



State Telehealth Policy Actions

Many states expanded the availability of telehealth services during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic since it offered wide-ranging opportunities for improvements in health care delivery to better meet the needs of patients. The landscape of telehealth policy continues to evolve as policymakers evaluate the benefits of telehealth.

Key Highlights

- The majority of states have expanded Medicaid coverage for telehealth via audio-only and virtual means.
- Many states have implemented interstate compacts and interstate licensure laws to increase telehealth access.¹
- Expanding access to behavioral health services via telehealth continues to be a priority for many states.

The chart below provides a high-level overview of how each state currently covers and reimburses telehealth services under Medicaid based on information collected from the <u>Center for Connected Health Policy</u> and the <u>Federation of State Medical Boards</u>. The following telehealth categories are included in the chart: reimbursement for live video, remote patient monitoring and audio-only under Medicaid; interstate licensure waivers; interstate compacts; prior consent requirements; and states' behavioral health services flexibilities. Bolded items highlight policies that are specific to behavioral telehealth services for children.

¹ Interstate compacts are a way for states to adopt exceptions to full in-state licensure for telehealth providers and allow providers to participate in multiple states through one approval process. The other state must also be a compact member, and the provider must hold a license in good standing in their home state. Interstate licensure laws may apply to physicians, nurses, and other allied health professionals, such as social workers.

² Medicaid payment rates for live video, remote patient monitoring and audio-only are not always at parity with in-person.

³ Some states have telehealth-specific exceptions that allow an out-of-state provider to render services via telemedicine in a state where they are not located, even after federal COVID-19 emergency waivers have expired.

⁴ The healthcare interstate compacts included in this chart are: <u>advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) compacts</u>, <u>counseling compact</u>, <u>emergency medical services personnel licensure compact</u>, <u>physician lic</u>

⁵ Some behavioral health flexibilities apply only to private payers and not to Medicaid.

^{*} Most states have licensure exceptions or consultation exceptions – states with an asterisk show they have neither.

State	Medicaid Covers Live Video	Medicaid Covers Remote Patient Monitoring	Medicaid Covers Audio-Only	Interstate Licensure*	Interstate Compacts	Prior Consent Requirements (Medicaid)	Behavioral Health Flexibilities (Medicaid)
Alabama	Yes	Yes	Yes	Consultation exception/Licensure exception: A physician can offer virtual services to anyone in AL without a license if they do not meet with the client regularly.	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -EMS -Nurses -Physician Licensure	Yes	AL Medicaid provides reimbursement for specific telemedicine services, including psychologists, applied behavior analysts, and children's rehabilitation services, etc.
Alaska	Yes	Yes (Unclear if Medicaid implementing policy)	Yes	Licensure exception/Limited referral system: Alaskans with life- threatening conditions can be treated by an out-of-state physician if they have a referral from their Alaska- licensed physician, have an existing patient- physician relationship, and the out-of-state physician has previously conducted an in-person visit with the patient.	None	Yes	AK Medicaid pays for telehealth services including behavior health services and behavior health aide services.
Arizona	Yes	Yes	Yes	Registration: A health care provider not licensed in AZ can provide telehealth services to a person in AZ if the provider	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -Nurses -Physician Licensure	Yes	AZ Medicaid covers telehealth services including behavioral health. Covered behavioral health services can include diagnostic consultation

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				complies with multiple requirements. Licensure exception/consultatio n exception: A provider is not subject to registration requirements if they are providing care in response to an emergency medical condition.			and evaluation, psychotropic medication adjustment, individual and family monitoring, and case management.
Arkansas	Yes	Yes	Yes	Consultation exception/licensure exception: AR licensure requirements do not apply to a service unavailable in the state, episodic consultation services, and more.	-Counseling -Psychology -Nurses	Yes	AR Medicaid reimburses for specific behavioral and mental health services provided via telemedicine, including psychologists, clinical social workers, and professional counselors.
California	Yes	Yes (CMS RPM codes)	Yes	Licensure exception: Eligible out-of-state physicians must be licensed in another state in good standing, and whose medical expertise is that of the eligible patient's illness.	-Counseling: Legislation filed -Nurses: Pending legislation	Yes	Medi-Cal reimburses behavioral health services provided via telemedicine.
Colorado	Yes	Yes	Yes	Licensure Exception: Limited licensure	-Counseling -Social Work	Yes	CO Medicaid will reimburse mental health

