

# **Regulations Governing Licensure of Professional Art Therapists**



**MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

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**Title 15: Mississippi State Department of Health**

**Part 19: Bureau of Professional Licensure**

**Subpart 60: Professional Licensure**

**CHAPTER 2: REGULATIONS GOVERNING LICENSURE OF PROFESSIONAL ART THERAPISTS**

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education, or an institution and clinical program approved by the American Art Therapy Association, Inc.

6. **Department** shall mean the Mississippi Department of Health.
7. **Act** shall mean Chapter 73-65-1 et seq of the Mississippi Code 1972 Annotated.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

Rule 2.1.4 **Publication:** The Department shall publish, annually, a list of the names and addresses of all persons licensed by the Board as Professional Art Therapists, and a list of all persons whose license has been suspended, revoked, denied renewal, put on probationary status, censured or reprimanded.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

### **Subchapter 2: Professional Art Therapists Advisory Council (“Council”)**

Rule 2.2.1 **Council Structure and Purpose:** The Council shall consist of six (6) members as set forth in the Act, for the terms indicated therein, and shall serve under the jurisdiction of the Board. The purpose of the Council is to serve in an advisory capacity to the Board in matters relating to the administration and interpretation of provisions of the Act.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

Rule 2.2.2 **Meetings:** The Council shall meet at least twice annually. A chairperson and a secretary shall be elected at the first meeting of the year. Additional meetings may be called at the discretion of the chairperson, upon written request of two (2) members of the Council. A quorum shall consist of three (3) members of the Council, including the chairperson, and shall be necessary for the Council to take action by vote.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

### **Subchapter 3: State Board of Health (“Health”)**

Rule 2.3.1 **Responsibilities:** The Board shall:

1. Establish examination, licensure, and renewal of licensure criteria for applicants;
2. Maintain an up-to-date list of all individuals licensed as Professional Art Therapists, with such list being available, upon request, to the public;

3. Refer disciplinary actions of any individual engaged in art therapy to the appropriate government agency for prosecution, whether licensed or otherwise, or in its discretion, refer same to the appropriate committee or council;
4. Conduct disciplinary hearings, upon specified charges;
5. Maintain an up-to-date list of all individuals whose license has been suspended, revoked, or denied, and make such list available to public inspection, and shall supply such list to similar regulatory boards in other states or jurisdictions;
6. Keep a record of all proceedings of the Board, and make said record available to the public;
7. Delegate, authorize, and direct the Department to promulgate regulations to accomplish the purpose of the Act.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

#### **Subchapter 4: Licensure**

##### **Rule 2.4.1 Licensure Requirements**

1. An applicant for licensure shall submit to the Department, verified by oath, written evidence in form and content satisfactory to the Department that the applicant:
  2. Is at least twenty-one (21) years of age;
  3. Has passed the Art Therapy Credentials Board Examination as administered by the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc.;
  4. Is registered as an art therapist as defined by the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc.;
  5. Is certified as an art therapist by the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc.; and,
  6. The Department will review the credentials of an individual awarded a master's degree or doctoral degree from a non-accredited institution on a case-by-case basis.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

**Rule 2.4.2 Licensed By Endorsement** An applicant for licensure shall submit to the Department, verified by oath, written evidence in form and content satisfactory to the Department that:

1. The applicant holds a valid regulatory document issued by the appropriate examining board under the laws of any other state or territory of the United States, the District of Columbia, or any foreign nation;
2. The requirements for said document are substantially equivalent to, or exceed, the requirements as set forth in Rule 2.4.1 of these regulations; and,
3. Said document is in good standing, and is not, presently suspended or revoked.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

Rule 2.4.3 [Reserved]

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1*

Rule 2.4.4 **Provisional Licensure** The Board may, in its discretion, issue a provisional license to an applicant at least 21 years of age, pending the completion of the requirements for licensure, providing the applicant submits to the Department, verified by oath, in form and content satisfactory to the Department that the applicant:

1. Will be supervised according to Rule 2.4.5 of the regulations; and,
2. Has not taken the examination recognized by the Department or received registration from the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc.
3. In its discretion, and upon application, the Board may renew a provisional license. Proof satisfactory to the Department that the provisional license holder has been in the process of meeting the licensure requirements must be submitted at the time of renewal.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

Rule 2.4.5 **Conditions of a Provisional License**

1. Documentation in form and substance satisfactory to the Department that the conditions of Rule 2.4.5(2)(3) of the regulations have been met must be on file with the Department before a provisional license will be issued.
2. A provisional license holder may only practice under the supervision of the individual licensed as a professional art therapist in Mississippi who is the listed supervisor on file with the Department.
3. A provisional license holder must be supervised one (1) hour for every ten (10) hours of face-to-face client contact.



