

July 23, 2021
Department of Health Professions
9960 Mayland Dr.
2nd Floor, Board Room 2
2:30 p.m.

Call to Order – Gretchen Graves, MS, ATR-BC, CDATA, Chair

- Welcome and Introduction
- Roll Call
- Mission of the Board

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Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the Minutes -- April 23, 2021*

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Recommendation to Adopt Proposed Regulations Governing the Practice of Professional Art Therapy* ---- Elaine Yeatts, Department of Health Professions, Sr. Policy Analyst

- Recommendation to Adopt Proposed Regulations*

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Next Meeting

Meeting Adjournment

*Requires a Committee Vote

This information is in **DRAFT** form and is subject to change. The official agenda and packet will be approved by the public body at the meeting and will be available to the public pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3707(F).



Virginia Department of
Health Professions
Board of Counseling

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to ensure safe and competent patient care by licensing health professionals, enforcing standards of practice, and providing information to health care practitioners and the public.

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF COUNSELING
DRAFT MINUTES
ADVISORY BOARD – ART THERAPY
Friday, April 23, 2021**

- TIME AND PLACE:** Consistent with Amendment 28 to HB29 (the Budget Bill for 2018-2020) and the applicable provisions of § 2.2-3708.2 in the Freedom of Information Act, the Committee convened the meeting virtually to consider such regulatory and business matters as are presented on the agenda necessary for the committee to discharge its lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities.
- PRESIDING OFFICER:** Gretchen Graves, ATR-BC, CDATA
- ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brenda Bonuccelli, LCSW
Elizabeth Anne Mills, LPC, ATR-BC (attended until 12:00 p.m.)
Lelia Saadeh, LPC, ATR-BC
Holly Zajur, Citizen Member
- STAFF PRESENT:** Jaime Hoyle, JD, Executive Director
Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director
Charlotte Lenart, Deputy Executive Director-Licensing
Sharniece Vaughn, Licensing Specialist
- OTHERS PRESENT:** Elaine Yeatts, DHP Senior Policy Analyst
- CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Graves welcomed the Board members and staff and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. After completing introductions, Ms. Hoyle indicated that with 5 members of the Advisory Board present a quorum was established.
- MISSION STATEMENT:** Ms. Hoyle read the mission statement of the Department of Health Professions, which is also the mission statement of the Advisory Board.
- APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** The agenda was approved as presented.
- APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Ms. Mills made a motion, which was properly seconded, to approve the October 9, 2020 Advisory Board meeting minutes as presented.
- NEW BUSINESS:** **Recommendation to Adopt Proposed Regulations Governing the Practice of Professional Art Therapy – Elaine Yeatts**
Ms. Yeatts thanked Ms. Hoyle for her hard work developing the draft of regulations presented for review. Ms. Yeatts briefly

discussed the Code of Virginia and its authorization for the Board of Counseling, in consultation with the Art Therapy Advisory Board, to create regulations to set requirements for licensure, fees, requirements for renewal and standards of practice. Ms. Yeatts discussed the executive summary report from the Board of Health Professions, Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) notice and the comments related to the NOIRA on Virginia Regulatory Town Hall. Ms. Yeatts indicated that the comments were all in support of the Art Therapy license.

Ms. Yeatts discussed the regulatory process and the threshold for licensure which would include the requirements for an examination.

Ms. Yeatts reviewed and the Board discussed each section of the proposed draft of the Art Therapy regulations. Board members and staff made suggestion for changes.

Ms. Mills stated that she has concerns that the Art Therapy Credentials Board (ATCB) may not provide a pathway for foreign education applicants or individuals who were educated decades ago. Ms. Yeatts indicated that there were no such provisions in the Code of Virginia regarding Grandfathering. Staff will contact the Office of the Attorney General for a decision on the Board's authority to grandfather or approve persons who do not meet the proposed licensure qualifications.

Ms. Lang indicated that ATCB does have a pathway for foreign education applicants to apply for certification.

After some discussion, the Board reached a consensus to add a section related to the requirements for Art Therapy Associates to the proposed regulations.

Board staff will compile all the suggestions and thoughts from the Advisory Board and create a redraft to be sent out individually to each of the Board members for their feedback.

