

AMTA 2021 Conference Justification Toolkit



The 2021 Conference of the American Music Therapy Association — Join Us!

AMTA looks forward to welcoming you to our Virtual 2021 Annual Conference. With more sessions than in 2020, increased opportunities for networking, top-notch educational content presenting by leaders in the profession and more, this year's event will not disappoint. Based on member and conference feedback, an added focus to improve safety and accessibility has been incorporated into the overall conference experience. With content organized by the conference team led by Vice President Wendy Woolsey and Vice President-Elect Andrea Dalton, AMTA looks forward to seeing the music therapy community at the 2021 Virtual Annual Conference. Join us October 14–17, 2021.

Let us help support your request to attend the professional development opportunity for any music therapist or music therapy student.

The American Music Therapy Association hosts the premier annual music therapy conference in the United States. This conference provides an opportunity to learn, network, and collaborate with music therapy and focus on such subjects as trauma, diversity and inclusion, music therapy research, special populations, and more.

AMTA Offers Access to Cutting Edge Research and the Most Recent Advances in Music Therapy Practice

The keynotes, sessions, poster sessions, and more at #AMTA21 offer the opportunity to learn from experts in the music therapy profession.

Making the case for support of funding and time off to attend #AMTA21 requires a solid understanding of the benefits.

The conference is not only an opportunity for you to gain new insights and strategies, but also an opportunity to connect with music therapists and researchers from all over the world who are invested in ensuring that those who need music therapy have access to quality services.



Experience #AMTA21!

Personalized Professional Development Experience

Over 120 concurrent sessions on dozens of topics are presented during the conference, Thursday through Sunday — all included in your registration fee. And if you're looking for even more education, you can sign up for any of the 23 Add-on Courses, which provide additional more continuing education, continuing music therapy education (CMTE) credits and even Licensed Creative Arts Therapist (LCAT) credits. Visit www.musictherapy.org to plan your conference with the latest draft schedule.

Community

The AMTA Annual Conference includes thought provoking keynotes designed to stimulate discussion and to inspire and renew your commitment to music therapy. You will have time during the conference to network with others who share your passions. Attendees build relationships through the conference that last a lifetime!

Deep-Dive Pre-Conference Workshops

Add-on Courses focus on the critical knowledge and skills you need to be successful with the clients you serve. Concurrent Sessions are chosen by peer review so topics match the needs of music therapy professionals!

WRITING A JUSTIFICATION LETTER

We're here to help you get support from your administrator to attend #AMTA21. You can customize the draft "justification letter" on the following page to make the case for your attendance. Visit the AMTA website for more information: www.musictherapy.org. Some things to remember to help you self-advocate. . .

- ⇒ Early registration is a bargain and can save money.
- ⇒ Identify sessions you'd like to attend. Discuss those sessions and explain their value and how they will not only support your professional development goals but enrich the knowledge you can bring back to your job after the conference ends.
- ⇒ Add-on Courses are a great way to enhance your professional development at the conference — just be aware that pre-registration is required and there is an extra cost, so you may need to justify the extra expense.

How Much Does it Cost?

Early	Regular	Late
(until 8/20)	(8/21-9/24)	(after 9/24)

Regular Professional Registration:

\$399	\$439	\$479
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AMTA Professional Member

Discounted Registration:

\$299	\$339	\$379
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Student Registration:

\$199	\$199	\$199
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AMTA Student Member Registration:

\$149	\$149	\$149
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High School Student Track

\$25	\$25	\$25
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Discount Opportunities

Professional Member Bring a Professional Non-member Discount

One "professional" member can partner with one "professional" Non-member to receive an equal discount on both registrations. \$75 discount applied to Professional Registration Fee; \$75 discount applied to Non-member Professional Registration Fee.

Discount on Multiple Registrations from the SAME Organization or Institution

\$60 off each professional registration when 3 or more registrants register together.

For details see https://www.musictherapy.org/2021_conference_registration_rates_and_discount_opportunities/

Sample Justification Letter

Dear <Administrator/Colleague>,

At the American Music Therapy Association's 2021 Annual Conference, professionals at all levels will be brought together to enhance professional skills, knowledge, and careers. I would like to attend this virtual event, on October 14–17, 2021 to learn best practices, increase my knowledge of the latest in music therapy practice, update my information on standards and research in the music therapy profession, and participate in an array of opportunities that will enhance my skills to provide high-quality inclusive services for each and every client we serve.

By attending the conference, I will gain valuable knowledge that I will be able to implement as soon as I get back to work. I'll also be able to select sessions that best inform and support my work while making connections with and learning from the experiences of professionals in music therapy and other professions who serve clients like ours throughout the world.

AMTA's 2021 Conference provides opportunities for me to:

- Attend sessions focused on the critical knowledge and skills that I need to help the clients I serve to be successful as I support our program to offer quality services.
- Connect with other professionals serving our client base and their families. Professionals with whom I can exchange ideas, skills, resources, and practices.

To meet my professional development goals, I am seeking approval for the following expenses during the conference. The detailed cost breakdown is listed below.

< Insert your expense estimate numbers here >

Conference Registration:

Any Related Expenses:

Total estimated conference cost of: <Insert total cost here>

Because this is a virtual conference, I'll be able to attend with a minimum disruption to my work schedule since there will be no travel time nor transportation and lodging costs. My participation in this conference will complement our program's objective of continual professional development, and I plan to return with resources to share with the rest of our staff.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

< Your Full Name >

