

Music Therapy Licensure in Pennsylvania: What is it and Why it is needed

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Melanie Walborn, MT-BC

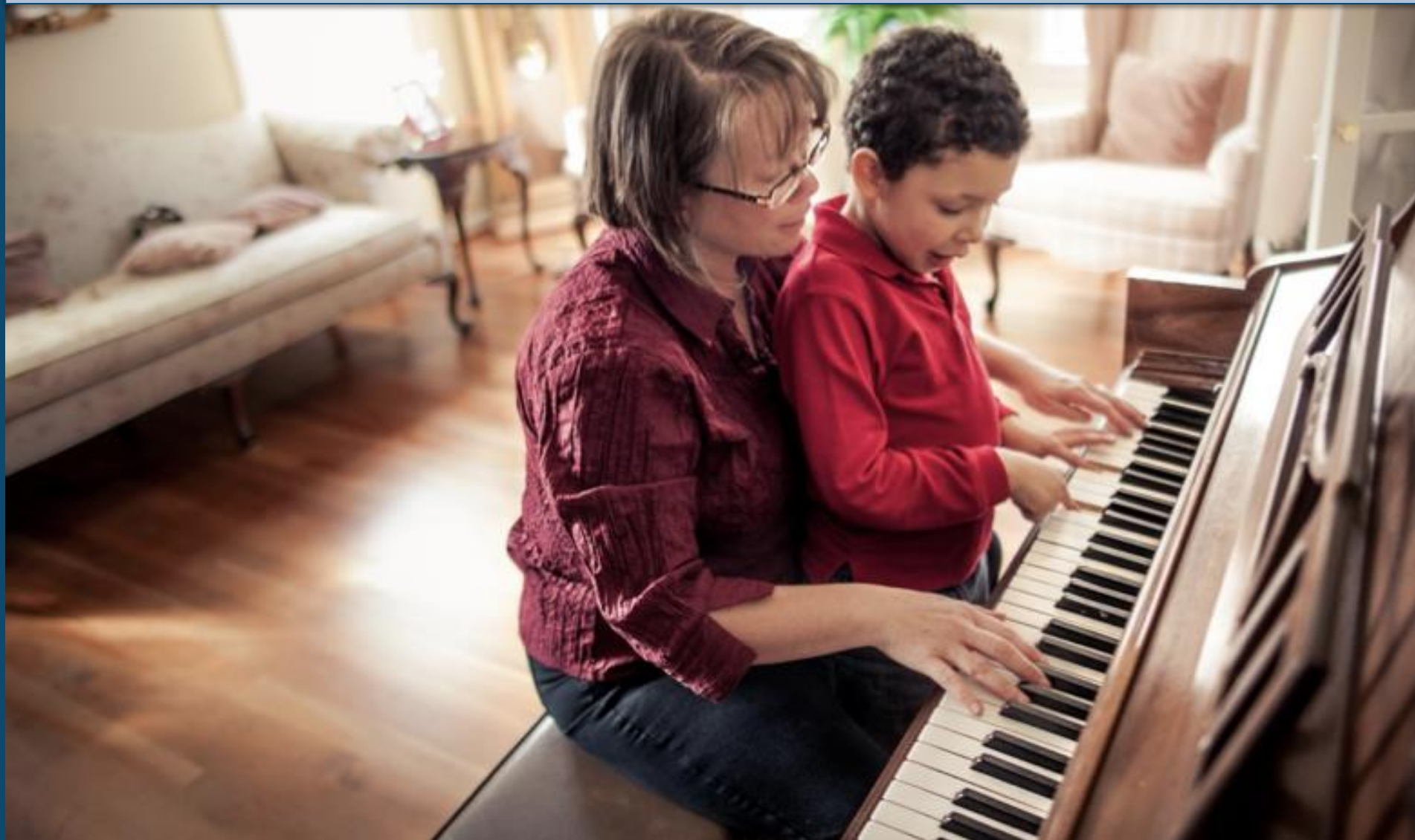
Managing Partner, WB Music Therapy,

Harrisburg PA

What is Music Therapy?

Music Therapy is an established **health profession** in which **music** is used within a **therapeutic relationship** to address physical, emotional, cognitive, and social needs of individuals.

What do music therapists do?



Music Therapist Training

Minimum training for a **Board-Certified Music Therapist (MT-BC)** includes:

- **4 year undergraduate degree in music therapy** (or equivalency)
- **6-9 month internship**
- **1200 clinical hours**
- Passing a **national board certification exam** (www.cbmt.org) to earn credential MT-BC
- Following **Code of Ethics & Standards of Clinical Practice**
- Ongoing **continuing education** credits to maintain board certification
 - 100 credits every 5 years, including ethics credits

Why We Need Music Therapy Licensure

- **Client protection**
 - Protect clients, knowing that music can cause harm when used inappropriately by non-credentialed individuals
- **Access to services**
 - Increase opportunities for clients to receive Music Therapy
- **Minimize Risk**
 - Ensure clients receive competent and qualified services from a nationally board-certified music therapist (MT-BC)

PA is a national leader in music therapy training

10 schools offering music therapy degrees

- Drexel
- Duquesne
- Elizabethtown
- Immaculata
- Marywood
- Mercyhurst
- Seton Hill
- Slippery Rock
- Temple
- West Chester

Neighbor states that have passed Licensure

- New Jersey - 2020
- Virginia - 2020
- Maryland – 2021
 - Maryland moved quickly and already has over 110 Licensed Professional Music Therapists (LPMT)
 - Maryland has 1 school with a music therapy program
 - More than 70% of Maryland LPMTs were trained at a Pennsylvania school



How can you help support music therapy licensure?

Become a Co-sponsor

Co-sponsorship memos have been introduced by

Rep. Eddie Day Pashinski

Senator Elder Vogel Jr

Mirror Bills to be introduced in the near future in both chambers

- Co-sponsor and vote “Yea” when brought to your respective chamber
- Encourage your colleagues on the respective Licensure Committees to bring the bill up for a vote in committee
- Learn about the field, observe music therapy by connecting with a music therapist in your district
- Advocate for the field in Caucus

Questions?

EMAIL

pastate.task.force@gmail.com

VISIT

PAMusicTherapy.org



Pennsylvania
Music Therapy
Task Force