

Creative Arts Therapies Training and Certification Requirements Overview 2023

National Coalition of Creative Arts Therapies Associations, Inc. (NCCATA)

	Art Therapy	Music Therapy	Dance/Movement Therapy	Drama Therapy	Poetry Therapy
National Professional Association	American Art Therapy Association (AATA)	American Music Therapy Association (AMTA)	American Dance Therapy Association (ADTA)	North American Drama Therapy Association (NADTA)	National Association for Poetry Therapy (NAPT)
Minimum Education Level Required to Practice	Master's	Bachelor's	Master's	Master's in Drama Therapy or Related Profession	Bachelor's + Master's
Education Levels Offered	Bachelor's, Master's, Doctorate	Bachelor's, Master's, Doctorate	Master's, Doctorate	Master's, Doctorate	N/A
Education Program Accreditation	CAAHEP-Accreditation Council for Art Therapy Education (ACATE) (and institution-specific)	National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) accreditation required		Program accreditation issued by the NADTA	N/A
Education Program Approval		AMTA program approval	Issued by ADTA Committee on Approval		
Minimum Credentials or Certification Required to Practice	Provisional Registered Art Therapist (ATR-P) Registered Art Therapist (ATR)	Music Therapist – Board Certified (MT-BC) Exam required	Registered Dance/Movement Therapist (R-DMT)	Registered Drama Therapist (RDT)	Certified Applied Poetry Facilitator (CAPF) Bachelor's level
Professional Credentialing Agency	Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc. (ATCB)	The Certification Board for Music Therapists (CBMT)	Dance/Movement Therapy Certification Board (DMTCB)	NADTA	The Int'l Federation for Biblio-Poetry Therapy (IFB/PT)
Training Required for Credentials	700 (minimum) hrs supervised practicum during Master's, minimum 1000 paid clinical hrs post-graduate w/ 100 hrs supervision	1200 hrs supervised clinical training, includes practicum during coursework and internship	200 hrs supervised fieldwork, 700 hr practicum w/ 70 hr supervision during Master's	800 hr supervised practicum during Master's, 1500 paid clinical hrs post-graduate	CAPF + CPT 440 hrs training/supervision, PTR 975 hrs training/supervision

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Additional Credentials Available	Provisional Registered Art Therapist (ATR-P) Registered Art Therapist – Board Certified (ATR-BC) Exam required Art Therapy Certified Supervisor. (ATCS) Requires maintaining ATR-BC credential	Professional Designations, MT-BC REQUIRED: Hospice and Palliative Care Music Therapy Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Music Therapist Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapist Professional Designations, MT-BC NOT required Fellow-Guided Imagery and Music Neurologic Music Therapist	Board Certified Dance/Movement Therapist (BC-DMT) 2400 paid hrs + Exam required	Registered Drama Therapist/Board Certified Trainer (RDT/BCT) 5 yrs experience as RDT + Exam required	Certified Poetry Therapist (CPT), Registered Poetry Therapist (PTR) Master's + Licensure in a mental health field required
Legally Defensible Scope of Practice	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Code of Professional Practice/Ethics	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Continuing Education Required	100 CEUs every 5 years ATR-BC only	100 CEUs every 5 years	100 CEUs every 5 years BC-DMT only	30 CEUs every 2 yrs for RDT/Attendance at a BCT training 1x during 2 yr cycle	20 CEUs every 2 yrs
State License / Recognition Established	In several states (contact info@arttherapy.org)	17 states as of 8-2023 (contact info@musictherapy.org)	In several states (contact info@adta.org)	In NY	N/A