Ms. Graves moved, which was proper seconded, that the Advisory Board approve a consensus draft with recommendations to the Board of Counseling to adopt the proposed regulations. With four members in favor, the motion passed.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: To be determined.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

Chair

Jaime Hoyle, JD
Executive Director

Date

Commonwealth of Virginia



REGULATIONS
GOVERNING THE PRACTICE OF
ART THERAPY

VIRGINIA BOARD OF COUNSELING

Title of Regulations: 18 VAC 115-90-10 et seq.

Statutory Authority: §§ 54.1-2400 and Chapter 35 of Title 54.1
of the *Code of Virginia*

Date: April 2021

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Part I. General Provisions.

18VAC115-90-10. Definitions.

A. The following words and terms when used in this chapter shall have the meaning ascribed to them in § 54.1-3500 of the Code of Virginia:

“Art therapist”

“Art therapy”

“Board”

"Counseling"

B. The following words and terms when used in this chapter shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Applicant" means any individual who has submitted an official application and paid the application fee for licensure as an art therapist or art therapy associate.

“ATCB” means the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc.

“ATR” means a Registered Art Therapist, a credential issued by the ATCB after meeting established educational standards, successful completion of advanced specific graduate-level education in art therapy and supervised post-graduate art therapy experience.

“ATR-BC” means a Board Certified Art Therapist, a credential issued by the ATCB after meeting the requirements the ATR and passing a national examination.

"Art Therapy Associate" means a person who has (i) completed a master's or doctoral degree program in art therapy, or an equivalent course of study from an accredited educational institution; (ii) satisfied the requirements for licensure set forth in regulations adopted by the Board; and (iii) been issued a license to practice art therapy under an approved clinical supervisor in accordance with regulations of the board.

“Advisory Board” means to the Advisory Board on Art Therapy authorized in §54.1-3517 of the Code of Virginia.

18VAC115-90-20. Fees required by the board.

A. The board has established the following fees applicable to licensure as a art therapist or art therapy associate:

Initial licensure by examination: Application processing and initial licensure as a art therapist \$175

Commented [1]: Let's check the fee table. Leila believes her LPC is less.

Initial licensure by endorsement: Application processing and initial licensure as an art therapist	\$175
Application and initial licensure as an art therapy associate	\$65
Duplicate license	\$10
Verification of licensure to another jurisdiction	\$30
Active annual license renewal for an art therapist	\$130
Inactive annual license renewal for an art therapist	\$65
Late renewal for art therapist	\$45
Reinstatement of a lapsed license for an art therapist	\$200
Replacement of or additional wall certificate	\$25
Returned check or dishonored credit card or debit card	\$50
Reinstatement following revocation or suspension	\$600

B. All fees are nonrefundable.

Part II. Requirements for Licensure as an Art Therapist and Art Therapist Associate.

18VAC115-90-30. Prerequisites for licensure as an art therapist and art therapist associate.

- A. Every applicant for licensure shall submit to the board:
1. A completed application;
 2. The application processing fee and initial licensure fee as prescribed in 18VAC115-90-20;

3. Verification of any other mental health or health professional license, registration, or certificate ever held in Virginia or another jurisdiction; and
4. A current report from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB).

B. An applicant shall have no unresolved disciplinary action against a mental health or health professional license, certificate, or registration held in Virginia or in another U. S. jurisdiction. The board will consider history of disciplinary action on a case-by-case basis.

18VAC115-90-40. Requirements for licensure.

In addition to pre-requisites as set forth in 18VAC115-90-30:

- A. Every applicant for licensure by examination as an art therapist shall submit to the board evidence of a current ATR-BC certification from the ATCB, or evidence documenting that the applicant:
 1. Holds a Master's degree from an accredited college or university in a program in art therapy that was either approved by the American Art Therapy Association or accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied health Education Programs at the time the degree was conferred, or a substantially equivalent program, as determined by the board;
 2. Has completed a minimum of 1,500 hours of post-degree direct client contact using art therapy under supervision of an art therapy supervised supervisor (ATCS), licensed art therapist, certified art therapist or other licensed mental health professional approved by the board, with a minimum of 200 hours of direct supervision, 100 hours of which must be provided by a current ATCS, licensed art therapist or certified art therapist; and
 3. Provides proof of a passing score on the examination of the ATCB.
- B. The Board, upon the recommendation of the Advisory Board, may determine that a program or course of study is substantially equivalent to an approved or accredited program in art therapy if it includes the equivalent of not less than 60 semester credit hours, or equivalent quarter-credit hours, of graduate coursework and not less than 700 hours of supervised field experience. Program content and coursework shall include graduate-level training in:
 1. History of art therapy.
 2. Theory and practical applications of art therapy.
 2. Human growth and developmental dynamics
 4. Counseling/Psychological theories
 5. Diagnosis and treatment of mental, emotional, behavioral and addiction disorders

