

## Music Therapy FAQ's

**1. Corrections to existing text:**

- a. "One of only two programs in the State of Michigan. There are 70 programs nationwide.
- b. Employment Demands:
  - i. >80% placement for music therapy grads over the past three years with the remaining going on to graduate schools.

**2. How long will it take me to complete the MT program?**

4-5.5 years depending on musical and clinical skills development

**3. How much of my community college AA will apply toward my music therapy degree?**

If your community college is enrolled in the Michigan State approved MACRAO agreement, then courses taken at community college that meet the general education credits will apply toward your degree. Check with the director of music therapy for advice on which general education courses are required for music therapy majors. Additional courses are required at both lower and upper division. No music courses from community college apply toward the degree, but serve to prepare a candidate for entry into this professional program. Admission to the school of music & dance is based in competency. You will take placement examinations in music theory, aural skills and keyboard skills. Successful performance on these examinations may place an applicant in a higher level of these course sequences and be used to waive courses altogether.

**4. What about transferring from another University school of music?**

Students entering with significant applied instrument study from another University level music school *may* be placed at a higher level in applied instrument study based on assessment by the applied instructor. Participation in ensembles taken at the University level (as long as they meet EMU's requirements) will be counted toward the degree. All transcript evaluation of music credits is done in advising with the program director and primary program advisor, Dr. Merrill.

**5. Will community college study/ MACRAO reduce the number of years of MT study?**

Your time spent at community college will likely not reduce the number of years spent at EMU for the BMT degree. The degree trajectory is 4.5-5 years in addition to your community college course work. The primary advantage of taking general education and music courses at community college is financial. If one is able to live at home with minor costs of commuting, it can save as much as \$12,000.00 to extend your education

in this way. In this case, only music, music therapy and music therapy degree courses are taken at EMU and in some semesters, this maximizes the amount of time available for employment. The question of whether or not to attend community college for MACRAO agreement (in Michigan only) is really a Time or Money question that can only be evaluated by the individual and their family.

**6. What is the MT Internship?**

The music therapy internship is post-academic course (full time) clinical training that lasts a minimum of 900 hours at a site that is approved by the American Music Therapy Association (supervised by a board certified music therapist).

**7. How do EMU grads perform on the CBMT exam?**

EMU graduates consistently score significantly above the national average on the Board Certification Examination for Music Therapists.

**8. What is board certification?**

Upon completion of all coursework and clinical training, professional candidates are eligible to sit for a national examination given by the certification board for music therapists. Upon passing the exam, candidates are granted the music therapist-board certified credential (MT-BC) and may practice professionally in the US.

**9. How do EMU music therapy students develop clinical skills?**

EMU students complete 6 semesters (three years) of pre-internship clinical training. There are a variety of settings including schools, general hospitals, inpatient and outpatient psychiatric settings, pediatric hospitals, elder care settings, Hospices and community agencies. EMU also has an on-site Music Therapy Center where individuals from the community receive music therapy from senior students. All EMU music therapy students are directly supervised by board certified music therapists (MT-BC's).