State	Medicaid Covers Live Video	Medicaid Covers Remote Patient Monitoring	Medicaid Covers Audio-Only	Interstate Licensure*	Interstate Compacts	Prior Consent Requirements (Medicaid)	Behavioral Health Flexibilities (Medicaid)
				exemptions exist for certain mental health providers.	-Psychology -EMS Compact -Nurses -PAs -Physician Licensure		services delivered through Medicaid.
Connecticut	Yes	No	Yes	Licensure Exception: Physicians, psychologists, social workers, and other professions not licensed in CT can provide behavioral health care via telemedicine to patients, if they maintain professional liability insurance.	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -Nurses: Awaiting implementation -Physician Licensure: Non-SPL issuing licenses only (Non-SPL states cannot be the primary sponsor, but physicians can receive licenses from non-SPL states if they obtain a qualification letter from an SPL state)	Yes	CT Medicaid provides coverage for telehealth services that the commissioner determines.
Delaware	Yes	Yes	Yes	Registration: Health care providers licensed in another state can deliver health care services to DE patients by telehealth if they	-Counseling -Psychology -APRNs -EMS -Nurses -PAs	Yes	DE allows interstate licensure for telebehavioral health providers.

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				register or receive a waiver. Licensure Exception/Consultati on Exception: Telemedicine can be practiced if it is an informal consultation, an emergency, or episodic consultation.	-Physician Licensure		
Florida	Yes	Yes	No	Licensure Exception/Consultati on Exception: Health care providers with an out-of-state license qualify for telehealth provider registration, with an exception for emergencies and consultations. Registration: For providers licensed outside of FL only.	-Counseling -Psychology -Nurses -Physician Licensure: Passed legislation, implementation in process or delayed	No information available	Behavioral health services eligible to be provided through telemedicine include psychiatric evaluations, medication management, behavioral health screenings, therapy, and more.
Georgia	Yes	No	Yes	Telemedicine License: The state issues telemedicine licenses to out-of-state physicians through the Board. Licensure Exception/Consultati on Exception:	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -EMS -Nurses -Physician Licensure	Yes	GA Medicaid enrollees can receive mental health services in a nursing facility or nearby telehealth site. The Departments of Community Health and Behavioral Health and Developmental

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				Licensure is exempt from physicians who provide consultation services at the request of a licensed physician.			Disabilities have authorized telehealth for some services.
Hawaii	Yes	Yes (uses CMS remote physiologic monitoring codes)	Yes (Temporarily until 12/31/25)	Licensure exception/Consultati on exception: Out-of-state providers can use telehealth to consult a Hawaii- licensed physician.	-Counseling: Pending legislation -Physician Licensure: Passed legislation, implementation in process	Yes	Under HI Medicaid, Applied Behavioral Analysis and autism spectrum disorder services can be provided via telehealth.
Idaho	Yes	Yes	Yes	Consultation exception/licensure exceptions: Exceptions for individuals with an established patient- provider relationship with a patient who resides in ID temporarily.	-Psychology -EMS -Nurses -Physician Licensure	Yes	Physicians and psychiatric nurse practitioners may provide psychotherapy to participants in crisis via telehealth. They are eligible to receive reimbursement for telehealth services.
Illinois	Yes	Yes	Yes	Consultation exception/licensure exception: Periodic consultations and second opinions between an IL physician and a physician licensed in another jurisdiction are allowed.	-Psychology -Nurses: Pending legislation -Physician Licensure	Yes	IL Medicaid reimburses psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, clinical social workers, and other mental health clinicians to provide behavioral health services via telehealth.
Indiana	Yes	Yes	Yes	Registration: Health care providers need to	-Counseling -Psychology	Yes	Behavioral healthcare, intensive outpatient

