

# Music Therapy, BMUS

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Are you interested in using music as a tool to improve the lives of clients of all ages? You'll learn to apply your musicianship to helping people through the use of music. Join us today, as your first step toward a successful career in music therapy.

## Program description

The BMus program in music therapy prepares students for a career in health care, community-based and special education settings. Music therapy majors learn to use carefully planned music interventions to achieve desired changes in a client's individualized behavior and functioning.

Music therapy is a profession in which engagement and receptive or active music-making help a client achieve individual therapeutic goals. Music therapy students develop a wide range of musical, verbal and nonverbal skills through the program's many opportunities to work in clinical settings. Students also study:

- human anatomy
- musical improvisation
- popular music styles
- psychology
- songwriting
- special education
- world music

## At a glance

- **College/School:** [Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts](#)
- **Location:** [Tempe](#)
- **Second language requirement:** No

- **First required math course:** MAT 142 - College Mathematics Any math course that meets the MATH designation.
- **Math intensity:** General 

## Required courses (Major Map)

[2024 - 2025 Major Map](#)

[Major Map \(Archives\)](#)

## Concurrent program options

Students pursuing concurrent degrees (also known as a "double major") earn two distinct degrees and receive two diplomas. Working with their academic advisors, students can create their own concurrent degree combination. Some combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum.

## Admission requirements

### General university admission requirements:

All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.

[First-year](#) | [Transfer](#) | [International](#) | [Readmission](#)

### Additional requirements:

**Important:** Applicants must submit an ASU application for undergraduate admission in addition to a separate [School of Music, Dance and Theatre application](#). Admission to the School of Music, Dance and Theatre is based on an audition. [Auditions](#) take place in November (spring admission) and in January and February (fall admission) of each year.

Admission to the music program is highly selective and based on an audition process. Students are admitted as music audition students and must successfully complete the audition before enrolling in music major courses. Upon admission to both ASU and the School of Music, Dance and Theatre, the applicant's major is changed to music. If a student is admitted to ASU but not to the School of Music, Dance and Theatre or misses the audition deadline, the student will remain a music audition major and must successfully pass the music audition milestone in the first semester to gain admission into the program.

**Application deadlines:** Students should review the [complete music deadline](#) information.

**Spring admission:** The deadline to apply for admission to this program is October 15.

**Fall admission:** The deadline to apply for admission to this program is January 5.

### Transfer admission requirements:

**Transfer applicants:** Transfer of courses from other accredited institutions is subject to the existence of parallel and equal courses in the college's curriculum and to departmental or school evaluation of studio and class piano courses with respect to performance standards.

Every candidate for the bachelor's degree must earn a minimum of 30 hours in resident credit at ASU. Transfer students enrolled in the institute must complete a minimum of 15 resident credit hours in the major as approved by the faculty.

**Application Deadlines:** Students should review the [complete music deadline](#) information.

**Spring admission:** The deadline to apply for admission to this program is October 15.

**Fall admission:** The deadline to apply for admission to this program is January 5.

## Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

## Change of Major Requirements

An ASU student who would like to change majors to one offered by the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 (scale is 4.00 = "A").

An audition and music application are required. Students should reference the audition requirements listed in the Admission Requirements section above.

Students should visit the [Change of Major form](#) for information about how to change a major to this program.

## Transfer options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use [MyPath2ASU®](#) to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has [transfer partnerships](#) in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and they help students save time and money in their college journey.

## Program learning outcomes

Program learning outcomes identify what a student will learn or be able to do upon completion of their program. This program has the following program outcomes:

- Apply competent music foundation skills across their secondary instruments of voice, piano, and guitar.
- Apply basic knowledge of the causes, symptoms of, and basic terminology used in medical, mental health, and educational settings to the implementation of therapeutic interventions.
- Write research papers applying the conventions of scholarly discourse in music.

## Global opportunities

### Global experience

With more than 300 [Global Education program opportunities](#) available to them, music therapy students are able to tailor their experience to their unique interests and skill sets. Whether in a foreign country, in the U.S. or online, students build communication skills, learn to adapt and persevere, and are exposed to research and internships across the world, increasing their professional network.

## Career opportunities


Graduates are eligible to sit for the music therapy certification examination given by the Certification Board for Music Therapists.

Positions are available regionally and nationally in hospitals, schools, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes and other health care facilities. Graduates are prepared to work in the fields of community music therapy and wellness, geriatric care, mental health, physical rehabilitation, and special education, or within veteran and military populations.

A music therapy career may also provide an opportunity for private practice with flexible hours.

Example job titles and salaries listed below are not necessarily entry level, and students should take into consideration how years of experience and geographical location may affect pay scales. Some jobs also may require advanced degrees, certifications or state-specific licensure.

Career	*Growth	*Median salary
<a href="#">Art Director</a> 🌟	6.1%	\$105,180
<a href="#">Art Professor</a>	3.2%	\$77,280
<a href="#">Certified Recreational Therapist</a>	3.6%	\$51,330
<a href="#">Healthcare Professor</a> 🌟	19.1%	\$100,300
<a href="#">High School Teacher</a>	1.0%	\$62,360
<a href="#">Middle School Teacher</a>	0.8%	\$61,810
<a href="#">Music Producer</a>	1.1%	\$62,940
<a href="#">Music Therapist</a> 🌟	12.2%	\$60,800

<b><u>Musician/Singer</u></b>	1.2%	\$0
<b><u>Therapist (General)</u></b> 	12.2%	\$60,800

\* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

 Bright Outlook

## Professional licensure

ASU programs that may lead to professional licensure or certification are intended to prepare students for potential licensure or certification in Arizona. Completion of an ASU program may not meet educational requirements for licensure or certification in another state. For more information, students should visit the [ASU professional licensure](#) webpage.

## Contact information

[School of Music, Dance and Theatre](#) | MUSIC E167

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