- c. The applicant has not committed any act in the other state that would have constituted grounds for refusal, suspension, or revocation of a license to practice that occupation in Mississippi at the time the act was committed, and the applicant does not have a disqualifying criminal record as determined by the Department under Mississippi law; and
  - d. The applicant did not surrender a license because of negligence or intentional misconduct related to the applicant's work in the occupation in another state; and
  - e. The applicant does not have a complaint, allegation, or investigation pending before an occupational licensing board or other board in another state that relates to unprofessional conduct or an alleged crime. If the applicant has a complaint, allegation, or investigation pending, the Department shall not issue or deny a license to the applicant until the complaint, allegation, or investigation is resolved, or the applicant otherwise satisfies the criteria for licensure in Mississippi to the satisfaction of the Department; and
  - f. The applicant pays all applicable fees in Mississippi.
2. Notwithstanding any other law, the Department shall issue a license to an applicant in art therapy and at the same practice level, as determined by the Department, to a person who establishes residence in this state based on work experience in another state, if all the following apply:
- a. The applicant worked in a state that does not use a license to regulate a lawful occupation, but Mississippi uses a license to regulate a lawful occupation with a similar scope of practice, as determined by the Department;
  - b. The applicant worked for at least three (3) years in the lawful occupation; and
  - c. The applicant satisfies the provisions of paragraphs (c) through (f) of Rule 2.4.8(1).
3. The Department may require an applicant to pass a jurisprudential examination specific to relevant state laws in Mississippi that regulate professional art therapists if the issuance of a license in Mississippi requires an applicant to pass a jurisprudential examination specific to relevant state statutes and administrative rules in Mississippi that regulate professional art therapists.
4. The Department may require proof of residency. Residency may be established by demonstrating proof of a state-issued identification card or one (1) of the following:

- a. Current Mississippi residential utility bill with the applicant's name and address;
  - b. Documentation of the applicant's current ownership, or current lease of a residence in Mississippi;
  - c. Documentation of current in-state employment or a notarized letter of the promise of employment of the applicant or his or her spouse; or
  - d. Any verifiable documentation demonstrating Mississippi residency.
5. A license issued under this section is valid only in this state and does not make the person eligible to be part of an interstate compact.
  6. The Department shall issue or deny the license to the applicant within one hundred twenty (120) days after receiving an application.
  7. If the application requires longer than two (2) weeks to process, the Department shall issue a temporary practice permit within thirty (30) days after receiving the application if the applicant submits an affidavit, under penalties of perjury, affirming that he or she satisfies the provisions of Rule 2.4.8(3) or Rule 2.4.8(4) and pays all applicable fees as required by Rule 2.4.8(1)(f).
    - a. The applicant may practice under the temporary permit until a license is granted, or until a notice to deny the license is issued, in accordance with rules adopted by the Department. A temporary license will expire in three hundred sixty-five (365) days after its issuance if the applicant fails to satisfy the requirement for licensure in Rule 2.4.8(1) through Rule 2.4.8(3), as applicable.
  8. The Department shall issue a license as a licensed professional art therapist to any person who files a completed application, accompanied by the required fees, and who submits satisfactory evidence that the applicant is at least twenty-one (21) years of age, is a registered art therapist as defined by the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc., demonstrates professional competency by satisfactorily passing the required examination, and is a board-certified art therapist as defined by the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc.
  9. The Department may approve on a case-by-case basis applicants who have a master's degree or a doctoral degree from nonaccredited institutions.
  10. If an applicant has met all of the requirements for licensure except satisfactorily passing the required examination, the applicant shall be scheduled to take the next examination following the approval of the examination.