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				register with, or receive a waiver from, the state medical board to practice telehealth. *	-EMS -Nurses - Physician Licensure		treatment, applied behavioral analysis therapy, and more are eligible telehealth services.
Iowa	Yes	Yes	Yes	Consultation exception/licensure exception: Licensure requirements do not apply to physicians and surgeons of the U.S. armed forces or Public Health Service when acting in line of duty in this state.	-Counseling -Social Work -EMS -Nurses -Physician Licensure	No information available	Providers who can provide telehealth services include behavioral health service providers.
Kansas	Yes	Yes	Yes (Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) Services)	Registration: Health care providers need to register with, or receive a waiver from, the state medical board to practice telehealth. *	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -EMS -Nurses -Physician Licensure	Yes	Individual psychotherapy may be reimbursed when provided via telecommunication.
Kentucky	Yes	Yes	Yes	Licensure exception: A health care provider employed by a sports entity visiting KY for a specific sporting event can treat that team's members, coaches, and staff via telemedicine without a KY medical license.	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -Nurses -Physician Licensure	Yes	Eligible services under KY Medicaid include crisis intervention, intensive outpatient program services, behavioral health therapeutic intervention, group patient therapy, family

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							outpatient therapy, and
Louisiana	Yes	Yes	Yes	Telemedicine Permit: LA has a limited license that allows physicians the ability to provide telehealth to individuals in LA on a temporary basis. Telemedicine License: The board can issue telemedicine licenses to physicians to practice across state lines.	-Counseling -Social Work -EMS -Nurses -Physician Licensure	Yes	peer support services. Behavioral health services may be provided via telehealth when certain criteria are met.
Maine	Yes	Yes	Yes	Registration (for consultative services only): Providers need to register with, or receive a waiver from, the state medical board to practice telehealth. *	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -Nurses -PAs -Physician Licensure	Yes	Under ME Medicaid, group therapy for behavioral health or addiction services must be available through telehealth.
Maryland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Proximal reciprocity: Providers can practice telehealth throughout the region of MD, VA and DC, if they're licensed by one of the medical boards. Licensure exception/ Consultation exception: Limited	-Counseling -Psychology -Nurses -Physician Licensure	Yes	MD allows telehealth for mental health services that include diagnostic interviews, individual therapy, family therapy, group therapy, outpatient evaluation, and initial inpatient consultation.

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				licensure exceptions outside of the DC region.			
Massachusetts	Yes	Yes (uses CMS remote physiologic monitoring codes)	Yes	No*	-Psychology: Legislation introduced -Nurses: Pending legislation -Physician Licensure: legislation introduced	Yes	MA law requires Medicaid to permanently reimburse for telebehavioral health services at parity with in-person care.
Michigan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Licensure exception/ Consultation exception: Individuals are not required to have a license in certain situations, including individuals practicing health for the military, in disasters, for consultations, etc.	-Psychology -Nurses: Pending legislation -PAs: Legislation filed -Physician Licensure	Yes	Under MI Medicaid, behavioral health services may be provided via telemedicine. A child mental health professional may provide child therapy on an individual or group basis.
Minnesota	Yes	Yes	Yes	Registration: Out-of- state professionals can provide telehealth services to MN residents if they are registered with the state's medical board. Licensure exception/	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -Nurses: Pending legislation -PAs -Physician Licensure	Yes	Under MN Medicaid, telehealth can be used for Early Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Intervention services.

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				Consultation exception: MN exceptions include providing care in emergency situations and on an irregular basis.			
Mississippi	Yes	Yes	No	Licensure exception/ Consultation exception: MS licensure requirements do not apply to the evaluation or treatment provided by a physician outside the state requested by a physician registered in the state.	-Physician Licensure	Yes	Psychologists, board-certified behavior analysts, and board-certified behavior analyst doctorals are eligible to provide services via telehealth.
Missouri	Yes	Yes	Yes	Consultation exception/licensure exception: Health care providers need to be fully licensed to practice in MO, but it does not apply to informal and episodic consultations.	-Counseling -Psychology -EMS -Nurses -Physician Licensure: Legislation passed; implementation delayed	Yes	MO Medicaid reimburses for services delivered via live video. This includes behavioral health services.
Montana	Yes	No	Yes	Limited Licensure Exception: Offers limited licensure exceptions for cases of emergencies or for	-Counseling -Nurses -Physician Licensure	Yes	MT Medicaid covers outpatient behavioral health treatment provided via telehealth.

