



## INFORMATION SHEET

**Applying to become a Registered Music Therapist if you  
have been an RMT but your registration lapsed  
OR  
trained in an accredited course in Australia but completed the course  
more than 12 months ago**

The Registered Music Therapist (RMT) status is highly regarded. To attain it the individual must have completed a suitable training course and to retain it their skills must have been kept up-to-date.

This information sheet outlines the process for becoming an RMT and what information needs to be provided with the application. The application itself and the cover form are separate documents that can be downloaded from the website.

### **Who uses this process:**

This process is for two types of applicant:

1. Those who had previously held the RMT status and are now seeking re-registration
2. Those who successfully completed an accredited Australian course *more than 12 months ago*, but not previously applied for the RMT status

### **How assessment is made:**

There is no requirement for you to submit your academic transcripts, because for both of these types of application the course you attended would have been accredited when you studied there.

The key focus of this process is for you to demonstrate how current your skills are by undertaking a number of requirements across a range of activities. These activities are each accorded a number of points. How many points you need to achieve is based on how long it is since you were an RMT or since you completed your course.

The requirements have been formulated around AMTA's competency standards which are the minimum competency requirements for any applicant seeking registration.

There are four categories and these are based on how long it is since you completed your course or last held the RMT status.

*If you are seeking re-registration:* you should count from when your membership expired.

*If you are seeking registration for the first time and you completed an accredited Australian course more than 12 months ago:*

Category 1 is not open to you.

You should count from when you completed the course, not when your graduation ceremony was held. If you completed an accredited Australian course **less than** 12 months ago you need to use a different process. You can find the information on the website.

These are the categories:

Category number	Time since ...	Minimum number of points to be achieved
1	Under 12 months (not open to anyone applying for RMT status for the first time)	25 points
2	One to three years	50 points
3	Three to five years	75 points
4	More than five years	100 points

These are the competency units which underpin the requirements you need to undertake, and which are attached to the points you need to earn depending on which category you fall into. Please note you must undertake a minimum of one activity in each competency unit.

Competency Unit 1 – Music skills		
1a	Attend and participate in ten music lessons from a qualified and/or registered music teacher (vocal and/or instrumental).  Submit proof of teacher's qualification and/or membership and/or registration with peak body e.g. AMEB, Victorian Institute of Teaching, etc).  Proof of attendance must also be provided (including, payment receipts, number of lessons, general content, general assessment in accordance with AMEB standards, completion of teacher's acknowledgement form, etc	5 points
1b	Participate in a minimum of ten formal group ensemble(s) sessions (70% rehearsal attendance, 30% performance attendance).  Proof of participation must be provided (e.g. group membership fees, performance program copy, group	5 points

	payment receipts, completion of group leader/conductor form etc).	
1c - <i>category 1 or 2</i>	Observe a minimum of five supervised music therapy sessions and then plan, design and implement ten supervised music therapy sessions (group and/or individual).  Proof of supervised sessions must be provided (e.g. completion of student placement assessment form etc).	10 points
1c – <i>category 3 or 4</i>	Observe a minimum of eight supervised music therapy sessions and then plan, design and implement fifteen supervised music therapy sessions (group and/or individual).  Proof of supervised sessions must be provided (e.g. completion of student placement assessment form etc).	10 points
<b>Competency Unit 2 – Psychosocial skills and knowledge</b>		
2a	Describe and justify the strategies (verbal and non-verbal) you adopted to engage clients during sessions undertaken in 1c (500-1000 words).	5 points
2b	Describe the key features from one of the following frameworks: cognitive, behavioural, existential, humanistic, psychoanalytic and transpersonal (500-1000 words. Include a minimum of five references).	5 points
2c	Describe current theories on stress and coping and/or grief and bereavement (500-1000 words. Include a minimum of three references).	5 points
<b>Competency Unit 3 – Clinical knowledge</b>		
3a	Identify and describe the conditions and subsequent needs of the individuals or group members with whom you worked in sessions as per 1c. Describe how these features impacted on their involvement in the music therapy sessions (500-1000 words).	5 points
3b	Describe current philosophies, legislation and policies (e.g. government and/or organisation) which are currently impacting on service delivery in one of the following areas: aged care, disability, special education, mental health, palliative care/oncology, paediatrics, and/or community (500-1000 words. Provide references).	5 points
3c	Identify a developmental stage through the life span (e.g. childhood, adolescence, adulthood etc) and describe three of the following aspects relating to the selected developmental stage: musical, language, motor, social, cognitive, emotional and/or spiritual (500-1000 words. Provide references).	5 points
<b>Competency Unit 4 – Music therapy knowledge</b>		
4a	Describe and justify a number of music therapy techniques you adopted during music therapy sessions	5 points

