



Music Therapy Board Certification

Board Certification Domains – 2025: Self-Assessment Examination Bibliography

Effective October 27, 2025

Overview

This reference list is not exhaustive but aims to introduce you to some textbooks and materials for practicing music therapists. Items are categorized by the CBMT Board Certification Domains. The inclusion of these resources does not imply endorsement by CBMT. "Primary" indicates broad sources of information (e.g., "An Introduction to Approaches in Music Therapy") or key AMTA materials (e.g., Code of Ethics, Professional Competencies). "Secondary" sources are those that have more specialized information and provide a deeper understanding of a particular aspect or population in music therapy (e.g. "Music in Special Education" or "An Introduction to Music Therapy Research").

Domain I: Safety: 6 items

Primary Resources

- American Music Therapy Association and Certification Board for Music Therapists. (2015). *Scope of Music Therapy Practice*. Silver Spring, MD and Downingtown, PA: Authors.
- Beer, L. & Birnbaum, J. (2023) *Trauma-Informed Music Therapy*. New York: Routledge.
- Murakami, B. (2021). The Music Therapy and Harm Model (MTHM). Conceptualizing harm within music therapy practice. *ECOS - Revista Científica de Musicoterapia y Disciplinas Afines*, 6(1), e003.
- Universal Precautions as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Domain II: Referral, Assessment, Interpretation of Assessment, and Treatment Planning: 39 items

Primary Resources

- Bruscia, K. E. (2014). *Defining Music Therapy* (3rd ed.). Gilsum, NH: Barcelona.
- Davis, W., Gfeller, K., & Thaut, M. (2008). *An Introduction to Music Therapy: Theory and Practice* (3rd ed). Silver Spring, MD: American Music Therapy Association.
- Hanser, S. B. (2018). *The New Music Therapist's Handbook* (3rd ed). Boston: Berklee.
- Knight, Andrew J., LaGasse, A. Blythe, & Clair, A. (2018) *Music Therapy: An Introduction to the Profession*. Silver Spring, MD: American Music Therapy Association.
- Thaut, M. (2005). *Rhythm, Music, and the Brain*. New York: Routledge.
- Viega, M., dos Santos, A., & Wheeler, B.L. (2025) *Music Therapy Handbook* (2nd ed.). New York: The Guilford Press.

Secondary Resources

- Adamek, M.S. & Darrow, A.A. (2018). *Music in Special Education*. (3rd ed.). Silver Spring, MD: American Music Therapy Association.
- Hillard, R., & Brooks, J. (2005). *Hospice and Palliative Care Music Therapy: A Guide to Program Development and Clinical Care*. King of Prussia, PA: Rittenhouse.
- Peters, J. (2016). *Music therapy: An Introduction* (3rd ed.). Springfield, IL: Charles C Thomas.
- Silverman, M.J. (2022). *Music therapy in mental health for illness management and recovery*. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Domain III: Treatment Implementation and Documentation: 60 items

Primary Resources

- American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (5th ed.)*. Arlington, VA: American Psychiatric Publishing.
- Beer, L. & Birnbaum, J. (2023) *Trauma-Informed Music Therapy*. New York: Routledge.
- Belgrave, M. & Kim, S.-A. (2020) *Music Therapy in a Multicultural Context*. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.
- Darrow, A. (2008). *An Introduction to Approaches in Music Therapy (2nd ed.)*. Silver Spring, MD: American Music Therapy Association.
- Davis, W., Gfeller, K., & Thaut, M. (2008). *An Introduction to Music Therapy: Theory and Practice (3rd ed.)*. Silver Spring, MD: American Music Therapy Association.
- Gardstrom, S. (2007). *Music Therapy Improvisations for Groups: Essential Leadership Competencies*. Gilsum, NH: Barcelona Publishers.
- Hanser, S. B. (2018). *The New Music Therapist's Handbook (3rd ed.)* Boston: Berklee.
- Knight, Andrew J., LaGasse, A. Blythe, et al. (2018) *Music Therapy: An Introduction to the Profession*. Silver Spring, MD: American Music Therapy Association.
- Viega, M., dos Santos, A., & Wheeler, B.L. (2025) *Music Therapy Handbook (2nd ed.)*. New York: The Guilford Press.

