

# 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 means the practice of medicine when patient care, treatment or services are provided through the use of medical information exchanged from one site to another via electronic communications. Telemedicine does not include the provision of health care services only through an audio only telephone, email messages, text messages, facsimile transmission, mail or parcel service or any combination thereof.</p> <p><i>. Source: Admin. Code MED Ch. 24.</i></p>	<p>Telehealth enables a provider who is located at a distant site to render the service remotely to a member located at an originating site using a combination of interactive video, audio, and externally acquired images through a networking environment.</p> <p><i>Source: WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (accessed Apr. 2018).</i></p>
<b>Live Video Reimbursement</b>	
(see Medicaid column)	<p>ForwardHealth allows for certain covered services to be provided via telehealth.</p> <p>Allowable providers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audiologists</li> <li>• Nurse midwives</li> <li>• Nurse practitioners</li> <li>• Ph.D. psychologists</li> <li>• Physician assistants</li> <li>• Physicians</li> <li>• Psychiatrists</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professionals providing services in mental health or substance abuse programs certified by the DQA (Division of Quality Assurance)</li> </ul> <p><b>Ancillary Providers</b>  Claims provided via telehealth by distant site ancillary providers should be billed under the supervising physician’s NPI using the lowest appropriate level office or outpatient visit procedure code. These services must be supervised by an onsite physician.</p> <p><b>Certified Mental Health And Substance Abuse Treatment Providers</b>  Required to meet telehealth certification requirements to provide telehealth.</p> <p><b>Community Health Centers, Tribal FQHCs and RHCs</b>  They may serve as originating site and distant site providers for telehealth services. See manual for details.</p> <p>See Manual for covered telehealth CPT and HCPCS codes.</p> <p><i>Source: WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (accessed Apr. 2018).</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.  <i>Source: WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (accessed Apr. 2018).</i>

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<b>Remote Patient Monitoring Reimbursement</b>	
No reference found.	Services must be face-to-face.
<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 telephone No reimbursement for written electronic communication (text, email)</p> <p><i>Source: WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (accessed Apr. 2018).</i></p>
<b>Online Prescribing</b>	
<p>When a physician uses a website to communicate with a patient located in this state, the physician may not provide treatment recommendations, including issuing a prescription unless the following requirements are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The physician shall be licensed in the state</li> <li>• The physician's name and contact information must be made available to the patient</li> <li>• Informed consent is required</li> <li>• A documented patient evaluation performed</li> <li>• A patient health care record is prepared and maintained.</li> </ul> <p>Prescribing based on a static electronic questionnaire does not meet the minimum standard of competent medical practice.</p> <p><i>Source: Admin. Code MED Ch. 24.</i></p>	No reference found.
<b>Consent</b>	
<p>Informed consent required.</p> <p><i>Source: Admin. Code MED Ch. 24.</i></p>	<p>Informed consent required.</p> <p><i>Source: WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (accessed Apr. 2018).</i></p>
<b>Location</b>	
No reference found.	<p>Allowable originating sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hospitals, including emergency departments</li> <li>• Office/clinic</li> <li>• Skilled nursing facility</li> </ul> <p><i>Source: WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (accessed Apr. 2018).</i></p>
<b>Cross-State Licensing</b>	
<p>WI medical license required.</p> <p><i>Source: Admin. Code MED Ch. 24.</i></p> <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>	<p>Out-of-state providers who do not have border status enrollment with WI Medicaid are required to obtain prior authorization (PA) before providing services. WI Medicaid is prohibited from paying providers located outside of the US and its territories.</p> <p><i>Source: WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (accessed Apr. 2018).</i></p>

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<b>Private Payers</b>	
No reference found.	No reference found.
<b>Site/Transmission Fee</b>	
No reference found.	Reimbursement for facility fee.  <i>Source: WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (accessed Apr. 2018).</i>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
	POS code 02 required.  <i>Source: WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (accessed Apr. 2018).</i>

Comments:

Professional Board Telehealth-Specific Regulations

- Medical Examining Board (*Source: MED Ch. 24*)