6. Art therapy appraisal and assessment.
 7. Ethical and legal issues of art therapy practice
 8. Matters of cultural and social diversity in practice of art therapy
 9. Standards of good art therapy practice
 10. Group art therapy
 11. Research
- C. The board may grant a license to practice art therapy to an applicant who completed an academic program in a college or University in a foreign country which was not accredited by a United States accrediting body, if the applicant provides evidence to the Board of having met the requirements of 18VAC115-90-30 and 18VAC115-90-40(A)(2) and (A)(3), and submits evidence satisfactory to the Advisory Committee that the applicant's education and training is substantially equivalent to an approved or accredited program in art therapy pursuant to paragraph B of this section. The Advisory Board may interview an applicant under this section to determine whether the applicant's education and training meet the requirement of this section. If the documentation required by this section is in a language other than English, the applicant shall arrange for its translation into English by a translation service acceptable to the board and shall be signed by the translator attesting to its accuracy.
- D. An applicant for licensure by endorsement as an art therapist who holds a license in art therapy or an equivalent license issued from another United States jurisdiction shall:
1. Submit verification of a current, unrestricted art therapy or other license, the licensing standards of which are substantially similar to those set forth in subsection A of this section, or if lapsed, evidence that the license is eligible for reinstatement; and
 2. Provide an attestation of having read and understood the regulations and laws governing the practice of art therapy in Virginia.
- E. An applicant for licensure by endorsement as an art therapist who was a resident of Virginia on or before the effect date of this Part and who does not hold current ATR-BC certification from the ATCB shall submit to the board:
1. Evidence of having passed the examination of the ATCB; and
 2. Verification of autonomous, clinical practice in art therapy, as defined in §54.1-3500 of the Code of Virginia, for 24 of the last 60 months immediately preceding his licensure application. Clinical practice shall include the rendering of direct clinical art therapy services, clinical supervision of clinical art therapy services, or teaching graduate-level courses in art therapy.

18VAC90-115-50. Requirements for Practice as an Art Therapy Associate.

1. Art therapy associates shall not call themselves Licensed Art Therapists, directly bill for services rendered, or in any way represent themselves as independent, autonomous practitioners. Associates shall use the title of “Art Therapy Associate” in all written communications. Clients shall be informed in writing that the associate does not have the authority for independent practice, is practicing under supervision, and shall provide the supervisor’s name, professional address, and phone number.
2. Associates shall not engage in practice under supervision in areas for which they have not had the appropriate education or training.

Part III. Examinations.**18VAC115-90-60. General examination requirements; schedules; time limits.**

- A. Every applicant for initial licensure by examination by the board as an art therapist shall pass the Art Therapy Credentials Board examination (ATCBE) prescribed by the ATCB.
- B. An applicant is required to pass the prescribed examination and obtain certification as an ATR-BC no later than five years from the date of initial issuance by the board of an art therapy associate license, unless the board has granted an extension of the associate license.
- C. An Art Therapy Associate who has not met the requirements for licensure as an art therapist within five years of issuance of licensure as an art therapy associate may submit an application for extension of licensure to the board. Such application shall include:
 1. A plan for completing the requirement to obtain licensure as an art therapist;
 2. Documentation of compliance with requirements related to supervision, and ,
 3. A letter of recommendation from the clinical supervisor of record.

An extension of an associate art therapy license shall be valid for a period of two years.