11. The Department may issue a license to an applicant without examination if the person possesses a valid regulatory document issued by the appropriate examining board under the laws of any other state or territory of the United States, the District of Columbia, or any foreign nation that in the judgment of the Department has requirements substantially equivalent to or exceeding the requirements in this section. The issuance of a license by reciprocity to a military-trained applicant, military spouse, or person who establishes residence in this state shall be subject to the provisions of Section §73-50-1 or §73-50-2 of the Mississippi Code of 1972 as applicable.
12. The Department may issue provisional licensure as a professional art therapist to any person who has completed the educational requirements established by the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc., and has met all requirements for licensure as a professional art therapist, except the experience and/or examination requirements, and is under the supervision of a supervisor acceptable to the Department.
13. The Department may set criteria for continuing education and supervisory experience.
14. Denial of Universal License
  - a. The applicant may appeal any of the following decisions of the Department to a court of general jurisdiction:
    - (i) Denial of a license;
    - (ii) Determination of the occupation;
    - (iii) Determination of the similarity of the scope of practice of the license issued; or
    - (iv) Other determinations under this section.
  - b. The court shall determine all questions of law, including the interpretation of a constitutional or statutory provision or a rule adopted by the Department, without regard to any previous determination that may have been made on the question in any action before the Department.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-14-1.*

**Rule 2.4.9 Abandonment:** An application shall be deemed abandoned by the Department if, after six (6) months from the date of filing, the requirements for licensing have not been completed and submitted to the Department.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-14-1.*



Rule 2.6.3 **Failure to Renew:**

1. **Late Renewal:** License holders are allowed a ninety (90) day grace period for the late renewal of licensure following expiration of the licensure period. The applicant for late renewal during this period shall:
  - a. Complete the renewal form; and,
  - b. Submit proof of continuing education credit as detailed in Subchapter 7 of these regulations; and,
  - c. Enclose the renewal fee and the late renewal fee; and,
  - d. File the above with the Department prior to the end of the grace period.
2. **Suspension:** A license is automatically suspended if the license holder does not renew his license prior to the end of the grace period.
3. **Reinstatement:** The Department may reinstate a license if the late renewal requirements and the reinstatement fee are filed with the Department within ninety (90) days of the date of suspension. A license is automatically revoked if it is not reinstated within the ninety (90) day period following suspension.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

**Subchapter 7: Continuing Education**

Rule 2.7.1 **Definition and Philosophy:** Each individual licensed by the Board is responsible for maintaining high levels of skill and knowledge. Continuing education is defined as education beyond the basic preparation required for licensure and related to the performance of art therapy.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

Rule 2.7.2 **Requirements:**

1. Regulations set the requirement of forty (40) clock hours to be accrued during the licensure term for license holders who are not certified and in good standing with the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc.
2. License holders certified and in good standing with the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc., may submit proof, in form and content satisfactory to the Department, of having met the continuing education requirements of the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc., in lieu of the provisions of this section.

3. Individuals applying for initial licensure within a licensure term must accrue continuing education hours on a prorated scale. Written notification of required hours will be sent to the applicant at the time of licensure.
4. Individuals holding a provisional license must meet the same requirements as an individual applying for an initial license.
5. Persons who fail to accrue the required continuing education hours shall be issued a CE probationary license for the entire licensure period. Failure to accrue the required hours during the CE probationary period will result in the revocation of the license.
6. CE probationary licenses will be issued for one licensure period only. No ensuing license may be CE probationary as a result of not meeting continuing education requirements.
7. **NOTE: Reinstatement of a license revoked for failure to meet continuing education requirements is subject to the discretion of the Department. If said license is permitted to be reinstated, the renewal fee and the late renewal/reinstatement fee as stated in Subchapter 7 of these regulations will be required.**

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1*

Rule 2.7.3 **Content Criteria:** The content must apply to the field of art therapy and performance and must be designed to meet one of the following goals:

1. Update knowledge and skills required for competent performance beyond entry level as described in current legislation and regulations.
2. Allow the licensee to enhance his knowledge and skills.
3. Provide opportunities for interdisciplinary learning.
4. Extend limits of professional capabilities and opportunities.
5. Facilitate personal contributions to the advancement of the profession.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1*

Rule 2.7.4 **Sources of Continuing Education:** Continuing education hours may be accrued from the following sources when the content of the programs relates to the profession of art therapy:

1. Attendance at programs sponsored or approved for continuing education by the following groups:
  - a. The American Art Therapy Association (AATA).

