

## Wisconsin

**Medicaid Program:** Forward Health

**Medicaid Program Administrator:** Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services

**Regional Telehealth Resource Center:**

Great Plains Telehealth Resource and Assistance Center  
 University of Minnesota/Institute for Health Informatics  
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STATE LAW/REGULATIONS	MEDICAID PROGRAM
<b>Definition of telemedicine/telehealth</b>	
<p>"Telehealth" is a service provided from a remote location using a combination of interactive video, audio, and externally acquired images through a networking environment between an individual at an originating site and a provider at a remote location with the service being of sufficient audio and visual fidelity and clarity as to be functionally equivalent to face-to-face contact. "Telehealth" does not include telephone conversations or Internet-based communications between providers or between providers and individuals.</p> <p><i>Source: Wisconsin Statute 49.45 (29w).</i></p>	<p>"Telemedicine services (also known as "Telehealth") are services provided from a remote location using a combination of interactive video, audio, and externally acquired images through a networking environment between a member (i.e., the originating site) and a Medicaid-enrolled provider at a remote location (i.e., distant site). The services must be of sufficient audio and visual fidelity and clarity as to be functionally equivalent to a face-to-face contact. Telemedicine services do not include telephone conversations or Internet-based communication between providers or between providers and members.</p> <p><i>Source: WI Forward Health, Provider Publications, Physician, pg. 132 (Published Policy Through March 31, 2017).</i></p>
<b>Live Video Reimbursement</b>	
(see Medicaid column)	<p>Forward Health will reimburse for medical and mental/behavioral health services via live video.</p> <p>Eligible services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Office or other outpatient services;</li> <li>• Office or other outpatient consults;</li> <li>• Initial inpatient consults;</li> <li>• Outpatient mental health services;</li> <li>• Health and behavior assessment/intervention;</li> <li>• End stage renal disease-related services;</li> <li>• Outpatient substance abuse services.</li> </ul> <p>Eligible providers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physicians and physician clinics;</li> <li>• Rural Health Clinics;</li> <li>• Federally Qualified Health Center;</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physician assistants;</li> <li>• Nurse practitioners;</li> <li>• Nurse midwives;</li> <li>• Psychiatrists;</li> <li>• Ph.D. psychologists.</li> </ul> <p>Reimbursement is subject to the same restrictions as in-person services.</p> <p>Only one eligible provider may be reimbursed per member per date of service (DOS), unless it is medically necessary for the participation of more than one provider.</p> <p>Separate services provided by separate specialists for the same patient at different times on the same date may be reimbursed separately.</p> <p>Providers may receive enhanced reimbursement for pediatric services, for members 18 years old and under, and for HPSA-eligible services.</p> <p>HPSA-enhanced reimbursement is allowed when the patient or the provider is located in a HPSA-designated area.</p> <p>Out-of-state providers, except border-status providers, must obtain prior authorization (PA) before delivering services to Wisconsin Medicaid members.</p> <p><i>Source: WI Forward Health, Provider Publications, Physician, pg. 133-134 (Published Policy Through March 31, 2017).</i></p> <p>Mental health services provided through telehealth are reimbursable by the Medical Assistance program if the provider of the service satisfies the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The provider is a certified provider of mental health services under the Medical Assistance program and is an agency that is certified by a mental health program. (Please see bill text for specific program list).</li> <li>• The provider and the individual providing the service comply with all Medical assistance coverage policies and standards</li> <li>• The provider is certified for telehealth by the department.</li> <li>• The individual who is providing the service is licensed or registered and in good standing with the appropriate state board.</li> <li>• The provider is located in the United States. The provider is not required to be located in the state.</li> </ul> <p><i>Source: Wisconsin Statute 49.45 (29w) (2).</i></p>
<b>Store and Forward Reimbursement</b>	
No reference found.	No reimbursement.

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	<p><i>Source: WI Forward Health, Provider Publications, Physician, pg. 138 (Published Policy Through March 31, 2017).</i></p>
<b>Remote Patient Monitoring Reimbursement</b>	
No reference found.	No reference found.
<b>Email/Phone/FAX</b>	
<p>"Telehealth" does not include telephone conversations or Internet-based communications between providers or between providers and individuals.</p> <p><i>Source: Wisconsin Statute 94.45 (29w).</i></p>	<p>No reimbursement for email or Internet-based communications. No reimbursement for telephone. No reference found for FAX.</p> <p><i>Source: WI Forward Health, Provider Publications, Physician, pg. 132 (Published Policy Through March 31, 2017).</i></p>
<b>Online Prescribing</b>	
No reference found.	No reference found.
<b>Consent</b>	
No reference found.	No reference found.
<b>Location</b>	
No reference found.	<p>Eligible originating sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physician offices;</li> <li>• Hospitals (inpatient or outpatient, excluding emergency rooms);</li> <li>• Any other appropriate place of service with necessary equipment and staffing.</li> </ul> <p><i>Source: WI Forward Health, Provider Publications, Physician, pg. 138 (Published Policy Through March 31, 2017).</i></p>
<b>Cross-State Licensing</b>	
<p>WI adopted the Federation of State Medical Boards' Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.</p> <p><i>Source: Wisconsin Statute 14.89. WI Act 116 (AB 253, 2015).</i></p>	No reference found.
<b>Private Payers</b>	
No reference found.	No reference found.
<b>Site/Transmission Fee</b>	
No reference found.	<p>Reimbursement for originating site facility fees.</p> <p>Eligible originating sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physician offices;</li> <li>• Hospitals (inpatient or outpatient, excluding emergency rooms);</li> <li>• Any other appropriate place of service with necessary equipment and staffing.</li> </ul>

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	<p>The originating site may not be an emergency room. An originating site facility fee is not an RHC/FQHC service, and may not be reported as an encounter on cost reports. Any reimbursement for the originating site facility fee must be reported as a deductive value.</p> <p>Outpatient hospitals will receive only a facility fee. Wisconsin Medicaid will not separately reimburse the rate-per-visit for that member, unless the patient receives other covered services on the same date. Professional services provided in the outpatient hospital are separately reimbursable.</p> <p><i>Source: WI Forward Health, Provider Publications, Physician, pg. 138 (Published Policy Through March 31, 2017).</i></p>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
	<p>Information in the physician section of the WI Forward Health Covered and non-covered services manual is repeated in the following manuals as well:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Mental Health Day Treatment</li> <li>• Ambulatory Surgery Centers</li> <li>• Child/Adolescent Day Treatment</li> <li>• Community Support Program</li> <li>• Comprehensive Community Services</li> <li>• Crisis Intervention</li> <li>• End-Stage Renal Disease</li> <li>• Family Planning</li> <li>• Federally Qualified Health Centers</li> <li>• Hospital, Inpatient</li> <li>• Hospital, Outpatient</li> <li>• In-Home Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services</li> <li>• Narcotic Treatment Services</li> <li>• Nurse Midwife</li> <li>• Nursing Home</li> <li>• Outpatient Mental Health</li> <li>• Outpatient Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services</li> <li>• Outpatient Substance Abuse</li> <li>• Rural Health Clinic</li> <li>• Substance Abuse Day Treatment</li> </ul> <p><i>Source: WI Forward Health, Provider Publications (accessed Mar. 2017).  <a href="https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/content/Provider/Updates/Index.htm.spage">https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/content/Provider/Updates/Index.htm.spage</a></i></p>