Part IV. Licensure Renewal; Reinstatement.**18VAC115-90-70. Annual renewal of licensure.**

- A. Every licensed art therapist who intends to continue active practice shall submit to the board on or before June 30 of each year:
 1. A completed form for renewal of the license on which the licensee attests to compliance with the continuing competency requirements prescribed in this chapter; and
 2. The renewal fee prescribed in 18VAC115-90-20.
- B. A licensed art therapist who wishes to place his license in an inactive status may do so upon payment of the inactive renewal fee as established in 18VAC115-90-20. No person shall practice art therapy in Virginia unless he holds a current active license. A licensee who has selected an inactive status may become active by fulfilling the reactivation requirements set forth in subsection C of 18VAC115-90-110.
- C. An associate license in art therapy shall expire after five years from initial licensure unless an extension is granted as indicated in subsection C of 18VAC115-90-60.

D. Licensees shall notify the board of a change in the address of record or the public address, if different from the address of record within 60 days. Failure to receive a renewal notice from the board shall not relieve the license holder from the renewal requirement.

E. Practice with an expired license is prohibited and may constitute grounds for disciplinary action.

18VAC115-90-80. Continued competency requirements for renewal of a license.

A. Licensed art therapists shall be required to have completed a minimum of 20 hours of continuing competency for each annual licensure renewal. A minimum of two of these hours shall be in courses that emphasize the ethics, standards of practice, or laws governing behavioral science professions in Virginia.

B. The board may grant an extension for good cause of up to one year for the completion of continuing competency requirements upon written request from the licensee prior to the renewal date. Such extension shall not relieve the licensee of the continuing competency requirement.

C. The board may grant an exemption for all or part of the continuing competency requirements due to circumstances beyond the control of the licensee such as temporary disability, mandatory military service, or officially declared disasters.

D. An art therapist who holds another license issued by a Virginia health regulatory board may use the same continuing education hours for renewal. At least 10 of the required hours of continuing education shall be specifically related to art therapy.

E. Up to two hours of the 20 hours required for renewal may be satisfied through delivery of art therapy services, without compensation, to low-income individuals receiving health services through a local health department or a free clinic organized in whole or primarily for the delivery of those services. One hour of continuing education may be credited for three hours of providing such volunteer services, as documented by the health department or free clinic.

F. A licensed professional art therapist who was licensed by examination is exempt from meeting continuing competency requirements for the first renewal following initial licensure.

18VAC115-90-90. Continuing competency activity criteria

A. Approved hours of continuing competency activity for an art therapist shall be approved if they meet the continued education requirements for recertification as an ATR-BC.

B. Additionally, continuing competency activity for a licensed art therapist shall be approved if they are workshops, seminars, conferences, or courses in the behavioral health field offered by an individual or organization that has been certified or approved by one of the following:

- (1) The International Association of Marriage and Family Counselors and its state affiliates;
- (2) The American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy and its state affiliates;
- (3) The American Association of State Counseling Boards;
- (4) The American Counseling Association and its state and local affiliates;
- (5) The American Psychological Association and its state affiliates;
- (6) The Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification;

- (7) NAADAC, The Association for Addiction Professionals and its state and local affiliates;
- (8) National Association of Social Workers;
- (9) National Board for Certified Counselors;
- (10) A national behavioral health organization or certification body;
- (11) Individuals or organizations that have been approved as continuing competency sponsors by the American Association of State Counseling Boards or a counseling board in another state;
- (12) The American Association of Pastoral Counselors;
- (13) The American Art Therapy Association and its state affiliates;
- (14) The Art Therapy Credentials Board.
- (15) The International Expressive Arts Therapy Association.
- (16) Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor
- (17) Any private entity whose continuing education credits meet and are accepted as certified or approved by regional, state or national registration, certification, or licensure (mental health) boards or departments

18 VAC 115-90-100. Documenting compliance with continuing competency requirements.

- A. All licensees are required to maintain original documentation for a period of two years following renewal.
- B. After the end of each renewal period, the board may conduct a random audit of licensees to verify compliance with the requirement for that renewal period.
- C. Upon request, a licensee shall provide documentation as follows:
 - 1. To document completion of formal organized learning activities the licensee shall provide:
 - a. Official transcripts showing credit hours earned; or
 - b. Certificates of participation.
- D. Continuing competency hours required by a disciplinary order shall not be used to satisfy renewal requirements.

