

# MTABC

MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

UPDATED:  
JAN, 2023



## RECOMMENDED FEE SCHEDULE

### DEFINITION OF MUSIC THERAPY

As defined by the Canadian Association of Music Therapists (CAMT, June 2016), Music Therapy is 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.

### COMPETENCIES TO LOOK FOR WHEN HIRING A MUSIC THERAPIST

A music therapist must have completed a minimum of a Bachelor of Music Therapy degree. After graduating, music therapists are certified by the Canadian Association for Music Therapy and if qualified, will obtain the certified music therapy (MTA) credential. A music therapist should be a current member in good standing with both the MTABC and the CAMT. Membership with the CAMT ensures that the music therapist complies with the bylaws, code of ethics and standards of practice of the profession.

A music therapist should have experience and the ability to articulate the skills and knowledge about the client population. As well, the music therapist should have the ability to play at least two musical instruments and a solid repertoire of music therapy techniques and interventions appropriate to the needs of your facility. As well the music therapist should be able to describe her or his philosophy of therapy including interventions, style, approach, program plans, and expected benefits of music therapy in a given setting.

### WAGE GUIDELINES

The following fee guidelines have been established by MTABC, to assist employers and music therapists entering into contracts, in order to provide fair remuneration for work performed and expenses incurred.

**Contracted** Music Therapists charge per hour of clinical work. In addition, Music Therapists may charge for other related work as outlined below. Music Therapists may charge G.S.T. according to the rules of Canada Revenue Agency (C.R.A). Some music therapists may request that the employer cover their liability insurance, on-site instruments or mileage.

Please note: these fees do not include Music Therapists who work under a collective agreement and who are compensated according to their union's wage and benefit grid. If you would like to learn more about the benefits of hiring a music therapist as an employee or as a contractor, please visit our "contractor vs. employee" page on our website for further details. \_\_\_\_\_

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## RECOMMENDED AVERAGE CLINICAL RATE FOR CONTRACT MUSIC THERAPY SERVICES IN BC

### Independent Contractor Rate **\$60-\$100 per clinical hour**

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A written contract outlining the responsibilities of the employer and certified music therapist, as well as the agreed upon wage, should be signed by all parties prior to the start of the contract. Contracts are arranged with the individual certified music therapist and may be an informal agreement, a letter of agreement, or for institutions, a formal legal contract. All fees and session expectations should be agreed to in advance and specified in the contract.

### Private Practice Rate **\$70-\$120 per clinical hour**

Applies to individual therapy as well as privately-paid group therapy. Fees vary widely with therapist experience and training, and services offered. Certified music therapists may be required to additionally charge GST.

*\*Extended Health Care Plans and BC Medical Services Plan do not cover fees for contracted music therapists at this time. Other funding sources may be available.*

## OTHER RECOMMENDED SERVICES AND RATES

- ❖ Initial Assessment...Full session rate
- ❖ \$45.00 (minimum charge) per 30 min for any of the following:
  - Progress Report
  - Creation of Session Related Materials (e.g. audio recordings)
  - Completion of Forms
  - Consultation (in-person, phone, email, etc., with client/ care-giver/ case manager/ healthcare providers/ insurance adjustor/ other parties with approval)
  - Review of Records
  - Requested Letters & Proposals
- ❖ Travel Time...as negotiated by contractor
- ❖ Cancelled Appointment...Full session rate (with less than 24 hours notice).
- ❖ Extended cancellation (due to GI or Flu outbreaks)...Full session rate
- ❖ Court Attendance and Preparation Time... as negotiated by contractor
- ❖ Supplies.... at cost