

How to advertise for a music therapist

A guide for employers

Step 1

Tell us who you are

This should include...

- ...the name of your organisation
- ...what type of organisation you are
- ...a description of what your organisation does
- ...where you are
- ...your organisation's contact details, including social media info
- ...any other contact details that you think are useful

Don't forget...

...to provide contact details for someone who can talk to applicants about the clinical work

...to provide contact details for someone who can talk to applicants about the benefits of working for your organisation

...to say who's in charge of the initiative that the music therapist will be involved with

Step 2

Tell us who you want music therapy for

Who will be offered music therapy?

Any of the following description might be useful...

- Age range
- Health needs
- Social and cultural needs
- Emotional and behavioural needs
- Current situation and difficulties that music therapy might be helpful with
- Other services that are involved
- Any outcomes you would like from the music therapy service

Step 3

Tell us who you want

Don't forget...

...to provide a person specification indicating the knowledge, skills, and experience you consider essential and / or desirable for the post

...that writing a job description helps you to be clear about why you might need a music therapist

...it may be more useful to first answer the question,

‘what will music therapy give to my service?’

The person specification should include...

...telling us to what extent the therapist will be expected to be autonomous or independent in their work

...that you will need the therapist to demonstrate state registration with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)

...whether you need your therapist to be very experienced or is it a post suited to newly qualified therapists? Are there other personal skills applicants will need for the post to be a success, such as personnel management, budgeting, fundraising or research skills?

It should also include...

...how specialist or how integrated do you need your therapist to be?

Will they be working in a contained way with clients or would there be an expectation that music therapy contributes to collaborative processes such as multidisciplinary assessments, care plan approaches or individualised educational plans?

...and any other specialist skills or interests that might be useful

Use the person specification to tell us who you want

Step 4

Tell us the details

The job advert should also include...

...the salary, salary range or hourly rate – what are you offering to pay for the service you require?

...working hours – full / part time, pro rata / term time / fixed term / contract

...employment package – does this include supervision and CPD or an allowance towards supervision and CPD costs, pension contributions, other benefits?

...closing date for applications, interview dates and full contact details



For more information, please contact BAMT

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