

## **Professional Affiliate of the Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy Responsibilities**

A Professional Affiliate of the Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy is expected to seek support and engagement within the NMT community and associated professions to ensure that they have the tools to practice effectively within the evidence-based treatment model of Neurologic Music Therapy. Therefore, all professional affiliates of the Academy must complete 50 credits of continuing education/professional development within 5 years of completing their initial NMT training and every five years thereafter. Keep in mind that these hours may also contribute to required professional development for other professional affiliations.

Additionally, all Academy Affiliates must:

- Practice within their professional scope of practice and seek support from the Academy and other NMTs, NMT Fellows, and Affiliated professionals to develop a deeper understanding of the use of the specific NMT techniques within clinical practice and to minimize erroneous representation of NMT.
- Ensure that they do not represent themselves as a teacher/trainer of NMT and instead direct all persons interested in receiving formalized NMT training to the NMT Academy.
- Be responsible for notifying the Academy when any of their contact information changes so that the registry may be updated in a timely manner in order for the public to identify trained practitioners in their area and to allow them to receive continued updates from the Academy (research, job listings, professional events).

Should affiliation status lapse, for whatever professional or personal reasons, the lapsed Affiliate can rejoin the Academy by participating in the NMT Institute Training, Fellowship, or professional development process as long as they have remained in good professional standing with the Academy ([Accountability and Ethics](#)).

## **NMT Affiliation Categories**

The Academy maintains seven affiliation categories that define representation, responsibility, and the level of expertise and engagement in the advanced practice of NMT: Neurologic Music Therapist, NMT Fellow, NMT Scholar, NMT Allied Professional, NMT Allied Professional Fellow, NMT Educator, and Student.

### **Neurologic Music Therapist**

- 1) The Neurologic Music Therapist affiliate of the Academy must meet the following requirements:
  - Hold the MT-BC credential or in the case of those practicing outside the U.S., hold an appropriate music therapy certification or credential from their country
  - Have successfully completed a current NMT Institute Training in the last 5 years and/or has maintained 50 credits of professional development in the last 5 years
  - Properly represent the practice of NMT by operating within their scope of understanding
  - Seek support through the Academy as needed in order to protect the NMT treatment model

- 2) The NMT is not a certification or credential: NMT is a designation earned by the completion of the NMT Institute Training and maintained by following the standards for Academy affiliation.
- 3) The NMT is encouraged to represent their NMT designation after their name and on all paperwork.  
Short Ex: Johanna Doe, MT-BC, NMT  
Long Ex: Music Therapist-Board Certified, Neurologic Music Therapist
- 4) The NMT may represent themselves as an NMT for five years with the expectation of completing the professional development requirements no later than within the fourth year in order to maintain NMT status.
- 5) Should the NMT not complete the additional training requirements, nor contact the Academy within six months after the year in which the affiliation expires, the NMT will no longer be affiliated with the Academy and will be removed from the Academy Affiliate Registry.
- 6) If the NMT is unable to complete the professional development requirements for some reason, the NMT should contact the Academy Director no later than two months after the fifth year of their affiliation. Exceptions may be granted through a written request detailing the reason for the request and the plan for follow through inclusive of a specific timeline. Exceptions are granted at the discretion of the NMT Board of Directors or persons designated by the Board and will be made in writing to the Academy Affiliate with the detailed action to be taken and deadline for completion. If the deadline is not met, the Affiliate will be notified in writing that they have been removed from the Academy Affiliate Registry.

## **NMT Fellow**

In addition to meeting the requirements to maintain the Professional Academy Affiliation, the NMT Fellow will go through an Advanced Fellowship clinical peer review process following their initial NMT training and every 5 years after that, in order to demonstrate their advanced knowledge and mastery of the Neurologic Music Therapy (NMT) techniques. Evaluation or clinical work voted as pass or resubmit based on a 70% majority vote.

Requirements for the NMT Fellowship include:

### **CLINICIANS**

Bring or send three (3) video examples of three (3) different NMT techniques you used with your clients and/or patients. These techniques need to be from at least two (2) of the three domains (e.g. sensorimotor and cognition). The recordings should be no more than one (1) year old. The overall presentation including all three videos should be 10-15 minutes in length. Be prepared to provide the diagnoses and background of the client, as well the functional goal(s) you are working on. Remember: You are responsible for having the proper institutional and/or client releases.

