

# Florida

**Medicaid Program:** Florida Medicaid

**Program Administrator:** Florida Dept. of Children and Families

**Regional Telehealth Resource Center:**

Southeast Telehealth Resource Center  
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 Waycross, GA 31501  
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| STATE LAW  | MEDICAID PROGRAM   |
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| <b>Definition of telemedicine/telehealth</b>   |  |
| <p>“Telemedicine means the practice of medicine by a licensed Florida physician or physician assistant where patient care, treatment, or services are provided through the use of medical information exchanged from one site to another via electronic communications. Telemedicine shall not include the provision of health care services only through an audio only telephone, email messages, text messages, facsimile transmission,</p> <p><i>Source: FL Admin Code 64B8-9.0141 &amp; 64B15-14.0081.</i></p> <p>Telemedicine: The practice of health care delivery by a practitioner who is located at a site other than the site where a recipient is located for the purposes of evaluation, diagnosis, or treatment.</p> <p><i>Source: FL Admin Code 59G-1.057.</i></p> | <p>Telemedicine is “the use of telecommunication and information technology to provide clinical care to individuals at a distance, and to transmit the information needed to provide that care.”</p> <p><i>Source: FL Dept. of Health, Child Protection Team Program, Policy and Procedure Handbook, p.79 (Jun. 2015). (Accessed Oct. 2017).</i></p> |
| <b>Live Video Reimbursement</b>  |  |
| <p>FL Medicaid reimburses for real time interactive telemedicine.</p> <p><i>Source: FL Admin Code 59G-1.057.</i></p>   | <p>Some telemedicine services reimbursed in the Community Behavioral Health Services, per the Fee Schedule.</p> <p><i>Source: Community Behavioral Health Services Fee Schedule. Jan. 1, 2017. (Accessed Oct. 2017).</i></p>   |
| <b>Store and Forward Reimbursement</b>   |  |
| No reference found.  | No reference found.  |
| <b>Remote Patient Monitoring Reimbursement</b>   |  |
| No reference found.  | No reference found.  |
| <b>Email/Phone/FAX Restrictions</b>  |  |
| <p>No reimbursement for telephone, chart review, electronic mail messages or facsimile transmissions.</p> <p><i>Source: FL Admin Code 59G-1.057.</i></p> <p>“Telemedicine shall not include the provision of health</p>  | No reference found.  |

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| <p>care services only through an audio only telephone, email messages, text messages, facsimile transmission, U.S. Mail or other parcel service, or any combination thereof.”</p> <p><i>Source: FL Admin Code 64B8-9.0141 &amp; 64B15-14.0081.</i></p>   |   |
| <b>Online Prescribing</b>  |   |
| <p>Controlled substances shall not be prescribed through the use of telemedicine, except for the treatment of psychiatric disorders.</p> <p>Exception: physicians can order controlled substances through the use of telemedicine for patients hospitalized in a facility licensed pursuant to Ch. 395, F.S.</p> <p>Prescribing medication solely on the basis of an electronic medical questionnaire is not allowed.</p> <p>A physician-patient relationship may be established through telemedicine.</p> <p><i>Source: FL Admin Code 64B8-9.0141 &amp; 64B15-14.0081.</i></p> <p>Prior to e-prescribing, physicians and physician assistants must document a patient evaluation, including history and physical examination, to establish the diagnosis for which any drug is prescribed, and discuss treatment options with the patient.</p> <p>These rules don't apply in emergency situations.</p> <p><i>Source: FL Admin. Code 64B8-9.014.</i></p> | No reference found.   |
| <b>Consent</b>   |   |
| No reference found.  | No reference found.   |
| <b>Location</b>  |   |
| No reference found.  | No reference found.   |
| <b>Cross State Licensing</b>   |   |
| No reference found.  | No reference found.   |
| <b>Private Payers</b>  |   |
| No reference found.  | No reference found.   |
| <b>Site/Transmission Fee</b>   |   |
| No reference found.  | No reference found.   |
| <b>Miscellaneous</b>   |   |
| Florida's Board of Medicine and Osteopathic Medicine adopted "Standards for Telemedicine Practice". See "Comments" for details not included in the categories above.   | Florida created a Telehealth Advisory Council for purpose of making recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature about telehealth. |

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| <p><i>Source: FL Admin Code 64B8-9.0141.</i></p> <p>At the time of license renewal all practitioners must fill out a Telehealth Practitioner Survey.</p> <p><i>Source: FL Admin Code 64B8-9.008.</i></p> | <p>The state's Agency for Health Care Administration, the Department of Health (DOH) and the Office of the Insurance Regulation was also required to survey FL providers on their utilization of telehealth.</p> <p><i>Source: FL Report on Telehealth Utilization and Accessibility. Dec. 2016. (Accessed Oct. 2017).</i></p> |

**Comments:** In 1998, the Child Protection Team (CPT) Program implemented a telemedicine network that links CPT teams with remote or satellite CPT offices, or local facilities, such as hospital emergency rooms, county health departments, or child advocacy centers, to facilitate telemedicine assessments for abuse, abandonment, and neglect of children in remote or rural areas.



Only specially trained CPT physicians, advanced registered nurse practitioners or physician assistants can perform these exams. And only specifically trained registered nurses at presenting sites may participate in the exam.

*Source: Florida Department of Health, Child Protection Team Program, Policy and Procedure Handbook, p. 30 (Jun. 2015). (Accessed Aug. 2016).*

Florida Children's Medical Services (CMS) is a collection of programs for special needs children. CMS' Telemedicine Program services are provided by approved CMS Network providers to Medicaid children enrolled in CMS. Eligible sites are limited.

*Source: Florida Children's Medical Services, Families, Health Services (Accessed Aug. 2016).*

Professional Board Telehealth-Specific Regulations

-  FL Board of Medicine (*Source: FL Admin Code 64B8-9.0141*)
-  FL Board of Osteopathic Medicine (*Source: Florida Admin Code 64B15-14.0081*)