



What They Do

Plan, organize, or direct medically prescribed music therapy activities designed to positively influence patients' psychological or behavioral status.

Is This For You?

Work Interests are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model).

People who tend to succeed in this career are:

Social – Enjoy working with, communicating with, and teaching people. They like helping or providing service to others.

Artistic – Interested in self-expression and working with forms and patterns. The work can be done without following a clear set of rules.

Investigative - Interested in science and logic. They like to analyze and solve problems.

Work Values are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career:

Relationships – Allow employees to provide service to others and work with co-workers in a friendly non-competitive environment.

Achievement – Results oriented, allow use of strongest abilities and provide feeling of accomplishment.

Independence – Allow employees to work on their own and make decisions.

Abilities reflect a person's aptitude to acquire skills and knowledge. The following abilities are important for success in the career:

- Oral Expression
- Oral Comprehension
- Speech Clarity
- Speech Recognition
- Written Comprehension

Skills You Need

- Social Perceptiveness – Being aware of others’ reactions and understanding why they react as they do
- Active Listening – Giving full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times
- Critical Thinking – Using logic and reasoning
- Reading Comprehension – Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents
- Service Orientation – Actively looking for ways to help people

Education & Training

Music therapists need a **bachelor’s degree in music therapy or related program.**

Where They Work

Industries which employ the largest number of music therapists are:

- Residential Treatment Centers
- Schools, Colleges, and Universities
- Elder Care Facilities
- Correctional Facilities
- Hospitals and Clinics, both Medical and Psychiatric
- Out-Patient Mental Health Agencies and Day Treatment Facilities

SD Employment & Wages

2016 Workers	2026 Workers	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Demand for Workers	Average Annual Wage
50	50	0	0%	0	\$46,330

Activities: what you might do in a day

- Treat patients using psychological therapies
- Evaluate patient function, capabilities, or health
- Develop treatment plans that use non-medical therapies
- Prepare reports summarizing patient diagnostic or care activities
- Record patient medical histories
- Interact with patients to build rapport or provide emotional support
- Monitor patient progress or responses to treatment
- Establish treatment goals
- Develop medical treatment plans
- Collaborate with healthcare professionals to plan or provide treatment

Additional References

Career OneStop

www.careeronestop.org

O*Net Online

online.onetcenter.org