### **EDUCATORS**

Bring or send three (3) video examples of three (3) different NMT techniques you taught to your students (e.g. that includes explanations, demonstrations, and student facilitation with instructor feedback).

These techniques need to be from at least two (2) of the three domains (e.g. sensorimotor and cognition). The recordings should be no more than one (1) year old.

### RESEARCHERS

Presentations must include published data from at least one study of your own work that is either basic science or translational clinical research related to NMT. Presentations should be no more than 20 minutes in length leaving additional time for discussion.

The NMT Fellow is encouraged to represent their NMT designation after their name and on all paperwork.

Short Ex: Johanna Doe, MT-BC, NMT-F

Long Ex: Music Therapist-Board Certified, Neurologic Music Therapy Fellow

### **Affiliated Allied Professional (NMTAP)**

1) The Affiliated Professional is available to those who meet the following requirements:

- Allied health professional holding a certification or credential in a profession dedicated to treating a range of clinical populations
- Have successfully completed an NMT Institute Training
- Properly represent the practice of NMT by operating within their own profession's Scope of Practice while promulgating NMT as an evidence-based treatment model
- Seek support through the Academy as needed in order to protect the NMT treatment model

2) The Affiliated Professional

- Cannot carry the professional designation of NMT
- Is not a professional music therapist after training
- Is encouraged to integrate the materials and principles of NMT into their practice
- Can, and should, represent themselves with the following designation:

Short Ex: Johanna Doe, PT, NMTAP

Long Ex: Physical Therapist, Neurologic Music Therapy Allied Professional

3) The Affiliated Professional is expected to practice within their scope of understanding and to seek support from NMTs, and NMT Fellows if available, to develop a deeper understanding of NMT paradigm and its application within clinical practice and to minimize erroneous representation of NMT.

### ***Short Course Allied Professional Participants:***

- *The Academy often offers short course training related to a specific discipline (PT, OT, SLP) or domain (Sensorimotor, Speech/Language, Cognition). Professionals who only participated in short course training will be listed in a separate registry category. Short Course Participants are not expected to be able to apply the principles and materials of the full scope of NMT techniques to their practice, only select techniques most relevant to their professional training.*

### **NMTAP Fellow**

In addition to meeting the requirements to maintain the Professional Academy Affiliation, the Neurologic Music Therapy Allied Professional Fellow will go through an Advanced Fellowship clinical peer review process within the first 5 years of their initial NMT training and every 5 years thereafter, in order to

demonstrate their advanced knowledge and implementation of the Neurologic Music Therapy (NMT) techniques. Evaluation or clinical work voted as pass or resubmit based on a 70% majority vote.

Requirements for the NMT Fellowship include:

### CLINICIANS

Bring or send three (3) video examples of you implementing NMT interventions you have used with your clients and/or patients. If possible, these techniques should be three (3) different techniques from any of the three domains (e.g. speech/language, sensorimotor, cognition). The recordings should be no more than one (1) year old. The overall presentation including all three videos should be less than 15 minutes in length. Be prepared to provide the diagnoses and background of the client, as well the functional goal(s) you are working on. Remember: You are responsible for having the proper institutional and/or client releases.

### EDUCATORS

Bring or send three (3) video examples of three (3) different NMT techniques you taught to your students (e.g. that includes explanations, demonstrations, and student facilitation with instructor feedback). If relevant, these techniques should be from at least two (2) of the three domains (e.g. sensorimotor and cognition). The recordings should be no more than one (1) year old.

### RESEARCHERS

Presentations must include published data from at least one study of your own work that is either basic science or translational clinical research related to NMT. Presentations should be no more than 20 minutes in length leaving additional time for discussion.

The NMTAP Fellow is encouraged to represent their NMT designation after their name and on all paperwork.

Short Ex: Johanna Doe, PT, NMTAP-F

Long Ex: Physical Therapist, Neurologic Music Therapy Allied Professional- Fellow

### NMT Scholar

In addition to meeting the requirements to maintain the NMT Professional Affiliation and the NMT or NMTAP Fellow Status, the NMT Scholar will demonstrate significant scholarly contributions to the field of Neurologic Music Therapy through research publications and conference presentations.

