

Recreational Therapist

<p>Overview</p>	<p>Recreational therapist may work in various health care settings. They are part of allied health professionals who use recreation, leisure and play to treat patients. They identify which modality of recreation are right for helping the patients based on individual strengths, values, assessments.</p> <p>Recreational therapists may work in acute care, rehabilitation centers, long term care homes, mental health care, addiction services, correctional facilities, community-based programs private practice, etc.</p>								
<p>NOC code</p>	<p>Other professional occupations in therapy and assessment (3144)</p>								
<p>Alias Job Titles</p>	<p>Art therapist; Art therapists' supervisor; Art therapy consultant; Art therapy teacher (except education); Athletic therapist; Athletic trainer - therapy; Certified athletic therapist (CAT); Dance therapist; Dance therapists' supervisor; Dance therapy researcher; Dance-movement therapist; Dance-movement therapy researcher; Drama therapist; Drama therapists' supervisor; Exercise physiologist; Exercise therapist; Human kineticist; Kinanthropologist; Kinesiologist; Movement analyst - medical; Movement therapist; Music therapist; Music therapists' supervisor; Music therapy researcher; Recreational therapist; Registered dance therapist (DTR); Registered kinesiologist; Remedial gymnast; Remedial gymnastics teacher (except education); Remedial gymnasts' supervisor; Remedial therapist; Spontaneous art teacher - therapy; Therapeutic recreationist;</p>								
<p>Qualifications Required</p>	<p>A bachelor's degree in recreation therapy or related filed such a Kinesiology, Gerontology, Recreation and Leisure studies, etc. is usually required.</p>								
<p>Salary Range</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Average hourly</th> <th>Range hourly</th> <th>Average yearly</th> <th>Range yearly</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>\$35.81</td> <td>\$16.85 - \$50.33</td> <td>\$69,823</td> <td>\$32,855 - \$98,144</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Average hourly	Range hourly	Average yearly	Range yearly	\$35.81	\$16.85 - \$50.33	\$69,823	\$32,855 - \$98,144
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<p>Job Demand</p>	<p>High.</p> <p>Employment outlook is good to fair in most provinces. More information are available here.</p>								

Growth opportunity	Advancement opportunities vary depending on the organization and the therapist’s academic qualifications.
Years’ Experience Required	2-3 years of experience is required
Training Options (if available)	A list of institutions in Canada offering such programs can be available here . It can also be started with some diploma programs at some colleges that can later be continued as bachelor programs at some universities.
Personal Qualities	Kind; sympathetic; excellent communication skills; critical thinking skills; Organizational skills, excellent people’s skills, CPR/First Aid certification may be required; they may have to take part in activities that require above-average strength and stamina; A class-4 or 5 driver’s license may be required.
Notes/Other Information	This is currently not regulated by the national or provincial government approved regulatory body, however, the relevant associations such as the Alberta Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA) in Alberta are trying to make it regulated. Moreover, the employers usually require registration with national association of recreational therapist such as Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association (CTRA) or a provincial one (e.g., ATRA). To become certified usually one need to pass the National Council of Therapeutic Recreation Certification (NCTRC) exams.
Steps towards capacity building to become competitive for this job	The most secure way is to complete a Bachelor degree in Kinesiology, Gerontology or Recreation and Leisure studies subjects. Then apply and write the NCTRC exams and obtain licensure from provincial and/national certifying body. Other ways might be doing prerequisite courses for the NCTRC exams online or complete a diploma online such as from Canadore College , and get a required hours of (~1,500 hours) supervised work experience (by a CTRS certified supervisor) as a recreational therapy aide/assistant and then apply to NCTRC through equivalency path .