



Music Therapy State Recognition: National Overview

The American Music Therapy Association (AMTA) and the Certification Board for Music Therapists (CBMT) collaborate to achieve state recognition of the music therapy profession and the MT-BC credential required for safe and competent practice.

States with Music Therapy Licensure

- Connecticut** Licensure est. in 2023. Managed by the Department of Public Health. https://portal.ct.gov/dph/practitioner-licensing--investigations/music-therapist/licensing-requirements?language=en_US
- Georgia** License est. in 2012. Managed by the Secretary of State through an Advisory Council. <https://sos.ga.gov/georgia-board-music-therapy>
- Illinois** License est. in 2022. Managed by the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation through a Music Therapy Advisory Board. <https://idfpr.illinois.gov/profs/music-therapist.html>
- Maryland** License est. in 2021. Managed by the State Board of Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists. <https://health.maryland.gov/boardsahs/Pages/licensing.aspx>
- Mississippi** License est. in 2025. Managed by the State Board of Health using a Music Therapy Advisory Committee
- Nevada** License est. in 2011. Managed by the Nevada Health Authority using a Music Therapy Advisory Group. <https://www.hcqc.nv.gov/regulatory/occupational-licensing/music-therapist-licensing/>
- New Jersey** License est. in 2020. Managed by the State Board of Creative Arts and Activities Therapies.
- North Dakota** License est. in 2011. Managed by the Board of Integrative Health. <https://www.ndbihc.org/>
- Ohio** License est. in 2023. Overseen by the Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board through a Music Therapist Professional Standards Committee. <https://cswmft.ohio.gov/get-licensed/music-therapists>
- Oklahoma** License est. in 2016. Overseen by the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision through a Music Therapy Committee. https://www.okmedicalboard.org/music_therapists
- Oregon** License est. in 2015. Managed by the Health Licensing Office. <http://www.oregon.gov/OHA/PH/HLO/Pages/Board-Music-Therapy-Program.aspx>
- Rhode Island** Registry est. in 2015. Managed by the Department of Health. <http://health.ri.gov/licenses/detail.php?id=287>
- Tennessee** State Certification est. in 2024. Overseen by the Board of Examiners in Psychology through a Music Therapy Advisory Committee.
- Virginia** License est. in 2020. Overseen by the Board of Social Work through an Advisory Board on Music Therapy. <https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/Boards/SocialWork/ApplicantResources/MusicTherapist/>
- Washington** License est. in 2023. Managed by the Department of Health through a Music Therapy Advisory Committee. <https://doh.wa.gov/licenses-permits-and-certificates/professions-new-renew-or-update/music-therapist/licensing-information>



States with Other Forms of Recognition

California	Title protection est. in 2019. Practitioners must hold the MT-BC credential.
Iowa	Title protection est. in 2021. Practitioners must hold the MT-BC credential.
Utah	State certification est. in 2014. Managed by the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing. https://dopl.utah.gov/music/
Wisconsin	Registry est. in 1998. https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/Professions/MusicTherapist/Default.aspx

AMTA and CBMT State Recognition Operational Plan

Desired Outcomes

Outcome 1: To establish a state-based public protection program to ensure that “music therapy” is provided by individuals who meet established training qualifications

Outcome 2: To improve consumer access to music therapy services

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

2026 Legislative Activity

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

**Alabama, Florida, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan,
Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin**

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