The NMT scholar will:

- Meet NMT Professional Affiliate requirements
- Successfully complete the NMT or NMTAP Advanced Fellowship
- Publish at least 1 scholarly peer reviewed research publication highlighting or supporting NMT
- Give at least 2 NMT-based professional presentations/year

The NMT Scholar is encouraged to represent their NMT designation after their name and on all paperwork.

Short Ex: Johanna Doe, MT-BC, NMT-S

Long Ex: Music Therapist-Board Certified, Neurologic Music Therapy Scholar

Short Ex: Johanna Doe, PT, NMTAP-S

Long Ex: Physical Therapist, Neurologic Music Therapy Scholar

## **NMT Educators**

1. In addition to meeting the requirements to maintain the NMT Professional Affiliation, and completing the Advanced Fellowship peer review process meeting the educator requirements (see above), the NMT Educator will:
  - Actively incorporating student training of the NMT model within their regular music therapy curriculum
  - Attend NMT Educators focused forums at least 3 times/year
  - Actively attend and contribute to NMT Global Meetings and Local Support Chapters (4 times/year)

## **Student Affiliate**

- 1) The Student Affiliate status is available to those who meet the following requirements:
  - Are currently enrolled in an academic music therapy or other academic therapy/education/rehabilitation degree program
  - Have successfully completed an NMT Institute Training
  - Properly represent the practice of NMT
  - Seek support through the Academy as needed in order to protect the NMT treatment model
- 2) Music therapy students cannot carry the NMT designation or practice NMT until they have attained MT-BC status or the appropriate certification or credential in music therapy in another country.
- 3) The five-year duration for Fellowship participation begins at the date of professional credential receipt.
- 4) Students from other professions cannot integrate principles and materials from NMT until they have been credentialed or certified within their respective professions.

Students will be listed in the Academy Affiliate Registry as Student Affiliates until the Academy is notified that the Affiliate has achieved professional status. Notification should be sent to [nmt@nmtacademy.co](mailto:nmt@nmtacademy.co) and should include the date of completion as well as proof of professional status (ie. MT-BC number).

## Ongoing NMT Professional Development Opportunities

50 credits must be completed in at least, but not limited to, 3 of the following areas. Please note that Support Chapters are required.

### **Focused Forums (1 credits/mtg)**

The Focused Forums come from a Masterclass perspective, enabling attendees to learn and engage with expertise in the areas of importance to themselves and their clinical practice. Each Forum will have two areas of focus within the hour (for example, Anxiety and Pain within Cancer Care). The Forum will aim to show practical examples and case studies to attendees as a way of sharing best practice.

Targeted Forums include:

- University Educators
  - These forums will involve discussions among professors, clinical directors, and supervisors in the university setting related to relevant topics, such as curriculum and innovations in teaching.
- Graduate Students
  - These forums will be an opportunity for graduate students from various universities to discuss relevant topics and share information related to research projects and thesis/dissertation development.
- Allied Healthcare Professionals
  - These forums will involve discussions related to practicing NMT techniques within the context of professional scopes of practice as allied healthcare professionals. Topics may include interdisciplinary work with Neurologic Music Therapists and focused applications of relevant techniques related to different disciplines.
    - Physical Therapy
    - Occupational Therapy
    - Speech/Language Pathology
    - Nursing/Support Staff
    - Neuropsychology
- Population Based
  - These forums will be led by NMT therapists specialized in various populations in order to share clinical innovations and relevant information related to clinical practice and reimbursement.
    - Neuro rehabilitation
    - Hospital Setting (multiple units)
    - Disorders of Consciousness
    - Hospice
    - Autism Spectrum Disorder
    - Developmental Delays
    - Neuro-geriatrics/Dementia Care
- Music Teachers and Educators (private lessons, school settings)

## **NMT Support Chapters (1 credit/mtg; 3 per year required)**

NMT Support Chapters are a place to seek support and maintain engagement within the NMT community. All affiliates of the Academy are required to attend at least 3 meetings/year and actively contribute to the meeting in ways such as asking questions, presenting on relevant topics, bringing clinical videos for discussion, and watching or reading relevant materials ahead of time. It is not required to attend the same support chapter every time, but it is important to choose meetings that will help expand your understanding and scope of practice in NMT. Monthly meeting schedules, locations, and links can be found at <https://nmtacademy.co/local-support-chapters/>.

