# D.C. MUNICIPAL REGULATIONS for DANCE THERAPY

## CHAPTER 71 DANCE THERAPY

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### 7100 APPLICABILITY

7100.1 This chapter applies to applicants for and holders of a registration to practice dance therapy.

7100.2 Chapter 40 (General Rules) of this title supplements this chapter.

7100.3 Chapter 41 (Administrative Procedures) of this title shall also supplement this chapter, provided that the term "board" shall in all instances refer to the Director, and the Director shall possess all powers and assume all functions, assigned to a "board" under these administrative procedures, as well as the powers and functions retained by the Director.

### 7101 TERM OF REGISTRATION

7101.1 Subject to 7102.2, a registration issued pursuant to this chapter shall expire at 12:00 midnight on February 28 of each even-numbered year.

7101.2 If the Director changes the renewal system pursuant to Section 4006.3 of Chapter 40 of this title, a registration issued pursuant to this chapter shall expire at 12:00 midnight of the last day of the month of the birthdate of the holder of the registration, or other date established by the Director.

### 7102 EDUCATIONAL AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

7102.1 An applicant for registration to practice dance therapy shall submit proof that the applicant has:

(a) A Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree from a college or university whose accreditation is recognized by the Council on Post-Secondary Education; and

(b) A Master's degree in dance therapy or in a related field, as recognized

by the American Dance Therapy Association (ADTA); and

(c) Successfully completed any internship programs, additional course work, or field work required by the ADTA in combination with the applicant's Master's degree.

7102.2 In addition to meeting the requirements of 7102.1, an applicant shall furnish satisfactory proof that the applicant has received credentialled status from ADTA as a Dance Therapist Registered (DTR) or as a member of the Academy of Dance Therapists Registered (ADTR), and is currently registered with the ADTA.

**7103 SCOPE OF PRACTICE BY REGISTERED DANCE THERAPISTS**

7103.1 "Dance therapy" is the psychotherapeutic use of movement which furthers the physical and emotional integration of the individual.

7103.2 The terms "dance therapy", "dance/movement therapy" and "movement therapy" have the same meaning and may be used interchangeably.

7103.3 As used in this section "Dance Therapy Practice" means treatment service delivery in clinical, residential, community, or private practice settings where the therapist will:

(a) Observe, assess and record the movement behavior and the client's level of functioning (including mental and emotional processes and their manifestation) on a nonverbal movement level;

(b) Communicate with the client through movement;

(c) Plan and implement appropriate therapeutic intervention based on clearly defined treatment goals consistent with the education and training of their profession, including but not limited to working toward the goals of: bodily integration, enhancing communicative behavior, enhancing social interaction and awareness and expression of feelings by clients served;

(d) Periodically evaluate, record, and report the client's response to the dance therapy treatment provided; and

(e) Perform all the above in accordance with the Code of Ethical Practice and all credentialling requirements established by the American Dance Therapy Association.

7103.4 A person registered to practice dance therapy under this chapter may employ the theories and techniques of the profession, (including "dance

therapy practice") to aid in the restoration and rehabilitation of the mental and physical functions of their clients in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

7103.5 A person registered to practice dance therapy pursuant to this chapter shall practice within the permissible scope of practice allowed by his or her credentialled status with the American Dance Therapy Association as follows:

(a) An individual who is credentialled by the American Dance Therapy Association as a "Dance Therapist Registered" or "DTR" is qualified for entry into the profession and may be employed as a dance therapist within a clinical residential or community setting;

(b) An individual who is credentialled by the American Dance Therapy Association as a member of the "Academy Dance Therapists Registered" or "ADTR" is qualified for the advanced level of dance therapy practice including the right to train dance therapists, teach, provide supervision and engage in private practice;

(c) An individual who is credentialled as a "DTR" but who is not credentialled as an ADTR may not train dance therapists, teach, provide supervision or engage in private practice.

**7104 RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION**

7104.1 An applicant for renewal of a registration shall comply with the requirements of Chapter 40 pertaining to renewal.

**7105 SUPERVISED PRACTICE BY STUDENTS AND GRADUATES**

7105.1 Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require registration by an individual enrolled in a recognized school or college as a candidate for a degree in dance therapy, or in a related field recognized by the ADTA, or enrolled in a postgraduate training or internship program recognized by the ADTA, in order to practice dance therapy, provided that the practice is:

(a) Performed as a part of the individual's course of instruction, or as a postgraduate internship or fieldwork assignment which is required by the ADTA as a pre-requisite to obtaining his or her credentialled status;

(b) Performed under the direct supervision of an ADTR or licensed mental health professional accepted by the college or university or the ADTA; and

(c) Performed at a hospital nursing home, or health facility operated by the District or federal government, a health education center, or other health care facility approved by the college or university or the ADTA.

7105.2 As used in this section, direct supervision means supervision in which the supervisor is available on the premises and within vocal communication either directly or by a communications device at the time the student, graduate or applicant is practicing.

**7106 AUTHORIZED PRACTICE**

7106.1 Any person who practices or offers to practice dance therapy or movement therapy in the District of Columbia, or holds himself or herself out to be a dance or movement therapist shall register as a dance therapist pursuant to these rules.