18VAC115-90-105. Late renewal; reactivation or reinstatement.

- A. A person whose license has expired may renew it within one year after its expiration date by paying the late fee prescribed in 18VAC115-90-20 as well as the license renewal fee prescribed for the year the license was not renewed and providing evidence of having met all applicable continuing competency requirements.
- B. A person who fails to renew a license after one year or more and wishes to resume practice shall apply for reinstatement, pay the reinstatement fee for a lapsed license, submit verification of any mental health license he holds or has held in another jurisdiction, if applicable, and provide evidence of having met all applicable continuing competency requirements not to exceed a maximum of 80 hours. The board may require the applicant for reinstatement to submit evidence regarding the continued ability to perform the functions within the scope of practice of the license.
- C. A person wishing to reactivate an inactive license shall submit (i) the renewal fee for active licensure minus any fee already paid for inactive licensure renewal; (ii) documentation of continued

competency hours equal to the number of years the license has been inactive not to exceed a maximum of 80 hours; and (iii) verification of any mental health license he holds or has held in another jurisdiction, if applicable. The board may require the applicant for reactivation to submit evidence regarding the continued ability to perform the functions within the scope of practice of the license.

Part V. Standards of Practice; Unprofessional Conduct; Disciplinary Actions; Reinstatement.

18VAC115-90-110. Standards of practice.

A. The protection of the public health, safety, and welfare and the best interest of the public shall be the primary guide in determining the appropriate professional conduct of all persons whose activities are regulated by the board. Regardless of the delivery method, whether in person, by phone or electronically, these standards shall apply to the practice of art therapy.

B. Persons licensed by the board shall:

1. Practice in a manner that is in the best interest of the public and does not endanger the public health, safety, or welfare;
2. Practice only within the boundaries of their competence, based on their education, training, supervised experience and appropriate professional experience and represent their education training and experience accurately to clients;
3. Stay abreast of new therapeutic information, concepts, applications and practices which are necessary to providing appropriate, effective professional services;
4. Be able to justify all services rendered to clients as necessary and appropriate for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes;
5. Document the need for and steps taken to terminate a therapeutic relationship when it becomes clear that the client is not benefiting from the relationship. Document the assistance provided in making appropriate arrangements for the continuation of treatment for clients, when necessary, following termination of a therapeutic relationship;
6. Make appropriate arrangements for continuation of services, when necessary, during interruptions such as vacations, unavailability, relocation, illness, and disability;
7. Disclose to clients all experimental methods of treatment and inform clients of the risks and benefits of any such treatment. Ensure that the welfare of the clients is in no way compromised in any experimentation or research involving those clients;
8. Neither accept nor give commissions, rebates, or other forms of remuneration for referral of clients for professional services;
9. Inform clients of the purposes, goals, techniques, procedures, limitations, potential risks, and benefits of services to be performed, the limitations of confidentiality, and other pertinent information when art therapy is initiated, and throughout the art therapy process as necessary.

Provide clients with accurate information regarding the implications of diagnosis, the intended use of tests and reports, fees, and billing arrangements;

10. Select tests for use with clients that are valid, reliable and appropriate and carefully interpret the performance of individuals not represented in standardized norms;

11. Determine whether a client is receiving services from another mental health service provider, and if so, refrain from providing services to the client without having an informed consent discussion with the client and having been granted communication privileges with the other professional;

12. Use only in connection with one's practice as a mental health professional those educational and professional degrees or titles that have been earned at a college or university accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the U. S. Department of Education, or credentials granted by a national certifying agency, and that are art therapy or counseling in nature; and

13. Advertise professional services fairly and accurately in a manner which is not false, misleading or deceptive.

C. No person shall engage in the practice of art therapy or hold himself out or otherwise represent himself as an art therapist or art therapy associate unless he is licensed by the Board. Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit a person licensed, certified, or registered by a health regulatory board from using the modalities of art media if such modalities are within his scope of practice.