## **Self-Study (Reading Publications, etc.) (up to 5 credits)**

Academy Affiliates can earn self-study credits by completing independent or mentored activities such as:

- Reading publications in peer reviewed journals
- Reading relevant book chapters
- Attending lectures or conferences
- Engaging in music lessons to enhance skills for therapy

All self-study activities should be reported on the Professional Development Report Form.

## **Clinical Supervision/Mentorship (A maximum of 12 credits of receiving supervision may be claimed for professional development. Note: 1 hour of supervision = 1 credit)**

### **Receiving NMT Supervision from an NMT Fellow:**

Receiving supervision can be claimed for professional development if provided by an NMT Fellow or a qualified professional in a related field. Activities may include formal and informal feedback and problem solving of clinical issues. See below for further details.

### **Providing Clinical Supervision/Mentorship:**

Providing supervision or mentorship sessions can be claimed for professional development if the claimer is a NMT fellow, Scholar or Educator. See below for further details.

### **Claiming Hours/Proof of hours:**

All NMT professionals are required to keep a record of proof of professional development hours for auditing purposes. The following methods of record keeping are suitable for proof of supervision sessions:

- Screenshot/copy of confirmation email from supervisor - Must include date and hour(s) of supervision session
- Copy of receipt of invoice paid for supervision session (must include date and hours)

## **Music and Neuroscience Related Publications (up to 30 credits)**

As an evidence-based practice model, NMT is driven by advances in research. You may earn up to 30 credits by reporting your music and neuroscience related research publications:

- Book Editor (20 credits)
- Refereed/peer reviewed journals (10 credits)
- Book chapters (7 credits)
- Research Poster (3 credits)
- Peer Reviewer on a paper (2 credits)
- Book Review (2 credits)
- Article Review (1 credit)
- Published Abstract (1 credit)

### **Professional Recognition (up to 5 credits)**

- Keynote Presentation (2 credits)
- Media Interview (1 credit)
- Grant award winner (1 credit)
- Create a new NMT position (5 credits)
- Publication in non-peer reviewed journal (1 credit)

### **Global Support Meetings (1 credit/mtg; up to 10 credits)**

You can earn up to 10 credits for presenting, attending, or retroactively watching a recording of the monthly global support meetings. Report your attendance on the professional development form with a short reflection on how the meeting may impact your work in NMT.

### **Academy Recommended Professional Development Workshops and Short Courses (Up to 30 credits)**

- NMT Clinical Practice Workshop (up to 30 credits)
- Advanced Fellowship Training (Online and In Person) (up to 20 credits)
- Future short course opportunities will include:
  - Understanding the Voice and Voice Disorders
  - Courses in special populations
  - TDM and Assessment
  - Building your NMT Business/Practice
  - Autism Spectrum Disorder
  - Music Psychosocial Training and Counselling

### **Professional Conference Attendance (up to 5 credits)**

Affiliates will complete a conference report identifying relevant learning objectives and a summary of how they were met.

Approved or recommended conferences include, but are not limited to:

- American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine
- American Physical Therapy Association - Combined Sections Meeting
- American Speech & Hearing Association



- American Occupational Therapy Association
- American Music Therapy Association
- American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- American Academy of Neurology
- Brain Injury Association of America (National or Regional)
- American Stroke Association/American Heart Association
- International Neuropsychology Society
- World Congress of Psychiatry
- European Congress of Psychology
- International Society for Autism Research Annual Conference (INSAR)
- Alzheimer's Association International Conference
- McMaster Institute for Music and the Mind (MIMM) Conference
- BRAMS: International Laboratory for Brain, Music, and Sound Research  
<https://brams.org/2021/03/15/brams-virtual-conference-by-dr-dr-roberta-bianco/>
- McMaster Institute for Music and Mind Conferences ( <https://www.neuromusic.ca/> )
- Population Specific Conferences