- b. The Mississippi Art Therapy Association (MSATA) or AATA chapter of another state or the District of Columbia.
  - c. Regulatory boards for art therapy in any jurisdiction in the United States.
  - d. Regulatory boards governing the practices of social workers, licensed professional counselors, and marriage and family counselors.
  - e. The National Association of Social Workers or its state affiliate members.
  - f. The American Psychological Association or its state affiliate and/or subsidiary members.
  - g. The American Medical Association or its state affiliate and/or subsidiary members.
  - h. The American Nursing Association or its state affiliate and/or subsidiary members.
2. Presentations, including posters, made before art therapists, medical practitioners, or other health related professionals and directly related to the profession of art therapy. To be considered for continuing education credit, material outline and a synopsis must be submitted to the Council at least sixty (60) days prior to the presentation date. Notice of approval or disapproval will be sent following a review by the Council. For approved presentations, the presenter may accrue one (1) hour of continuing education credit for each hour of the actual presentation, and one (1) hour of preparation time, for a total of (2) two hours. Presenter credit is given one (1) time only, even though the session may be presented multiple times. No more than 30% of total required hours may be accrued through presentations. Presentations approved by the MATA, whether prior to or subsequent to the presentation, will be accepted for continuing education credit.
  3. Academic course work taken from a regionally accredited college or university, either for credit or audit. The courses must relate to the profession of art therapy. Courses in supporting fields must have prior approval of the Council. One academic semester hour shall be equivalent to fifteen (15) clock hours for continuing education credit. No more than fifty percent (50%) of total required hours may be accrued through academic course work.
  4. Professional publications where the license holder is an author. To be considered for continuing education credit, a reprint of the published article must be submitted to the department. Notice of approval or

disapproval will be sent out after review by the department. A maximum of three (3) contact hours may be accrued through professional publication.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

Rule 2.7.5 **Reporting Procedures for Continuing Education:** Continuing education hours are reported on the application for license renewal during the license renewal period prior to its expiration. It is the responsibility of the licensee to insure that the following criteria are met with respect to continuing education credit:

1. Attendance at seminars, workshops, presentations, etc., approved by the organizations listed in Rule 2.7.4(1) are automatically accepted for credit unless sessions are duplicated. Verification of attendance may be made by the submission of a continuing education certificate, or a continuing education reporting form from the organization issuing continuing education hours and proof of approval.
2. Presentation credits: Submit a copy of the program listing the presentation and a copy of the prior letter of approval from the council.
3. Academic course work credits must meet the content criteria in Rule 2.7.3, and must be accompanied by a course description from the college or university catalog and a copy of the transcript or final grade report.
4. Professional publication: Submit a copy of the letter of approval from the council.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

## **Subchapter 8: Revocation, Suspension and Denial of Licensure**

Rule 2.8.1 **Standards of Conduct:** Individuals who are licensed may, at the discretion of the Board, have their licenses suspended, revoked, or denied if the Board determines that the individual is guilty of any of the following:

1. Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license or renewal of licensure.
2. Is unfit or incompetent by reason of gross ignorance, negligence, habits, or other causes of incompetence.
3. Is habitually intemperate in the use of alcoholic beverage.
4. Is convicted of an offense involving moral turpitude.

5. Is knowingly practicing while suffering with a contagious or infectious disease.
6. Is addicted to, or has improperly obtained, possessed, used, or distributed habit-forming drugs or narcotics.
7. Is guilty of dishonest or unethical conduct.
8. Has represented himself as a licensed professional art therapist after his license has expired or has been suspended.
9. Has practiced as a licensed art therapist under cover of any permit or license illegally or fraudulently obtained or issued.
10. Has violated, aided, or abetted others in violation of any provision of law, or these regulations.
11. Has engaged in any conduct considered by the Board to be detrimental to the profession of art therapy.
12. Has violated the current code of ethics of the American Art Therapy Association.
13. Has had disciplinary action taken against the license holder's license, certificate, registration, etc., in another jurisdiction.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

Rule 2.8.2 **Summary Suspension:** The Board may summarily suspend licensure without a hearing, simultaneously with the filing of a formal complaint and notice of hearing, if the Board determines that:

1. The health, safety, or welfare of the general public is in immediate danger; or
2. The individual's physical capacity to practice his profession is in issue; or
3. The individual's mental capacity to practice his profession is in issue.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

Rule 2.8.3 **Complaints:** All complaints concerning a licensed individual, his business, or professional practice, shall be reviewed by the Department. Each complaint received shall be logged, recording at a minimum the following information:

1. name of the licensed individual;
2. name of the complaining party, if known;



- f. That the Board, or its designee, shall preside at the hearing and following the conclusion of the hearing shall make findings of facts, conclusions of law and recommendations, separately stated, to the Board as to what disciplinary action, if any, should be imposed on the respondent.
  - i. The Board or its designee shall hear evidence produced in support of the formal charges and contrary evidence produced by the respondent. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Board shall issue an order within sixty (60) days.
  - ii. Disposition of any complaints may be made by consent order or stipulation between the Board and the respondent.
  - iii. All proceedings pursuant to this section are matters of public record and shall be preserved pursuant to State law.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