D. In regard to client records, persons licensed by the board shall:

1. Maintain written or electronic clinical records for each client to include treatment dates and identifying information to substantiate diagnosis and treatment plan, client progress, and termination. Client records include artwork or any visual production produced by the client during clinical sessions;

2. Maintain client records securely, inform all employees of the requirements of confidentiality and provide for the destruction of records which are no longer useful in a manner that ensures client confidentiality;

3. Disclose or release records to others only with the clients' expressed written consent or that of the client's legally authorized representative in accordance with § 32.1-127.1:03 of the Code of Virginia;

4. Ensure confidentiality in the usage of client records and clinical materials by obtaining informed consent from the client or the client's legally authorized representative before (i) videotaping, (ii) audio recording, (iii) permitting third party observation, or (iv) using identifiable client records and clinical materials in teaching, writing or public presentations; and

5. Maintain client records for a minimum of seven years or as otherwise required by law from the date of termination of the therapeutic relationship with the following exceptions:

a. At minimum, records of a minor child shall be maintained for seven years after attaining the age of majority (18 years) or ten years following termination or as otherwise required by law, whichever comes later;

b. Records that are required by contractual obligation or federal law to be maintained for a longer period of time; or

c. Records that have been transferred to another mental health service provider or given to the client or his legally authorized representative.

E. In regard to dual relationships, persons licensed by the board shall:

1. Avoid dual relationships with clients that could impair professional judgment or increase the risk of harm to clients. (Examples of such relationships include, but are not limited to, familial, social, financial, business, bartering, or close personal relationships with clients.) Art therapists shall take appropriate professional precautions when a dual relationship cannot be avoided, such as informed consent, consultation, supervision, and documentation to ensure that judgment is not impaired, and no exploitation occurs. An art therapist who engages in such a relationship shall have the responsibility to examine and document thoroughly that such a relationship does not have an exploitive nature, based on factors such as duration of therapy, amount of time since therapy, termination circumstances, client's personal history and mental status, and adverse impact on the client. A client's consent to, initiation of or participation in such a relationship with an art therapist does not change the nature of the conduct nor lift the regulatory;

2. Not engage in any type of romantic relationships or sexual intimacies with clients or those included in a collateral relationship with the client and not provide therapy to persons with whom they have had a romantic relationship or sexual intimacy. Art therapists shall not engage in romantic relationships or sexual intimacies with former clients within a minimum of ten years after terminating the therapeutic relationship. Art Therapists who engage in such relationship or intimacy after ten years following termination shall have the responsibility to examine and document thoroughly that such relations do not have an exploitive nature, based on factors such as duration of therapy, amount of time since therapy, termination circumstances, client's personal history and mental status, or adverse impact on the client. A client's consent to, initiation of or participation in sexual behavior or involvement with an art therapist does not change the nature of the conduct nor lift the regulatory prohibition;

3. Not engage in any romantic relationship or sexual intimacy or establish a counseling or psychotherapeutic relationship with a supervisee or student. Licensed Art Therapists shall avoid any nonsexual dual relationship with a supervisee or student in which there is a risk of exploitation or potential harm to the supervisee or student or the potential for interference with the supervisor's professional judgment; and

4. Recognize conflicts of interest and inform all parties of the nature and directions of loyalties and responsibilities involved.

F. Persons licensed by this board shall report to the board known or suspected violations of the laws and regulations governing the practice of art therapy.

G. Persons licensed by the board shall advise their clients of their right to report to the Department of Health Professions any information of which the licensee may become aware in his professional capacity indicating that there is a reasonable probability that a person licensed or certified as a mental health service provider, as defined in § [54.1-2400.1](#) of the Code of Virginia, may have engaged in unethical, fraudulent or unprofessional conduct as defined by the pertinent licensing statutes and regulations.

18VAC115-90-120. Grounds for revocation, suspension, probation, reprimand, censure, or denial of license.

A. Action by the board to revoke, suspend, deny issuance or renewal of a license, or take disciplinary action may be taken in accordance with the following:

1. Conviction of a felony, or of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, or violation of or aid to another in violating any provision of Chapter 35 (§[54.1-3500](#) et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia, any other statute applicable to the practice of art therapy, or any provision of this chapter;
2. Procuring, attempting to procure, or maintaining a license by fraud or misrepresentation;
3. Conducting one's practice in such a manner as to make it a danger to the health and welfare of one's clients or to the public, or if one is unable to practice art therapy with reasonable skill and safety to clients by reason of illness, abusive use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or other type of material or result of any mental or physical condition;
4. Intentional or negligent conduct that causes or is likely to cause injury to a client or clients;
5. Performance of functions outside the demonstrable areas of competency;
6. Failure to comply with the continued competency requirements set forth in this chapter;
7. Violating or abetting another person in the violation of any provision of any statute applicable to the practice of art therapy, or any part or portion of this chapter; or
8. Performance of an act likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public.