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				providing services in an occasional case.			
Nebraska	Yes	Yes	Yes	Licensure exception/ Consultation exception: Physicians called into the state for consultation and physicians who order irregular therapeutic services in the state do not need to be registered in NE.	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -EMS -Nurses -PAs -Physician Licensure	Yes	NE has adopted regulations regarding children's behavioral health services delivered via telehealth, including having a safety plan before providing telehealth services and requiring a staff member familiar with the child to be immediately available in-person.
Nevada	Yes	No	Yes	Special Purpose Medical Licenses: Provides Special Purpose Medical Licenses. Licensure exception/Consultati on exception: Physicians called into the state for assistance are not required to register with NV.	-Psychology -EMS -Physician Licensure	Yes	NV Medicaid covers psychiatric crisis interventions (e.g., threatened suicide) provided via telehealth.
New Hampshire	Yes	Yes	Yes	Licensure exception/Consultati on exception: Required to be licensed, certified,	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology Compact	Yes	Any Medicaid in-person service may now be provided via telehealth,

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				or registered by the appropriate NH licensing body, unless consulting.	-Nurses -Physician Licensure		including behavioral health services.
New Jersey	Yes	No	No	Licensure exception/Consultati on exception: Licensure requirements do not apply to providers located in another state who consult with a licensee in NJ.	-Counseling -Social Work: Legislation pending -Psychology -Nurses -PAs: Legislation filed -Physician Licensure	Yes	Under NJ Medicaid, telepsychiatry may be utilized by mental health clinics and/or hospital providers of outpatient mental health services.
New Mexico	Yes	No	Yes	Telemedicine License: Created a process for providing services out of state for a limited period. Licensure exception/Consultati on exception: Licensure requirements do not apply to services provided in cases of emergency.	-Nurses	Yes	Crisis services and therapeutic interventions are reimbursable through NM Medicaid.
New York	Yes	Yes	Yes	Licensure exception/Consultati on exception: Physicians can practice medicine in NY without a license if they are	-Counseling: Legislation filed -Psychology: Legislation introduced	Yes	NY Medicaid reimburses for telemental health.

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				providing consultation services.	-Nurses: Pending legislation -Physician Licensure legislation introduced		
North Carolina	Yes	Yes	Yes	No*	-Counseling -Social Work: Legislation pending -Psychology -Nurses -PAs: Legislation filed -Physician Licensure: legislation introduced	Yes	Outpatient behavioral health services may be provided via telehealth in NC.
North Dakota	Yes	Yes	Yes	Licensure exception/ Consultation exception: Physicians can practice without a license under certain circumstances, including organ harvest teams, one-time consultations, and more.	-Counseling -Psychology -APRNs -EMS -Nurses -PAs -Physician Licensure	No information available	Eligible services covered by ND Medicaid include behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment via telehealth.
Ohio	Yes	Yes	Yes	Licensure exception/ Consultation exception: Physicians providing consultation services and a physician	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -Nurses -PAs	Yes	Eligible mental health services provided via telehealth include general services, crisis intervention services,

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				who has already provided services to the patient within the year.	-Physician Licensure		intensive home-based treatment services, etc.
Oklahoma	Yes	Yes	Yes	Telemedicine License: The State Board of Osteopathic Examiners has the authority to issue a telemedicine license. *	-Counseling -Psychology -EMS -Nurses -PAs -Physician Licensure	Yes	OK Medicaid covers physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech and hearing services via telehealth. Medicaid also covers crisis services for behavioral health emergencies via telehealth.
Oregon	Yes	Yes	Yes	Telemedicine License: The OR Medical Board may issue to an out-of-state physician a license for the practice of telemedicine across state lines. Licensure exception/ Consultation exception: OR licensure requirements do not apply to physicians providing emergency care, consultations, and more.	None	Yes	OR requires its Medicaid program to provide telebehavioral health services to the same extent as provided in-person.
Pennsylvania	Yes	No	Yes	Extraterritorial License (Regional	-Counseling: Legislation filed	Yes	PA Medicaid covers behavioral health

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				Reciprocity): PA issues extraterritorial licenses that allow physicians who live in an adjoining state to practice. Consultation exception: A physician may provide consultation services without a license in PA.	-Social Work: Legislation pending -Psychology -EMS -Nurses: Partial implementation -Physician Licensure Legislation passed, implementation in process or delayed		services delivered via interactive audio-video transmission.
Rhode Island	Yes	No	No	Licensure exception/ Consultation exception: RI's licensure requirements do not apply if the physician is employed by a branch of the U.S, military, providing consultation services, volunteering in the state for an extended period, or providing services to a sports team.	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -Nurses -Physician Licensure Legislation passed, implementation in process or delayed	No information available	Behavioral health providers are reimbursed through RI Medicaid when telehealth services are medically necessary and clinically appropriate.
South Carolina	Yes	Yes	Yes	Consultation exception: Physicians or surgeons of other states can provide consultation with a licensed physician of SC.	-Counseling -Psychology -EMS -Nurses	No	SC Medicaid reimburses for telepsychiatry and behavioral health via interactive audio and video equipment that permits two-way, real- time communication.