Secondary Resources

- Allen, J. (2013). *Guidelines for Music Therapy Practice in Adult Medical Care. (1st ed.)*. Gilsum, NH: Barcelona Publishers.
- Bradt, J. (2013). *Guidelines for Music Therapy Practice in Pediatric Care. (1st ed.)*. Gilsum, NH: Barcelona Publishers.
- Clair, A. A., & Memmott, J. (2009). *Therapeutic Uses of Music with Older Adults (2nd ed.)*. Silver Spring, MD: American Music Therapy Association.
- Eyre, L., Bruscia, K. (2013). *Guidelines for Music Therapy Practice in Mental Health Care. (1st ed.)*. Gilsum, NH: Barcelona Publishers.
- Hintz, M. (2013). *Guidelines for Music Therapy Practice in Developmental Health. (1st ed.)*. Gilsum, NH: Barcelona Publishers.
- Silverman, M.J. (2022). *Music therapy in mental health for illness management and recovery*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Whitehead-Pleaux, A., Donnenwerth, A., Robinson, B., Hardy S., Oswanski, L., Forinash, M., Hearn, M., Anderson, N., York, E. (2012). *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning: Best Practices in Music Therapy*. *Music Therapy Perspectives*, 30(2), 158-166.

Domain IV: Evaluation and Termination of Treatment: 13 items

Primary Resources

- Davis, W., Gfeller, K., & Thaut, M. (2008). *An Introduction to Music Therapy: Theory and Practice* (3rd ed). Silver Spring, MD: American Music Therapy Association.
- Hanser, S. B. (2018). *The New Music Therapist's Handbook*. (3rd ed.) Boston: Berklee.
- Knight, Andrew J., LaGasse, A. Blythe, et al. (2018) *Music Therapy: An Introduction to the Profession*. Silver Spring, MD: American Music Therapy Association.
- Viega, M., dos Santos, A., & Wheeler, B.L. (2025) *Music Therapy Handbook* (2nd ed.). New York: The Guilford Press

Secondary Resources

- Silverman, M.J. (2022). *Music therapy in mental health for illness management and recovery*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Domain V. Professional Development and Responsibilities: 12 items

Primary Resources

- American Music Therapy Association. (2019). Code of Ethics. Silver Spring, MD: Author.
- American Music Therapy Association. (2013). Professional Competencies. Silver Spring, MD: Author.
- American Music Therapy Association and Certification Board for Music Therapists. (2015). Scope of Music Therapy Practice. Silver Spring, MD and Downingtown, PA: Authors.
- American Music Therapy Association. (2015). Standards of Clinical Practice (revised). Silver Spring, MD: Author.
- Beer, L. & Birnbaum, J. (2023) Trauma-Informed Music Therapy. New York: Routledge.
- Belgrave, M. & Kim, S.-A. (2020) Music Therapy in a Multicultural Context. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.
- Certification Board for Music Therapists. (2025). Code of Professional Practice (revised). Downingtown, PA: Author.
- Davis, W., Gfeller, K., & Thaut, M. (2008). An Introduction to Music Therapy: Theory and Practice (3rd ed). Silver Spring, MD: American Music Therapy Association.
- Dileo, C. (2021). Ethical thinking in music therapy. Cherry Hill, NJ: Jeffrey Books.
- **Reimbursement and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) (2011). Silver Spring, MD: American Music Therapy Association.**
- Viega, M., dos Santos, A., & Wheeler, B.L. (2025) Music Therapy Handbook (2nd ed.). New York: The Guilford Press.

Secondary Resources

- Silverman, M.J. (2022). Music therapy in mental health for illness management and recovery. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Wheeler, B. L. (Ed.). (2016). An Introduction to Music Therapy Research. (3rd ed). Gilsum, NH: Barcelona Publishers.