

Recreation and Creative Arts Therapy



A Career in Recreation and Creative Arts Therapy

At VA, Recreation and Creative Arts Therapy is a direct-care, interdisciplinary service provided to Veterans. Recreation and Creative Arts Therapy includes Recreation Therapists, Creative Arts Therapists (e.g., Music, Dance, Drama, Art) and Recreation Assistants.

Therapeutic interventions and activities are utilized to maintain, improve and enrich Veterans' biopsychosocial abilities to function in their daily lives. Recreation and Creative Arts Therapy professionals provide patient-centered services that improve Veterans' ability to achieve and maintain the highest possible level of independence and quality of life.

Recreation/Creative Arts Therapist

The Recreation/Creative Arts Therapist series covers positions that involve professional work that requires the application of the concepts, principles and practices of recreation therapy and a specialized creative arts therapy field (i.e., Art, Dance, Music and Psychodrama). These positions also require the use of appropriate specialized activity modalities to maintain patients' physical or mental health, or to achieve patients' physical or mental rehabilitation. These therapists evaluate patients' history, interests, aptitudes and skills using interviews, inventories, tests and measurements, and use their findings to develop and implement therapy activities for individual patients. These therapy approaches help to decrease patients' emotional stress, provide a sense of achievement, channel energies and interests into acceptable forms of behavior, aid physical and mental rehabilitation and promote patients' successful re-entry into their communities.

Positions include:

- Recreation Therapist
- Creative Arts Therapist

Recreation Aid and Assistant

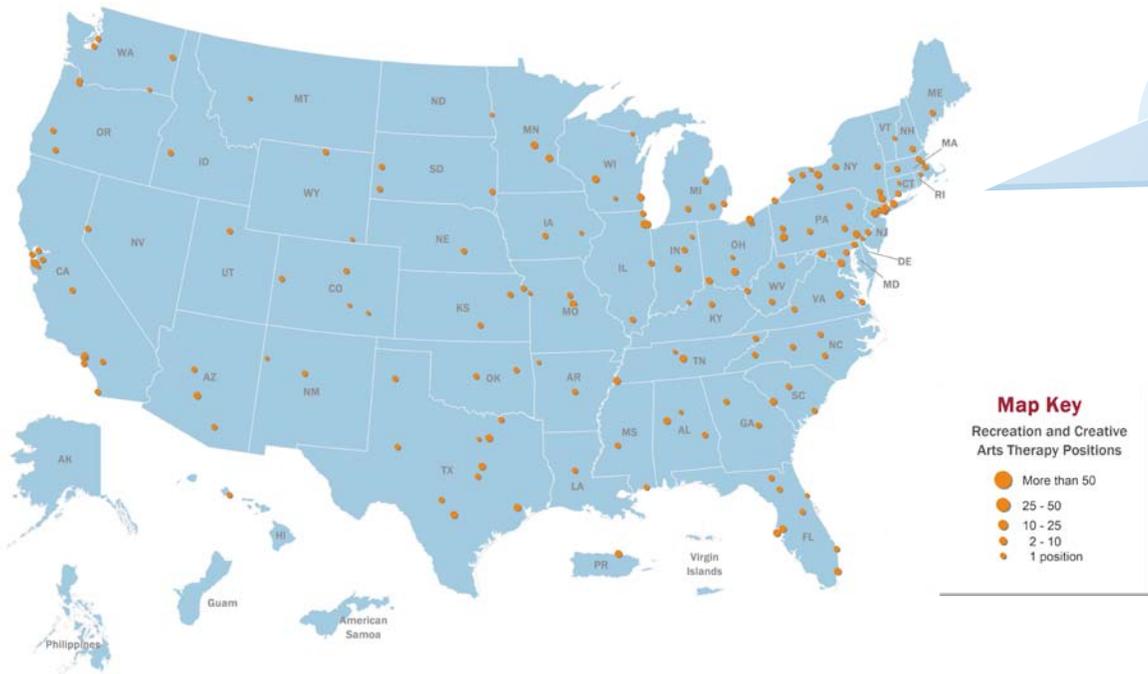
The Recreation Aid and Assistant series covers positions requiring a practical knowledge of one or more recreational activities and venues, such as military or urban community activities and centers, child care and youth activities and centers, senior citizens and outdoor recreation centers and activities, as well as recreation craft centers, hobby shops, sports centers, and music and theater centers. This practical knowledge is used to provide support and assistance to recreation specialists or recreation program managers by performing limited aspects of recreation work, and by working with participants in well-organized and carefully monitored recreation activities. Positions include:

- Recreation Assistant

MyCareer@VA

VA is committed to career development and supports employees' ambitions to grow, learn and advance. Building a career at VA is a partnership, and we are dedicated to providing you the career resources and materials you need to achieve success.

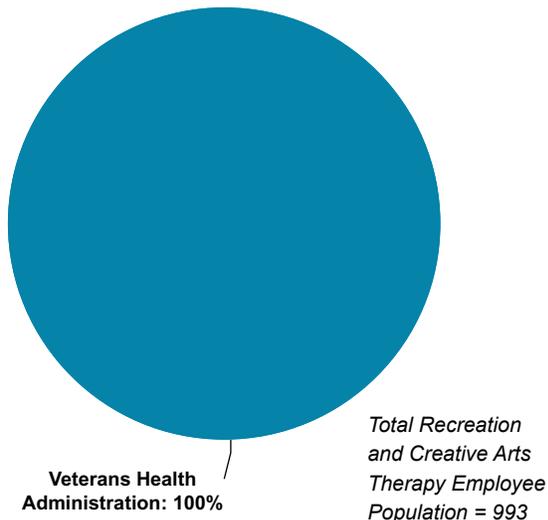
The MyCareer@VA program delivers interactive and engaging career development tools to help you explore and chart your long-term career path within VA.



Recreation and Creative Arts Therapy Job Locations

VA's Recreation and Creative Arts Therapy positions are dispersed across 165 cities within the United States. The top five Recreation and Creative Arts Therapy occupational family geographic locations are Coatesville, Pa.; Palo Alto, Calif.; Montrose, N.Y.; Minneapolis, Minn.; and Los Angeles, Calif.

VA Recreation and Creative Arts Therapy Job Distribution by Administration



VA's Recreation and Creative Arts Therapy positions are located in the Veterans Health Administration to meet the broad range of needs facing the Department.

MyCareer@VA Tools and Resources

- Career Planning Process** - Develop professional goals and align developmental experiences to VA career opportunities through a four-phase process: Prepare, Plan, Explore and Develop
- My Career Mapping Tool** - Map your long-term career path at VA by exploring career possibilities that leverage your knowledge, skills and experience across multiple occupational families
- My Career Fit Tool** - Discover your career "fit" at VA by identifying your work interests and work environment preferences
- VA Career Guides** - Explore the knowledge, skills, education and training recommended for each VA job and related career levels

VA employees can also visit the VA Talent Management System (TMS), a state-of-the-art online training and employee development system, to search and register for training courses and learning opportunities.