

## WHAT ARE THE COSTS OF THE CREDENTIALING PROCESS?

A complete schedule of all current fees, a listing of exam dates and locations, application handbooks, as well as additional helpful information and forms are available online at [www.atcb.org](http://www.atcb.org).

## ATCB CREDENTIAL HOLDER TESTIMONIALS

"I was pleased when the ATCB offered the provisional designation and applied for this designation right away. The provisional status helped speed up my registration process, acknowledging the education and experience I have attained thus far, and helped me be seen as legitimate in the field of art therapy."

*Meera Rastogi  
ATR-P, Ohio*

"My ATR-BC was accepted as 'license equivalent' for both a faculty appointment and medical staff privileges."

*Linda Chapman  
ATR-BC, California*

"The Art Therapy Credentials Board Examination was an essential part of achieving state regulations for licensure in Mississippi."

*Susan Anand  
ATR-BC, Mississippi*

"When my institution had to cut staff, I was the only art therapist retained and it was because I was board certified, a regulation of the accrediting body."

*Brenda Barthell  
ATR-BC, Virginia*

7 Terrace Way,  
Greensboro, NC 27403-3660

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## PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALING: A GUIDE FOR STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES

### MISSION OF THE ATCB

*The mission of the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc. (ATCB) is to protect the public by promoting the competent and ethical practice of art therapy through the credentialing of art therapy professionals.*

ATCB is committed to operating its programs in a nondiscriminatory manner, and affirms that it shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, marital status, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental disability, medical condition (including but not limited to cancer-related or genetic characteristics), pregnancy, age, citizenship, or service in the uniformed services (as defined by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994.)

## WHY BECOME CREDENTIALIED?

- Credentialing through the Art Therapy Credentials Board (ATCB) ensures that the educational and professional standards needed to be a qualified art therapist are met and maintained - essential in any mental health field and required by most employers.
- Being credentialed by the ATCB means that you provide services within the ethical guidelines of the ATCB's *Code of Ethics, Conduct, and Disciplinary Procedures*.
- The ATCB is a national credentialing board. Credentials are portable from state to state and are recognized in some countries other than the U.S.

## **NEW! GET THE PROVISIONAL ATR (ATR-P) BEFORE YOU START ACCRUING YOUR ATR HOURS**

- You are eligible to apply for the ATR-Provisional once you have completed your degree and educational requirements, and are preparing for post-education supervision with a qualified supervisor.
- While you accumulate the required post-education hours of clinical experience, the ATR-Provisional ensures employers that you have met established educational standards and completed specific graduate-level education in art therapy.
- The ATR-Provisional is not a required credential to apply for the ATR, but it may help with employment as a new graduate.
- The ATR-Provisional Application Handbook explains all of the requirements for the ATR-Provisional application and contains the required forms. [www.atcb.org/New\\_Applicants/Apply\\_ATR\\_Provisional](http://www.atcb.org/New_Applicants/Apply_ATR_Provisional)

## BECOMING REGISTERED (ATR)

### *While you are still a student:*

- Document required hours of clinical experience and supervision for your practicum/internship.
- Request references from your supervisors as each practicum/internship is completed.
- Verify that your supervisors are either ATR or ATR-BC by using the "Find a Credentialed Art Therapist" feature on the ATCB website.
- Create an account on MyATCB, <https://www.atcb.org/signin>. You can set up your page on MyATCB to manage your credentials and receive ATCB information via email.

### *After graduation:*

- Become familiar with the application process by obtaining a copy of the ATR Application Handbook ([www.atcb.org/New\\_Applicants/Apply\\_ATR](http://www.atcb.org/New_Applicants/Apply_ATR)).
- Verify that your supervisors are properly credentialed and/or licensed. **Note:** Beginning January 1, 2018 at least half of your post-education supervision must be provided by an ATR-BC.
- Document required post-education hours of clinical experience and supervision.
- Request references from your supervisor(s) and professional colleagues.
- Requirements for both supervisors and references are outlined in the ATR Application Handbook.

## BECOMING AN ATR-BC

- Board Certification is a widely recognized practice of the major health and educational professions of the United States.
- Once you have earned the ATR, you are eligible to apply to take the Art Therapy Credentials Board Examination (ATCBE) for board certification. There is no waiting period.
- The ATCBE is a reliable and valid tool used by the licensing boards of several states.
- The exam is administered during the American Art Therapy Association's Annual Conference and as a computer-based test offered during several windows of time each year at over 500 designated testing centers throughout the U.S.
- In order to take the ATCBE you must apply online via MyATCB, [www.atcb.org](http://www.atcb.org).

## WHEN ARE YOU CREDENTIALIED?

You are entitled to use the designation of ATR-P, ATR, ATR-BC, and ATCS when you have met the specific requirements of each credential, have submitted the required paperwork, and have received official notification from the ATCB. Once received, you must maintain the credential.

## CREDENTIAL MAINTENANCE

- All ATCB credentials (ATR-P, ATR, ATR-BC, and ATCS) are subject to annual maintenance fees.
- The ATR-BC and ATCS credentials must be recertified every five years by completing and documenting required continued education or through re-examination.