**Art Therapy License FAQ**

House Bill 33 was passed on June 30, 2023. This legislation includes licensure for art therapists in Ohio. Please find language here: House Bill 33: Art Therapy Licensure Synopsis (summary on pages 73-74).

The current draft of the rules can be found here, and are open for public comment until February 12, 2024:

 Current draft of rules for Art Therapy License in Ohio

BATA is actively collaborating with ATCB and the Ohio CSWMFT Board to navigate this process. We have developed this document in response to questions we have received from BATA membership and the public. The process of gathering and disseminating information will require flexibility and patience. We will continue to update this document and communicate with BATA membership, Ohio art therapists, and the public as we learn more. If a question you have is not listed here, please email it to legislation@buckeyearttherapy.org so it can be addressed/included to the best of our ability.

When will I get my art therapy license?

The Ohio Counselor Social Worker Marriage and Family Therapist Board (CSWMFT) is the credentialing body that will issue the art therapy license. We are actively in process of finalizing rules and procedures for the new license. The date for the first licenses to be issued will be established in the near future, and we will announce it when we know more. Currently, the board is not yet issuing art therapy licenses.

Why is it taking so long?

While the law provides the basic framework for the license, the Ohio CSWMFT Board must create all the rules and procedures to implement, issue and regulate the license. Creating rules and procedures is a multistep process that includes appointing 2 art therapy board members, creating a committee, writing the rules, presenting them to the board for approval, opening the rules up for public comment, submitting the rules for review under Ohio’s “Common Sense Initiative”, and submitting the rules to JCARR for legislature review and comment.

What will the license requirements and application process be?

The current legislation states that an ATR-BC is required to obtain a license in Ohio beginning one year after this law was enacted. Once the rules for the new license are established, we will know more about the process to complete an application.

What will the fee for the art therapy license be?

The current draft of the rules has proposed the fee to be $100.

I have an ATR but not a BC, and have been practicing for over 5 years. Will I be eligible for a license?

Maybe. There is language in the rules that those with an existing ATCB credential for 5 or more years who apply before October 3rd, 2024 MAY be grandfathered in under the law. At this time, BATA is advising that all ATR's take the Board Certification Exam and obtain their BC in the event that this exception is not made.

I have my ATR-P and am in the process of completing my postgraduate experience. How does this law impact me?

Art therapists in training (including internships and post graduate experience) will continue to be able to practice art therapy while working toward the experience needed to become an ATR-BC, provided they are being supervised by a licensed art therapist.

I have an art therapy license in another state. Will I be eligible for an Ohio art therapy license now (i.e., reciprocity)?
In the current draft of the rules, Section 4757-18-03 outlines the requirements for an art therapy license issued through reciprocity.

Will I be able to practice art therapy in Ohio without getting a license?

The current legislation states that an ATR-BC is required to obtain a license in Ohio beginning one year after this law was enacted.

Will the license impact art therapy training programs?

It is not known at this time how art therapy training may be impacted by the license. If you have questions about a specific program, we recommend you reach out to that program to learn more.

Now that we are licensed, can I diagnose mental health disorders?

The ability for a provider to diagnose is outlined in statute. Art therapists are not permitted to diagnose under Ohio law.

Will insurance cover art therapy now?

Insurance is a separate issue than licensure. Licensure is an important step towards universal insurance coverage of art therapy in Ohio, but there is more work to be done in this area. BATA will update members as more information is available.

After I am licensed as an art therapist, will I need to uphold my ATR-BC with the Art Therapy Credentials Board (ATCB)?

The way the law is written, a licensee will have to uphold their ATR-BC with the ATCB to maintain eligibility for the Ohio art therapy license, even after your license has been issued in Ohio.

What will the license be called?

Licensed Professional Art Therapist (LPAT).