Rule 2.8.6 **Board Sanctions:** The Board may impose any of the following sanctions, singly or in combination, when it finds that a respondent is guilty of any of the above offenses:

- 1. Revocation of the license;
- 2. Suspension of the license, for any period of time;
- 3. Censure the licensed individual;
- 4. Issue a letter of reprimand to the licensed individual;
- 5. Place a license on probationary status and require the individual to submit to any of the following:
  - a. Report regularly to the board upon matters which are the basis of probation;
  - b. continue to renew professional education until a satisfactory degree of skill has been attained in those areas which are the basis of probation; or
  - c. such other reasonable requirements or restrictions as are proper;
  - d. Refuse to renew a license; or

- e. Revoke probation which has been granted and impose any other disciplinary action in this subsection when the requirements of probation have not been fulfilled or have been violated.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

Rule 2.8.7 **Appeal:** Any person aggrieved by a decision of the Board shall have a right of appeal as provided for in the Laws of the State of Mississippi.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

### **Subchapter 9: Exceptions and Exemptions**

Rule 2.9.1 **Exceptions:**

1. Nothing in these regulations is intended to limit, preclude, or otherwise interfere with the practices of other persons and health providers licensed by appropriate agencies of the State of Mississippi.
2. Nothing in these regulations shall be construed to limit, interfere with, or restrict the practice, descriptions of services, or manner in which the “activities professionals” at licensed nursing facilities hold themselves out to the public.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

Rule 2.9.2 **Good Samaritan Act:** Left Blank on Purpose

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

### **Subchapter 10: Left Blank on Purpose**

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

### **Subchapter 11: Criminal Offenses and Punishment**

Rule 2.11.1 **Offenses:** It is a violation of the law for any person to:

1. Sell, fraudulently obtain or furnish any license, or aid or abet therein.
2. Use the title, "Licensed Professional Art Therapist" or any words letters, signs, symbols or devices to indicate the person using them has received a license from the Mississippi Department of Health.
3. Fail to notify the Board of the suspension, probation or revocation of any past or currently held licenses or certifications, required to practice art therapy in this or any other jurisdiction.

4. Make false representations, impersonate, act as a proxy for another person, allow, or aid any person to impersonate him in connection with any examination or application for license or request to be examined or licensed.
5. Make a material, false statement in an application for licensure, or in a response to any inquiry by the Mississippi Department of Health or the Board.
6. Otherwise violate any provisions of the Act, or regulations of the Board.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

Rule 2.11.2 **Punishment:** Such violations shall be a misdemeanor, and shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars, (\$500.00) or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than three (3) months, or by both.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

**Subchapter 12: Fees**

Rule 2.12.1 **Method of Payment:** The following fees, where applicable, are payable to the Department of Health by check or money order. Fees paid to the Mississippi Department of Health are non-refundable.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

Rule 2.12.2 **Schedule of Fees**

1.	Application and Initial Licensure Fee .....	\$100.00
2.	Renewal Fee.....	\$ 75.00
3.	Late Renewal Fee.....	\$100.00
4.	Reinstatement Fee .....	\$100.00
5.	Verification Fee.....	\$ 25.00
6.	Duplicate License Fee .....	\$ 25.00
7.	License Replacement Fee .....	\$ 25.00
8.	Card Replacement Fee.....	\$ 10.00

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

Rule 2.12.3 **Examination Fee:** Fees for examination are to be paid directly to the appropriate testing organization.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

### **Subchapter 13: Administrative Grievance Procedure**

Rule 2.13.1 **Administrative Appeals:** All persons aggrieved by a decision regarding the initial application for licensure, or the renewal of licensure, shall have the right of administrative appeal and a hearing to be conducted according to the rules of the Department of Health.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

Rule 2.13.2 **Notification:** Written notice will be provided to all applicants regarding denial of an original license or a renewal license. Such notice shall contain the reason thereof and shall offer the applicant an opportunity to submit additional information pertinent to their application for a second review by the Department.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*

Rule 2.13.3 **Hearing:** If requested in writing within the specified time frame a hearing will be provided in which the applicant may show cause why the license should be granted or renewed. Within sixty (60) days of the hearing, or other such time frame as determined during the hearing, written findings of fact, together with a recommendation for action on the license in question, shall be forwarded to the State Health Officer. The State Health Officer shall decide what action will be taken on the recommendation within five days of its receipt. Written notice shall be provided to the applicant.

*SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §73-65-1.*