

# Alabama

**Medicaid Program:** Alabama Medicaid

**Program Administrator:** Alabama Medicaid Agency

**Regional Telehealth Resource Center:**

Southeast Telehealth Resource Center

PO Box 1408

Waycross, GA 31501

(888) 138-7210

[www.setrc.us](http://www.setrc.us)

STATE LAW/REGULATIONS	MEDICAID PROGRAM
<b>Definition of telemedicine/telehealth</b>	
No reference found.	<p>There is no explicit definition of “telemedicine” given in state Medicaid policy. However, the provider manual states, “Services must be administered via an interactive audio and video telecommunications system which permits two-way communication between the distant site physician and the origination site where the recipient is located (this does not include a telephone conversation, electronic mail message, or facsimile transmission between the physician, recipient, or a consultation between two physicians).”</p> <p><i>Source: AL Medicaid Management Information System Provider Manual, (28-17), (Apr. 2018).</i></p>
<b>Live Video Reimbursement</b>	
No reference found.	<p>Alabama Medicaid reimburses for live video for the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consults;</li> <li>• Office or other outpatient visits;</li> <li>• Individual psychotherapy;</li> <li>• Psychiatric diagnostic services;</li> <li>• Neurobehavioral status exams.</li> </ul> <p>However, for some specialties, special conditions or circumstances must be present for reimbursement to occur.</p> <p>For all telemedicine services, an appropriately trained staff member or employee familiar with the patient or the treatment plan must be immediately available in person to the patient.</p> <p><i>Source: AL Medicaid Management Information System Provider Manual, (28-17), (Apr. 2018) &amp; AL Admin. Code r. 560-X-6-.14 (2011).</i></p>
<b>Store and Forward Reimbursement</b>	
No reference found.	No reference found.

STATE LAW/REGULATIONS	MEDICAID PROGRAM
<b>Remote Patient Monitoring Reimbursement</b>	
<p>No reference found.</p>	<p><u>In Home Monitoring Program</u></p> <p>Alabama Medicaid will reimburse remote patient monitoring through the In Home Monitoring Program.</p> <p>Patients with the following medical conditions may register for the program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diabetes</li> <li>• Congestive Heart Failure</li> </ul> <p>The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) Nurse Care Manager evaluates the patient, provides any needed equipment such as a scale, glucometer, blood pressure cuff and phone with a speaker.</p> <p>Data transmission occurs through a secure telephone call.</p> <p><i>AL Medicaid Management Information System Provider Manual, (39-32), (Apr. 2018).</i></p>
<b>Email/Phone/FAX</b>	
<p>No reimbursement for telephone. No reference found for email or FAX.</p> <p><i>Source: AL Admin Code r. 560-X-6-.14 (2011).</i></p>	<p>No reimbursement for email. No reimbursement for telephone. No reimbursement for FAX.</p> <p><i>AL Medicaid Management Information System Provider Manual, (28-17), (Apr. 2018).</i></p>
<b>Online Prescribing</b>	
<p>The Alabama Board of Medical Examiners holds the position that, when prescribing medications to an individual, the prescriber, when possible, should personally examine the patient. Prescribing medications for patients the physician has not personally examined may be suitable for certain circumstances, including telemedicine.</p> <p>Licenseses are expected to adhere to federal and state statute regarding prescribing of controlled substances. <i>(Source: AL Admin. Code. r. 540-X-9-.11)</i></p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
<b>Consent</b>	
<p>No reference found.</p>	<p>A written informed consent is required prior to an initial telemedicine service.</p> <p><i>AL Medicaid Management Information System Provider Manual, (28-17), (Apr. 2018).</i></p>
<b>Location</b>	
<p>No reference found.</p>	<p>Originating site must be located in Alabama. The distant site may be located outside of Alabama as long as the</p>

STATE LAW/REGULATIONS	MEDICAID PROGRAM
	<p>physician has an Alabama license and is enrolled as an Alabama Medicaid provider.</p> <p>For rehabilitative services, the originating site must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physician’s office;</li> <li>• Hospital;</li> <li>• Critical Access Hospital;</li> <li>• Rural Health Clinic;</li> <li>• Federally Qualified Health Center;</li> <li>• Community mental health center (to include co-located sites with partnering agencies);</li> <li>• Public health department.</li> </ul> <p><i>AL Medicaid Management Information System Provider Manual, (105-12), (Apr. 2018).</i></p>
<b>Cross-State Licensing</b>	
<p>“A special purpose license allowing practitioners licensed in other states to practice across state lines may be issued.”</p> <p><i>Source: Code of AL Sec. 34-24-502 - 507 (2012).</i></p> <p>AL passed legislation to be a part of the interstate licensing compact</p> <p><i>Source: AL Act 2015-197 (2015).</i></p>	<p>Providers must have an Alabama license.</p> <p><i>AL Medicaid Management Information System Provider Manual, (28-17), (Apr. 2018).</i></p>
<b>Private Payers</b>	
No reference found.	No reference found.
<b>Site/Transmission Fee</b>	
No reference found.	<p>No reimbursement for originating site or transmission fees.</p> <p><i>AL Medicaid Management Information System Provider Manual, (28-17), (Apr. 2018).</i></p>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
<p>The Alabama Board of Medical Examiners adopted new rules to establish standards for telehealth medical services. See "comments" section for additional details not included in the categories above.</p>	<p>Effective for dates of service 1/16/2012 and thereafter, all physicians with an Alabama license, enrolled as a provider with the Alabama Medicaid Agency, regardless of location, are eligible to participate in the Telemedicine Program to provide medically necessary telemedicine services to Alabama Medicaid eligible recipients. In order to participate in the telemedicine program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physicians must be enrolled with Alabama Medicaid with a specialty type of 931 (Telemedicine Service)</li> <li>• Physician must submit the telemedicine Service Agreement/Certification form</li> <li>• Physician must obtain prior consent from the recipient before services are rendered. This will count as part</li> </ul>

STATE LAW/REGULATIONS	MEDICAID PROGRAM
	<p>of each recipient's benefit limit of 14 annual physician office visits currently allowed.</p> <p><i>Source: AL Medicaid Management Information System Provider Manual, (28-17), (Apr. 2018).</i></p>

**Comment:**

Professional Board Telehealth-Specific Regulations

- AL Board of Optometrists (*Source: AL Admin Code 630-X-13-.02*)
- AL Board of Nursing (*Source: AL Admin Code 610-X-6-.16*).