B. Following the revocation or suspension of a license, the licensee may petition the board for reinstatement upon good cause shown or as a result of substantial new evidence having been obtained that would alter the determination reached.

18 VAC115-90-130. Reinstatement following disciplinary action.

A. Any person whose license has been suspended or who has been denied reinstatement by board order, having met the terms of the order, may submit a new application and fee for reinstatement of licensure.

B. The board in its discretion may, after an administrative proceeding, grant the reinstatement sought in subsection A of this section.

18VAC115-90-140. Unlawful practice.

A. Beginning on January 1, 2022, no person shall use the title “licensed art therapist,” “art therapist,” or use any other title or abbreviation to indicate or imply that the person is licensed or qualified to practice art therapy in this state unless the person holds a license issued by the board.

Two thoughts that we may want to be incorporate and have provided language for are:

1. The need to make sure that art therapists who qualify and do not want to hold (or pay for) an ATR-BC have the option for licensure. The ATCB exam is offered for ~~JUST~~ state licensure, as well as ATR-BC credentialing, so use of that **competency** exam is still viable.
2. Language is needed to assign a specific date or deadline to inform practicing art therapists when they need to obtain a license and when others without a license would be prohibited from practice.

Additionally, we would like clarification on what happens to a person who represents themselves as an art therapist, but is not?

Mills - May 5, 2021

Anne Mills, Member, Advisory Board on Art Therapy
May 5, 2021

To assist the Board of Counseling in formulating Regulations Governing the Practice of Art Therapy
Responses to the Revised Proposed Regulations promulgated April 26, 2021

Document	Current provisions	Proposed provisions	Rationale or interpretation
Code of Virginia S 713, Ch. 35, §54.1-3516 C	“...the Board shall consider requirements for registration as a Registered Art Therapist...”	n/a	“Consider” does not mean “consider to the exclusion of other requirements”. To better meet the mental health needs of Virginians, competent and experienced art therapists should have a pathway to licensed practice that may at the discretion of the Advisory Board on Art Therapy be in addition to those of the Art Therapy Credentials Board (ATCB). The rationale is that it may not best serve the public for the regulations to rely wholly on the ATCB or any other organization.
Code of Virginia S 713, Ch. 35, §54.1-3516 A	“No person shall...hold himself out...as an art therapist unless he is licensed...”	Insert the same passage into Part V	
18 VAC 115-90-110 B12	“...and that are counseling in nature...”	“...and that are substantively related to mental health treatment; and”	To quote S 713, art therapy uses psychotherapeutic principles. These may be derived from a

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			broad range of mental health treatment approaches.
18 VAC 115-90-110 C5a		Insert: “ten years following termination, or as otherwise required by law, whichever comes later”	Seven years after age of majority is the rule elsewhere and this should not be excepted.
18 VAC 115-90-110 D2	“...shall not engage in...sexual intimacies with former clients within a minimum of five years...”	“...shall not engage in...sexual intimacies with former clients within a minimum of ten years...” Replace “counseling” with “therapy” or “therapeutic” throughout 18 VAC 115-90-110	Such relationships are never ethical or acceptable.
18 VAC 115-90-110 D1		Add: “An art therapist who engages in such a relationship shall have the responsibility to examine and document thoroughly that such a relationship does not have an exploitive nature, based on factors such as duration of therapy, amount of time since therapy, termination circumstances, client’s personal history and mental status, and adverse impact on the client. A client's consent to, initiation of or participation in such a relationship with an art therapist does not change the nature of the conduct nor lift the regulatory prohibition.”	This statement of responsibility is necessary in addition to the existing stated precautions.
18 VAC 115-90-90 B	“Additionally, continuing competency...”	Replace with: “Additionally, any continuing competency activity in the behavioral health field such as workshops, seminars, conferences, or courses shall be approved for a licensed art therapist if the continuing education credit is certified or approved by one of the following:”	This corrects and clarifies. What is being approved in the CE process is each hour of training, BY various companies or organizations. The decision is made on the content of the training, not the (certified or approved) status of an individual or organization.

