

## Target Group:



## Occupational Profile

# Music Therapist

Standard Occupational Code 29-1125.02

## 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 Worker	2026 Worker	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Demand for Workers	Median 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](http://www.careeronestop.org)

### O\*Net Online

[online.onetcenter.org](http://online.onetcenter.org)