



# American Music Therapy Association, Inc.

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## American Music Therapy Association

AMTA was founded in 1998 as a result of the union of the American Association for Music Therapy, (founded in 1971), and the National Association for Music Therapy, (founded in 1950), to ensure the progressive development of the therapeutic use of music in rehabilitation, special education, and community settings. AMTA is committed to the advancement of education, training, professional standards, credentials, and research in support of the music therapy profession.

### GOVERNING BODIES

AMTA is governed by a 15-member Executive Board which consists of both elected and appointed officers. Board meetings are held two or three times each year. Policies are set by an Assembly of Delegates consisting of representatives from each of the Association's seven regional chapters. Fourteen standing committees represent the areas of: Academic Program Approval, Internship Approval, Continuing Education, Government Relations, Reimbursement, Research, Clinical Practice, Communication and Technology, Affiliate Relations, Employment and Public Relations, International Relations, Membership, and Professional Advocacy.

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership in AMTA consists of nine categories: professional, associate, student, inactive, retired, affiliate, patron, life, and honorary life. Over 3,500 individuals hold current AMTA membership.

### CERTIFICATION

A separate, independent organization, known as the Certification Board for Music Therapists (CBMT), certifies music therapists. CBMT administers a national music therapy certification examination that is officially recognized by the National Commission on Certifying Agencies. The examination measures the individual's skills, knowledge, and ability to engage in professional music therapy practice.

### QUALITY ASSURANCE

Music therapists participate in quality assurance reviews of clinical programs within their facilities. In addition, AMTA provides several mechanisms for monitoring the quality of music therapy programs that include: Standards of Practice, a Code of Ethics, a system for Peer Review, a Judicial Review Board, and an Ethics Board.

### PUBLICATIONS

AMTA's publications are excellent resources for practitioners and others. Official publications include: the *Journal of Music Therapy*, a quarterly research-oriented journal; *Music Therapy Perspectives*, a semi-annual, practice-oriented journal; *Music Therapy Matters*, AMTA's newsletter; and a variety of other monographs, bibliographies, and brochures.

### CONFERENCES

AMTA holds an annual national meeting for the purpose of professional presentations and conducting association business. The conference is held in the fall of the year. Other symposiums and workshops are held as needed. In addition, each of AMTA's 8 regions holds a conference in the spring of the year.

### AFFILIATIONS

AMTA holds organizational membership in various coalitions including, the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities, the National Alliance of Pupil Services Organizations, and the National Rehabilitation Caucus.