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18 VAC 115-90-90 B		Remove (10) and replace it with: “Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC)” Insert (16): “any private entity whose continuing education credits are accepted as certified or approved by regional, state, or national registration, certification, or licensure boards or departments”	
18 VAC 115-90-120 A1		Remove “any other statute applicable to the practice of professional counseling”	Possibly too broad
	No grandfathering at present	Insert: A person who has applied for such a license and who, in the judgment of the Art Therapy Advisory Board, possesses qualifications, education or experience substantially equivalent to the requirements of § 54.1-3516 and § 54.1-3517; however, any such applicant shall have completed at least one year of supervised clinical experience in art therapy, and (ii) for a period of time to be determined by the Board but not less than two years after the effective date of the regulations, the Board shall issue such a license to any such person who, in the judgment of the Board, possesses qualifications, education or experience acceptable to the Board and has completed at least one year of supervised clinical experience in art therapy”	To better meet the mental health needs of Virginians, competent and experienced art therapists should have a pathway to licensed practice that may at the discretion of the Advisory Board on Art Therapy be in addition to those of the Art Therapy Credentials Board (ATCB).
	No reciprocity at present	Insert: With the approval of the Art Therapy Advisory Board, the Board shall license as an art therapist a person who, in addition to meeting the requirements of these regulations, holds a license in good standing in another state that has licensing requirements that are equivalent to or exceed the requirements of these regulations. An applicant shall submit to the Board, with the completed application, evidence satisfactory to the Board that the applicant	To better meet the mental health needs of Virginians, competent and experienced art therapists should have a pathway to licensed practice that may at the discretion of the Advisory Board on Art Therapy be in addition to those of the Art Therapy Credentials Board (ATCB).

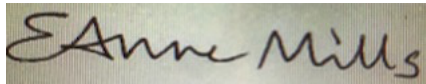
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		<p>Holds a license in good standing to practice art therapy in another state or jurisdiction; has no history of disciplinary action, past or pending, in another state or jurisdiction in which the applicant holds a license to practice art therapy;</p> <p>Has not committed any act or omission that would be grounds for discipline or denial of a license under this regulation;</p> <p>and has engaged in the active practice of art therapy for not less than two years</p>	
	<p>No provision for foreign educated, or those from unaccredited Masters programs</p>	<p>Insert: the Board may grant a license to practice art therapy to an applicant who completed an educational program in a college or University in a foreign country which was not accredited by a US entity, if the applicant meets the following requirements:</p> <p>Meets all requirements of these regulations except those regarding the accreditation of their college or University; and</p> <p>demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Art Therapy Advisory Board that the applicant's education and training are substantially equivalent to the requirements of these regulations in ensuring that the applicant is qualified to practice art therapy by submitting the documentation required in these regulations.</p> <p>An applicant under this section shall in lieu of meeting the requirements of section ..., submit one of the following:</p> <p>Proof satisfactory to the Board that the applicant has received a Masters degree or higher from a foreign institution which was accredited, at the time the degree was conferred, by an accrediting body recognized by the national government of the country in which the institution is located; or</p>	<p>To better meet the mental health needs of Virginians, competent and experienced art therapists should have a pathway to licensed practice that may at the discretion of the Advisory Board on Art Therapy be in addition to those of the Art Therapy Credentials Board (ATCB).</p>

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		<p>A certification from a private education evaluation system approved by the Board that the applicant's foreign education is substantially equivalent to the education provided in an accredited program.</p> <p>The Art Therapy Advisory Board may interview an applicant under this section to determine whether the applicant's education or training meets the requirement requirements of these regulations.</p> <p>If a document required by this section is in a language other than English, an applicant shall arrange for its translation into English by a translation service acceptable to the board and shall submit a translation signed by the translator attesting to its accuracy.</p>	

Respectfully submitted,



(Elizabeth) Anne Mills, ATR-BC, LCPAT, LPC