

NORTH AMERICAN  
**DRAMA THERAPY**  
ASSOCIATION



May 29, 2020

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**To Drama Therapy Educators of the NADTA and to MA and AT/MA Drama  
Therapy Students of the NADTA**

Your NADTA board members understand many of the challenges that the pandemic has caused students and their teachers at universities and alternative training schools. The fear that university graduation might be halted or that internship hours would not be completed, thereby not allowing student completion of drama therapy programs was and is a very real stressor. Internships and employment hours have been diminished and job placements have been terminated while people are trying to cope daily about safety, health and the realities of taking care of themselves and/or loved ones. To educators, we thank you for creating a forum where we could address the challenges and needs of your students as you stand by their right to complete their courses. To students, we have your interests and needs in the foreground of decision making and we extend our assistance to support your education and your desire to become a registered and employed drama therapist.

For everyone, in order to change education policy that was decided upon long before we were part of executive decision making, we have asked professors, department chairs, and other educators of drama and creative art therapies, what they deemed as most important and urgent to address concerning training at this time. The education chair and president convened with school leaders and the student committee convened and brainstormed with the membership chair, informing the education chair. We have quite a caring and diligent community of drama therapists across North America and beyond!

This moment has also offered us an opportunity to re-evaluate some of our training policies and to reconsider what is most important for the NADTA. Some policy changes we voted on may reflect interim shifts and others consider a possible new normal of using drama therapy via video telehealth, which will require training and review in the future. Moving forward, our organization's goals of certification and licensure will require more discussion and insight from students and educators on the standards that best serve drama therapy education and our populations. For now, please note the education policies your NADTA board voted on for immediate implementation. These changes represent our concessions to accredited master's programs (or AT students) with respect to earning the RDT. It is still critical for programs and students to look at the appropriate licensing bodies of their regions to determine their requirements, which will differ from RDT training requirements.

[Click here for the Interim Policy Change due to COVID-19](#)

[Click here for the New Telehealth Video Policy Changes](#)

The executive board, education chair, registry committee and all NADTA committee and board members thank you for your patience on these adjustments as we discern healthy next steps for the future of our thriving NADTA. Thank you.

In Solidarity,

The NADTA Board of Directors

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