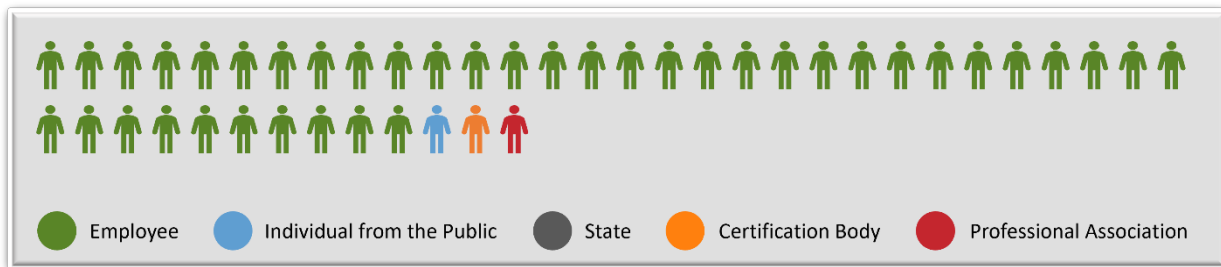


VA STANDARD OF PRACTICE FOR DANCE/MOVEMENT THERAPISTS Comment Count Report

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is establishing VA's standard of practice for Dance/Movement Therapists; this will be a standardized set of services that all VA Dance/Movement Therapists can perform if their VA medical facility performs such services, and they have the education, training, and skill to perform the services.

On July 28, 2023, VA posted the proposed VA standard of practice for Dance/Movement Therapists on the Federal Register ([88 FR 48949](#)) for public comment and within VA's intranet for VA employee comment. VA also sent letters to the national certification body (Dance/Movement Therapy Certification Board), the association that co-developed the scope of practice (American Dance Therapy Association)¹ and the single State licensing board (New York) for Dance/Movement Therapists with the proposed VA standard of practice and an opportunity for them to comment directly to VA on the proposed standard. VA requested that all comments on the Federal Register, VA's intranet site, and from the States and the certification and standards bodies be provided within 60 days. The comment period closed on September 26, 2023, and VA received 43 comments in total.



VA received 40 comments from VA employees, 1 comment from an individual from the public, 1 comment from the Dance/Movement Therapy Certification Board, and 1 comment from the American Dance Therapy Association. As of September 26, 2023, VA had not received comments from the 1 State licensing board for Dance/Movement Therapists; however, VA will continue to actively engage with the State.

VA will review all comments received and make appropriate revisions to the VA standard of practice for Dance/Movement Therapists in light of the comments, to include those that help VA meet its mission and goals through evidence-based practice and alternatives.

VA will post a collective response to all comments in a final report on <https://www.va.gov/standardsofpractice> once the VA standard of practice for Dance/Movement Therapists is published in Veterans Health Administration Directive 1900, which will be available at <https://www.va.gov/vhapublications/publications.cfm?pub=1>.

¹ The Code of Ethics and Standards was developed jointly by the American Dance Therapy Association and the Dance/Movement Therapy Certification Board.