In Fall 2022 IL Counseling Association began lobbying to join the Counseling Compact. While we all agree to the many benefits of the counseling compact, a unique situation must be considered for art therapists. Joining the compact means if there are changes in the future to educational requirements, future IL art therapists could be impacted along with our educational programs. This is specifically related to if CACREP accreditation becomes the standard for states who have joined the compact.

Having our own license creates a pathway to protect the future of art therapy in our state if IL joins the counseling compact and if educational requirements change as a result at any point in the future. While these are only possibilities, IATA believes we need to be proactive which is why we are considering and assessing the possibility of an art therapy license in IL.

This timeline is intended to summarize the work IATA has done since September 2022. Please see our website for meeting minutes or previous monthly e-blasts for more detailed information.

### SEPTEMBER 2022
- At the Assembly of Chapters Meeting (AOC), AATA expresses concern after Florida legislation passes HB566 amending minimum education requirements & requiring applicants to graduate from a CACREP or COAMFTE program.

### JANUARY 2023
- Tyler Kirby, Policy & Public Affairs Manager at AATA speaks with IATA at Chapter Meeting to discuss AT license and answer questions IL art therapists may have.
- IATA meets with Pennsylvania Chapter to learn about their experience related to licensing.

### MARCH 2023
- Tyler Kirby, Policy & Public Affairs Manager at AATA speaks with IATA at Chapter Meeting to discuss AT license and answer questions IL art therapists may have.
- IATA meets with Pennsylvania Chapter to learn about their experience related to licensing.

### APRIL 2023
- Spoke with Mary Andrus to learn about her experience related to licensing in Oregon.
- Erin Mooney-Simkus joins IATA board as Government Affairs Chair.

### MAY 2023
- Erin & Amber speak with another graduate program.
- Erin, Amber, & Tyler Kirby meet to discuss the process of pursing an AT license.

### JUNE 2023
- IATA sends out Art Therapy License survey for IL art therapists to share thoughts, questions, and concerns regarding possible art therapy license.