

CBMT Myth Busters

There are many myths regarding volunteer service with CBMT that CBMT would like to clarify.

- **You need a Masters or PHD to serve.**
 - Service on the Committees can be representative of the certificant body. Sixty percent of all MT-BCs are Bachelor trained therapists. The perspectives of newly certified and experienced therapists with Bachelor degrees are needed to represent the total group of current certificants.
- **It requires more time than I can commit to giving.**
 - CBMT service involves a time commitment, but is flexible at the same time. Most work is completed at the committee meetings, and generous deadlines are provided when work is requested during the year.
- **You need a lot of experience to serve.**
 - In order to represent the entire certificant body, certificants of all levels of education and experience are needed.
- **I can't afford to serve.**
 - All expenses for Board and Committee service are paid for or reimbursed by CBMT.
- **CBMT is staffed by professionals who do all the work.**
 - CBMT does have a staff of part-time employees who administrate and coordinate much of the work, but the policy related work, the exam development and the Approved Provider review work is completed by volunteer committee members.
- **You have to be invited to serve.**
 - CBMT service is open to anyone who wishes to apply. A "Call for Nominations" is sent out every year in July which outlines available positions for the upcoming year. Applications are due in September and are reviewed by the Board Development Committee, then by the individual committees.
- **Committee work is done by professionals.**
 - Committee work is done by MT-BCs representing fellow certificants. Knowledge is drawn from their expertise as music therapy clinicians, educators or administrators in the profession.
- **I don't have enough music therapy connections.**
 - Connections, while valuable, are not considered when applications are reviewed for service. Two references are requested, and they would be the connections that would be considered.
- **I already submitted Willingness-to-Serve applications but have never been selected.**
 - CBMT is charged to, as best as possible, select candidates that would represent the overall certificant population with representation in geographic area, age, ethnicity, race and gender, as well as professional education and music therapy practice area. Needs are identified and the "Call for Nominations" is made by determining who would best represent the overall certificant population in conjunction with existing committee or board members. This yearly evolution is why the needs change from year to year and why specific demographics may not have been what were needed at the time of application.
- **I'm too busy with my job to get involved.**
 - Significant CBMT work is completed at regularly scheduled meetings and sufficient time is allotted to complete assigned tasks. There is still important work that needs to be done outside of the meetings and only you know if you have the time and energy to serve. There will always be opportunities for volunteer service to continue the mission and work of CBMT.