

## **Certified Therapeutic Musician Scope of Practice as Constituted by the NSBTM**

Philosophy of the certified therapeutic musician (This term is generic and includes graduates of all NSBTM-accredited therapeutic music training programs):

The practice of the certified therapeutic musician is to use the intrinsic healing elements of live music and sound to provide an environment conducive to the healing process. We define healing as movement toward mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual wholeness.

A credential for the Certified Therapeutic Musician is awarded by an NSBTM-accredited training program to an individual who has met the requirements of the certifying program. These requirements include but are not limited to the following categories:

- **Musicianship**
  - Demonstrates/applies knowledge of basic music theory and techniques
  - Improvises and plays music in a fluid, musical fashion
  - Plays appropriate repertoire
  - Is sensitive to the mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the patient, families, and staff.
  
- **Professionalism**
  - Uses appropriate (legal, ethical, moral) judgment, interpersonal skills and etiquette when interacting with patients, families, and staff; adheres to the certifying program's Code of Ethics.
  - Presents a positive, mature, and professional image in manners, communication, and dress.
  - Respects diversity of cultural traditions, values, and musical preferences.
  - Demonstrates a responsible attitude about personal identification, documentation, scheduling, infection control, hospital equipment, and privacy.
  - Focuses on the welfare of the patient above all else in a compassionate and non-judgmental manner.

- Works within the determined scope of practice of certified therapeutic musicians; seeks appropriate assistance when needed.
  - Engages in appropriate self-care and continuing education.
- **Education**
    - Completed the course of study required by the NSBTM accreditation standards, including but not limited to: understanding the basics of health care and terminology, clinical protocols, hospital etiquette, deepening perceptual awareness, physics of sound, fundamentals of music theory, the effects of sound and music on human physiology, understanding palliative and curative care and music presentation.
    - Can appropriately apply knowledge and skills acquired during training and continuing education.
- **Examination**
    - Has successfully completed all examinations required by the certifying training program, as required by the NSBTM accreditation standards.

### **Public Protection Mechanism**

Any person representing him or herself as a Certified Therapeutic Musician shall practice within the Scope of Practice as defined above and adhere to the Certified Therapeutic Musician Code of Ethics of the certifying program. Any complaints made by the public against the certified therapeutic musician should be brought to the attention of the certifying program for investigation and possible disciplinary action.

Any person representing him or herself, as a certified therapeutic musician must hold the credential awarded by an NSBTM accredited therapeutic musician training program.

### ***Scope of practice revised July, 2020***

*Professional agencies and legislative bodies are increasingly requesting credentialing and scope of practice information for individuals who work in any aspect of health care delivery. When information about Therapeutic Musicians or training programs for Therapeutic Musicians is requested for formal documents, it is recommended that the definitions listed here be used.*