

MTSP Internship Fact Sheet

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This internship is through Music Therapy St. Pete, LLC (MTSP), in affiliation with your university's music therapy program. Your internship director is James Riley, MM, MT-BC. ***James is available by his work cell (727) 350-7897 and e-mail james@mtsp.com.*** You will also be working with additional board-certified music therapists (MT-BCs) and a fellow music therapy intern (MTI). Clear and honest communication is essential, for all things large and small.

This internship will be based out of our clinic located at 4144 5th St N, St. Petersburg, FL 33713. Due to the nature of the private practice setting, you will also be frequently driving to other healthcare organizations and client homes across St. Petersburg and the larger Tampa Bay area. ***You are required to maintain a working car, auto insurance, health insurance, and liability insurance.*** Although you will primarily be transporting yourself, you will likely carpool with your director, MT-BCs, and MTI during internship. You will also occasionally be working one on one with them, and/or one-on-one with clients. You will experience sights and smells inherent to certain medical conditions. You may hear children's comments to/about you "without a filter," or older adults in a confused state saying things that are negative, inappropriate, or concerning. Please communicate if anything you see or experience makes you feel at all uncomfortable. As internship progresses, you'll earn greater independence and professional responsibility. ***During these and all situations, all parties must act in a professional and ethical manner. All questions/concerns must be discussed and resolved in a timely manner.***

The American Music Therapy Association (AMTA) National Roster Internship Guidelines have inspired much of this internship's structure and process, however, this internship is a university-affiliated internship. Due to this difference, not all requirements of the National Roster site apply; For example, this internship does not have a Dismissal Policy written out in advance. ***Whenever there are concerns that cannot be reasonably mediated through clear communication among involved parties, the issue shall be brought up with James Riley and then your academic program director to discuss the best resolution or future plan of action.***

Working with our clients requires respect, confidentiality, and good hygiene.

Outstanding music therapy and general professional service is our highest priority. The safety and wellbeing of the client includes proper privacy and sanitization protocols. We also ask privacy in your access to MTSP's repertoire, MT Activity Planning, resources, etc. Although you will utilize and contribute to these resources during your internship, they are ultimately the intellectual property of MTSP. Additionally, all instruments, office supplies, various equipment, and keys belong to MTSP and must be returned at the end of internship.

COMPETENCIES AND EVALUATION

Your academic, clinical, musical, and overall professional competencies will be monitored throughout internship. This internship process aims to prepare you to meet or exceed the standards set forth by the American Music Therapy Association's *Scope of Music Therapy Practice, Professional Competencies, Standards of Clinical Practice, and Code of Ethics*. Your internship director and supporting music therapists will responsively act as your teacher, mentor, manager, coach, and ally. You will discuss your development on a regular basis, and receive written mid-term and final evaluations. For educational purposes, you will also complete your own written mid-term and final evaluations using the same evaluation form. Throughout internship, there will also be many informal opportunities for guidance, feedback, and supervision. Communicate any and all questions or concerns in a timely manner. Your total performance will ultimately result in a passing or failing grade to be reported to your academic program director.

INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

Your internship will take place in the private practice setting across the Tampa Bay area. You will work with many different clients with very different personalities, preferences, abilities, circumstances, health conditions, etc. You will gain experience in group and individual settings. You will discuss clinical settings in advance, observe a professional therapist, co-facilitate, and then engage in planning and supervisory meetings before earning independence. Your schedule will be diverse and inconsistent, but we primarily serve children with special needs, clients with various medical conditions, adults with intellectual disabilities, and older adults in memory care.

You will work around 40 hours per week for 6 months, though some weeks (especially in the beginning) may require fewer hours and some (especially later in your internship) may exceed 40 hours. Internship lasts 26 weeks and allows approximately one week's worth of sick/vacation days. Students are required to collect 1,200 clinical hours, although up to 300 hours may be received before entering internship. We require at least 900 internship hours, but most interns average around 1,000. Your internship will include some early mornings and late evenings. You will log your own internship hours; hours will include session planning, clinical hours, documentation, transportation between clients, supervision meetings, repertoire development, written assignments, projects, and additional internship related activities. At times, you may feel overwhelmed, exhausted, frustrated, and anxious. Such responses to stress are normal, but ***should not exceed normal levels***. It is important to ***maintain healthy self-care and to communicate any concerns*** with your internship director in a timely manner. Work together to identify the problem(s) and plan an appropriate resolution. Challenge yourself, but set realistic expectations. Work hard, but work with passion. Take initiative, plan ahead, prepare in advance, and simply live proactively. Internship is a time of personal, musical, and professional development. Set yourself up for success. The effort you put in now will benefit you for years to come. And have fun! Music therapy is challenging but nourishing, an exciting and fulfilling career!