



HB1462: Music Therapy Practice Act

Currently, the profession of Music Therapy is not officially recognized by the state of Oklahoma. This results in unqualified professionals providing services to the public and calling themselves “Music Therapists” without having the appropriate knowledge and clinical training. The citizens of the state of Oklahoma cannot be guaranteed to receive safe treatment unless the practice of Music Therapy is limited to state licensed Music Therapists who have completed qualifying education requirements and obtain the national Board Certification credential (MT-BC) from the Certification Board for Music Therapists.

Music Therapists of Oklahoma would like your support of HB1462. Some important facts about the bill:

- The title of “Music Therapy” would be a protected title
- Professionals who obtain the national credential (MT-BC) recognized by the profession to practice music therapy will be licensed as Music Therapists in the state of Oklahoma for no additional cost to the state
- This legislation would not restrict others from using music within their own domains, however it would recognize Music Therapy as a separate entity, so that the public could identify qualified providers

Music Therapy in the State of Oklahoma:

- Music Therapy is the clinical and evidence-based use of music interventions to accomplish individualized goals within a therapeutic relationship by a professional who has completed an undergraduate and/or graduate degree in music therapy from an approved university program, including at least 1200 hours of supervised clinical training, and holds the MT-BC credential
- Over **193** individuals receive music therapy services in Oklahoma each year. Unfortunately, many more people who could possibly benefit from music therapy services have no access to services due to a lack of recognition by the state.
- As of December 2010, 24 nationally Board-Certified Music Therapists were practicing in the state.
- More than **10** facilities in the state of Oklahoma offer Music Therapy services, including hospitals, adult day centers, schools, and behavioral and mental health agencies

- Although Southwestern State University offers a nationally approved bachelors level music therapy training program, most graduates seek clinical internships and employment outside of Oklahoma due to the lack of professional recognition and funding for services in our state.
- Proposed changes will require that a music therapist have the correct training and possess the nationally recognized credential administered by the Certification Board for Music Therapists. These changes are essential for insuring the safety of those being served as board certified music therapists work within a scope of practice, adhere to a code of professional practice, and demonstrate current competency in the profession. In addition, board certified music therapists must meet extensive, continuing education and recertification requirements every five years.

American Music Therapy Association (AMTA)

www.musictherapy.org

Certification Board for Music Therapists (CBMT)

www.cbmt.org

FACILITIES SERVED BY MUSIC THERAPISTS

(January 2010)

Music Therapists in Oklahoma are serving individuals from birth through end of life in multiple facilities across the state. Additional services are also being provided through private practice.

Canadian County

Yukon High School, Yukon, OK (4 hr/wk contract)

Cherokee County

Help-in-Crisis/HUG, Tahlequah, OK (1 Full-time Position/Program Manager)

Cleveland County

Full Circle Senior Adult Day Center, Norman, OK (6 hr/mo contract)

Custer County

Good Neighbors Care: Weatherwood, Clinton, OK (10 hr/wk contract)
INTEGRIS Western Oklahoma Hospice: Clinton, OK (10 hrs/wk contract)

Garfield County

Enid Counseling & Diagnostic Center, Enid, OK (1 Contracted Position)
Jennifer Sullivan Counseling and Music Therapy, Enid, OK (Private Practice)
Integris Bass Baptist Healthcare System, Enid, OK (1 Full-time Position)
Meadowlake Mental Health/Generations (1 Part-time Position)
Northern Oklahoma Resource Center, Enid, OK (2 Full-time Positions)
Hospice Circle of Love, Enid, OK (3hr/wk contract)

Oklahoma County

The Children's Center, Bethany, OK (2 Full-time Positions)
Integris Jim Thorpe Rehabilitation Hospital, Oklahoma City, OK (1 Full-time Position)
Special Care, Inc. Oklahoma City, OK (1 Full-time Position)

Payne County

The Rise School of Stillwater, Stillwater, OK (1 Contracted Position)
Head Start of Stillwater, Stillwater, OK (1 Contracted Position)
Stillwater Public Schools – One Campus, Stillwater, OK (1 Contracted Position)
Perry Independent School District, Perry, OK (1 Contracted Position)

Rogers

STAR Speech Therapy & Rehabilitation, Claremore, OK (2hr/wk contract)

Tulsa County

Crossroads Counseling & Consultation, Tulsa, OK (2 hr/wk contract)



