

## 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. Desired outcomes include improving consumer access to music therapy services and establishing a state-based public protection program to ensure that “music therapy” is provided by individuals who meet established training qualifications. 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.

### Current Recognition

**California** ([https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201920200AB1540](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200AB1540))

Music therapy title protection signed into law 2019. Practitioners must hold the MT-BC credential.

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

**Nevada** ([http://dph.nv.gov/Reg/MusicTherapist/MusicTherapists\\_-\\_Home/](http://dph.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](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** ([http://www.dopl.utah.gov/licensing/music\\_therapy.html](http://www.dopl.utah.gov/licensing/music_therapy.html))

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.

### 2020 Legislative Activity

The following states have introduced or are planning to introduce legislation to recognize music therapy education, clinical training, and credentialing qualifications: **Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont, Washington.**

*For more information, please visit [www.musictherapy.org](http://www.musictherapy.org) and [www.cbmt.org](http://www.cbmt.org)*