	undertaken in task 1c). (500-1000 words).	
4b	List and describe music therapy research undertaken (including adopted methodology) with at least two populations (e.g. aged care, special education, palliative care etc). Discuss the researchers' outcomes and relevance to the clinical practice of music therapy (500-1000 words. Include at least two references per population of which two must be Australian based).	5 points
4c	Attend a national AMTA conference. (Must attend two days and provide proof of attendance e.g. payment receipts).	12.5 points
4d	Attend a conference or seminar in a related field approved by AMTA. (Must attend a minimum of two days. Provide proof of attendance e.g. payment receipts).	12.5 points
<b>Competency Unit 5 – Music therapy practice</b>		
5a	Describe the evaluation processes and outcomes of the music therapy sessions you implemented in 1c. (500-1000 words)	5 points
5b	Receive three professional supervision sessions with a qualified professional currently working in the health or educational sector (proof of attendance – e.g. payment receipts, proof of teacher's qualification, membership and /or registration with peak body e.g. AMEB, Victorian Teaching Association etc).	5 points
5c	Complete a literature review comparing and contrasting current techniques adopted for client assessment and/or program evaluation in music therapy (500 – 1000 words. List 5 references published in the last 5 years).	5 points

### Assessment

Assessment is based on a pass/fail system. In other words, if you are assessed to have passed 5c then you will be awarded 5 points. If you are assessed to have failed 5c you will be awarded no points. There is no partial awarding of the allocated points.

### Submission

The onus is on you to submit your application in a coherent and orderly manner. The application cannot be assessed until all elements are received and are clearly presented. Please remember that from registering your intention to apply (with the cover form completed and returned to AMTA) you have 12 months in which to complete your application.

### Other comments:

1. The application must be on A4 paper.
2. It must be typed and double spaced.
3. If you are required to undertake a clinical placement, it must be approved by AMTA before being undertaken.

4. Create a new page for each competency unit and then list the tasks completed, referencing which sub element of each competency unit you are referring to.
5. All the forms submitted such as receipts or teacher's acknowledgement form must be originals.
6. You are welcome to include other relevant documentation which you believe it will add to your application.
7. When you have your complete documentation, one soft copy should be emailed to AMTA, and one hard copy posted to AMTA.
8. If you fail a competency unit but have demonstrated the potential to improve, AMTA may request that you repeat or resubmit some requirements, or undertake new requirements to address that gap.
9. If the entire application fails, you cannot reapply for a further 12 months from the date at which you were advised that you had failed. You will be given clear feedback about why your application has failed so you know what areas you need to improve if you wish to re-apply.

Your written documents will be assessed against the following:

- Depth and application of understanding of conceptual material
- Integration of various sections in the report (e.g. information in each section appropriately supporting and informing other sections of the report – does the report flow)
- Identification and appropriateness of goals/aims developed
- Appropriateness of literature (including appropriate references)
- Clarity and logical flow

The posted copy should be mailed to

Australian Music Therapy Association  
Suite 5, 250 Gore Street  
Fitzroy, 3065  
Vic, Australia

You will be advised when they are received.