nevada	A music therapy license was established in 2011. According to the Nevada State Health Division, Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance, music therapists must be licensed. Obtain an application from their website .
New Hampshire	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
New Jersey	A music therapy license was established in 2020. The Music Therapist Licensing Act was signed into law by Governor Phil Murphy on January 21, 2020, requiring licensure for music therapists to practice in New Jersey. Application procedures for licensure are currently being developed and will be posted when complete.
New Mexico	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
New York	Music therapy is not licensed in NYS at this time, but music therapists with a master's or higher degree in creative arts therapy or music therapy from a program registered by the NYS Education Department or determined by the department to be the substantial equivalence thereof are eligible to apply for the LCAT (Licensed Creative Arts Therapist). To practice Creative Arts Therapy and use the titles Creative Arts Therapist, Licensed Creative Arts Therapist, or any derivative thereof within New York State, a license as a Creative Arts Therapist must be obtained unless otherwise exempt under the law. Visit their website for an application. To apply for the music therapy board examination option for NY State Licensure or to have your examination scores mailed to the NY State Education Department of the Professions, contact CBMT at info@cbmt.org or by telephone at 800.765.2268.
North Carolina	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
North Dakota	A music therapy license was established in 2011. The bill to license music therapists was enacted on April 26, 2011, under the State Board of Integrative Health Care. Music Therapists are required to be licensed. Obtain an application from their website .
Ohio	On Tuesday, July 4, 2023, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine signed into law HB33, which includes language that creates a music therapy license under the State's Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist Board. Application procedures for licensure are being developed and will be posted when complete.
Oklahoma	A music therapy license was established in 2016. As of November 2016, music therapy licensure is managed under the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision. An application is available on their website .
Oregon	A music therapy license was established in 2015. Music therapy licensure in Oregon is managed through the Health Licensing Office. More information is available on their website , including the application .
Pennsylvania	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Puerto Rico	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Rhode Island	A music therapy registry was established in 2014 and is managed by the Department of Health. Obtain an application .
South Carolina	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
South Dakota	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Tennessee	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Texas	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
US Virgin Islands	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.

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Utah	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Vermont	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Virginia	A music therapy license was established in 2020. On March 3, 2020, Governor Ralph Northam signed HB1562 into law, establishing a music therapy license. This license must be obtained to call oneself a music therapist and practice music therapy in Virginia. Application procedures are being developed and will be posted here when available.
Washington	A music therapy license was established in 2023. On April 25, 2023, Governor Jay Inslee signed into law SHP 1247. This bill creates a music therapy license within the Department of Health and establishes a Music Therapy Advisory Committee to assist the Department in matters concerning the license. Application procedures will be posted here when they become available.
West Virginia	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.
Wisconsin	Music Therapists may register with the Wisconsin Department of Regulations and Licensing to be listed on the Wisconsin Music Therapy Registry. This registration is voluntary; however, it may be required by some employers and for some reimbursements. Obtain an application .
Wyoming	This state does not require a state license or certification to practice music therapy in this state.

Adapted from the Certification Board for Music Therapists. (2023). <https://www.cbmt.org/state-requirements/#toggle-id-1-closed>