

RECOMMENDED FEE SCHEDULE

FOR NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, AND
NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR



AS OF JULY, 2023

DEFINITION OF MUSIC THERAPY

The Canadian Association of Music Therapists (CAMT) defines Music Therapy as the following: A discipline in which Certified Music Therapists (MTAs) use music purposefully within therapeutic relationships to support development, health, and well-being. Music therapists use music safely and ethically to address human needs within cognitive, communicative, emotional, musical, physical, social, and spiritual domains. (CAMT, 2020)

MUSIC THERAPIST QUALIFICATIONS

The following training requirements and professional qualifications must be met in order to receive the designation of Certified Music Therapist (MTA):

- Completion of a minimum Bachelor of Music Therapy degree at a CAMT-recognized educational institution.
- Completion of a 1000-hour clinical internship under the supervision of a CAMT-Approved MTA Supervisor.
- Completion of the certification exam of the Certification Board for Music Therapists.
- Uphold membership in good standing with the CAMT.

In addition, MTAs are required to adhere to the CAMT Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice and engage in Continuing Education opportunities to maintain their credentials.

Certified Music Therapists are trained specifically in how to use music to meet therapeutic goals appropriate to the populations they work with. This occurs within the context of a therapeutic relationship built on safety, care, trust, and respect. MTAs are also well-rounded and skilled musicians, with specialized knowledge of various musical repertoire, styles, and instruments. The work of Certified Music Therapists includes assessing clients to develop personalized clinical plans and goals, and applying specific music therapy techniques to help meet those goals.

WAGE GUIDELINES

The following fee guidelines have been established by the Atlantic Association for Music Therapy with the aim to assist employers and music therapists in providing fair compensation for the delivery of music therapy services. The fees outlined below are informed by data collected from music therapists practicing in Atlantic Canada, as well as wage recommendations from the CAMT. Certified Music Therapists (MTAs) work in a variety of settings, including but not limited to the following: hospitals, educational & community settings, long-term care, palliative care, mental health & addictions facilities, and in private practice. This document will therefore distinguish and provide information for music therapists working in private practice, conducting contracted work, and/or employed by facilities.



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PRIVATE PRACTICE MUSIC THERAPY RATES

Group Sessions (minimum rates):

60 minutes: \$100+

45 minutes: \$80+

30 minutes: \$60+

Plus HST where applicable.

Individual Sessions (minimum rates):

60 minutes: \$80+

45 minutes: \$60+

30 minutes: \$50+

Plus HST where applicable.

Music therapists consider many factors when setting their prices. These may include but are not limited to the following:

- Amount of relevant experience & education
- Sources of payment (e.g., individuals, grants, facilities, insurance)
- HST charges
- Number of clients in a group
- Consecutive hours worked
- If documentation (e.g., session notes) is included in their fees

Some music therapists may choose to offer sliding scale rates for exigent circumstances.

ADDITIONAL BILLABLE SERVICES & RATES

Music therapists may also charge for the following items at a minimum rate of \$60 per hour, billable by 15-minute increments:

- Progress Reports
- Documentation
- Creation of Session Materials (e.g., worksheets, audio recordings, etc.)
- Completion of Forms
- Consultation & Meetings
- Review of Records
- Requested Letters & Proposals
- In-Services & Presentations

The following items may be charged at the full session rate:

- Initial Assessments
- Missed Session or Cancelled Session (with less than 24-hrs notice)
- Court Attendance & Preparation
- Supervision

Other: Supplies (at cost)

Travel: Music therapists may charge for travel costs in addition to their session rates. Travel costs may be determined by distance travelled, fuel cost, time required to travel, etc.

If you have any questions, or wish to advertise an upcoming position, please contact the AAMT at president.aamt@gmail.com or visit the AAMT website at www.atlanticassociationmt.com



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FACILITY MUSIC THERAPY RATES

For long term appointments (6+ months) in a facility, encompassing no less than 15 hours per week:

Employed minimum rate: \$35.00 per hour

- When including provision of paid sick time, paid vacation, pension contributions, and health benefits.

Contracted minimum rate: \$43.75 per hour

- When not including the above listed benefits (25% standard increase).

Contracts encompassing less than 15 hours per week are subject to Private Practice fees, billable per session, as well as Additional Billable Services.

See rate information above.

Employers should consider the following when determining wage upon hire and potential wage increases throughout employment:

- Experience based evaluation (e.g., amount of prior work experience, yearly % increases).
- Education based evaluation (e.g., having/obtaining relevant Masters' level education, having/obtaining additional professional certifications and/or training).
- Cost of living increases (e.g., livable wage and economic inflation).

Music Therapists can be expected to spend 40% - 60% of their time in a facility conducting groups and/or individual sessions (e.g., between 3-5 session hours within an 8-hr workday). This distribution is determined based on the needs of residents/clients and overall facility needs. The remaining time should include documentation, interprofessional / care team meetings, clinical preparation, and other relevant items to the job. It is important that the expectations of the job be consistent with both the physical, mental, and vocal health of the music therapist, as well as the most up to date recommended professional standards relevant to the population served. Music therapists who require instruments for use in a facility (such as rhythm instruments/piano/guitar etc.) may request for the purchase of these items during their term of employment.

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