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South Dakota	Yes	Yes	Yes	No*	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -APRNs -EMS: Partial compliance -Nurses -Physician Licensure	Yes (RPM Medicaid)	Mental health treatment provided without the recipient physically present is not a covered service.
Tennessee	Yes	No	Yes	Telemedicine License (Osteopathic Only): The TN Osteopathic Board can issue a telemedicine license. *	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -EMS -Nurses -PAs -Physician Licensure	Yes	TN Medicaid reimburses for live video for crisis-related services.
Texas	Yes	Yes	Yes	Telemedicine License: A telemedicine license may be issued for out- of-state providers if certain conditions are met. *	-Psychology -EMS -Nurses -Physician Licensure	Yes	Some outpatient mental health services may be provided through telehealth. These services include psychiatric diagnostic evaluation services, psychotherapy, pharmacological management services, neurobehavioral services, and psychological testing services.

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Utah	Yes	Yes	Yes	Pro bono telemedicine: An out- of-state physician may practice without a UT license if the services are provided for free as a public service. Licensure registration: Mental and behavioral health providers can provide services via telemedicine to patients. Temporary telemedicine license: Out-of-state physicians can receive a temporary telemedicine license under certain circumstances.	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -APRNs -EMS -Nurses -PAs -Physician Licensure	No information available.	UT Medicaid has allowed flexibility for Applied Behavior Analysis services during the PHE. UT Medicaid reimburses for telemedicine services at the same rate that the Medicaid program reimburses for other health care services.
Vermont	Yes	Yes	Yes	Registration: A physician may obtain a Telehealth Registration to provide care to no more than 10 patients or no more than 120 days. Telemedicine License: A physician may obtain a telehealth license for a 2-year	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -Nurses -Physician Licensure: non- SPL issuing licenses only	Yes	Telemedicine is a covered service under VT Medicaid. This includes mental health and substance use disorder treatment.

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Vincinia	V	V	V	period with no more than 20 patients. Licensure exception/ Consultation exception: A physician does not need a license to provide consultation services.	Courseling	V	Daharia adharib
Virginia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Proximal reciprocity: Providers can practice telehealth throughout the region of MD, VA and DC, if they're licensed by one of the three medical boards. Licensure exception/ Consultation exception: VA licensure requirements do not apply to consultations, audio- only telephone, email, or online questionnaires.	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -EMS -Nurses -PAs	Yes	Behavioral health services may be provided via telehealth from schools.
Washington	Yes	Yes	Yes	Licensure exception/ Consultation exception: An out-of- state practitioner may consult with a practitioner licensed in WA.	-Counseling -Social Work -Psychology -Nurses -PAs -Physician Licensure	Yes	Behavioral health administrative service organizations and MCOs reimburse providers for a behavioral health service if the organization provides

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							coverage of the in- person behavioral health service, and the service is medically necessary.
West Virginia	Yes	Yes (uses CMS remote physiologic monitoring codes).	No	Licensure exception/ Consultation exception: Does not apply to consultation services or emergency care Registration: Health care providers can provide interstate telehealth services to patients in WV if the provider registers.	-Counseling -Psychology -EMS -Nurses -PAs -Physician Licensure	Yes	WV Medicaid includes licensed behavioral health centers and psychologists to provide services via telehealth.
Wisconsin	Yes	Yes	Yes	No*	-Counseling -Psychology -Nurses -PAs -Physician Licensure	Yes	Behavioral health services are allowed through telehealth when using WI Medicaid.
Wyoming	Yes	No	No	Licensure exception/ Consultation exception: WY licensure requirements do not apply to an out- of-state physician who provides no more than 12 days a year.	-Counseling -Psychology -EMS -Nurses -Physician Licensure	Yes	Under WY Medicaid, eligible telehealth providers include licensed mental health professionals and board-certified behavioral analysts.