

# Wisconsin

**Medicaid Program:** Forward Medicaid

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

**Regional Telehealth Resource Center:** Great Plains Telehealth Resource and Assistance Center

**Covers the States of:** Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin

<https://www.gptrac.org>

Medicaid Telehealth Reimbursement	Summary	<p>Forward Medicaid allows reimbursement for live video under some circumstances. There is no reimbursement for store-and-forward or remote patient monitoring as services must be delivered at the same functional equivalency as face-to-face care.</p>
	Definitions	<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><b>Source:</b> WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (Accessed Aug. 2018).</p> <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><b>Source:</b> Wisconsin Statute 49.45 (29w)(b)1.b.</p>
	Live Video Policy	<p>ForwardHealth allows for certain covered services to be provided via telehealth.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (Accessed Aug. 2018).</p>

See Manual for covered telehealth CPT and HCPCS codes.

**Source:** WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (Accessed Aug. 2018).

Mental health services provided through telehealth are reimbursable by the Medical Assistance program if the provider of the service satisfies the following criteria:

- 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 organized under sections 46.23, 51.42 or 51.437.
- The provider and the individual providing the service comply with all Medical assistance coverage policies and standards.
- The provider is certified for telehealth by the department.
- The individual who is providing the service is licensed or registered and in good standing with the appropriate state board.
- The provider is located in the United States.
- The provider is not required to be located in the state.

**Source:** Wisconsin Statute 49.45 (29w)(b) (2).

Allowable providers:

- Audiologists
- Nurse midwives
- Nurse practitioners
- Ph.D. psychologists
- Physician assistants
- Physicians
- Psychiatrists
- Professionals providing services in mental health or substance abuse programs certified by the DQA (Division of Quality Assurance)

**Ancillary Providers**

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.

**Certified Mental Health And Substance Abuse Treatment Providers**

Required to meet telehealth certification requirements to provide telehealth.

**Source:** WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (Accessed Aug. 2018).

**Community Health Centers, Tribal FQHCs and RHCs**

They may serve as a distant site provider for telehealth services. See manual for details.

**Source:** WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (Accessed Aug. 2018).

# Medicaid Telehealth Reimbursement

Live Video	Eligible Sites	<p><b>Community Health Centers, Tribal FQHCs and RHCs</b> They may serve as originating site providers for telehealth services.</p> <p><b>Distant Site</b> Tribal FQHCs and RHCs may report services provided via telehealth on the cost settlement report when the FQHC or RHC served as the distant site and the member is an established patient of the tribal FQHC or RHC at the time of the telehealth service.</p> <p>CHCs may not report services provided via telehealth as an encounter. Instead, CHCs should submit claims for distant site services on a professional claim form and will be reimbursed in accordance with the maximum allowable fee schedule.</p> <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><b>Source:</b> WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (Accessed Aug. 2018).</p>
	Geographic Limits	No reference found.
	Facility/Transmission Fee	<p>Reimbursement for facility fee.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (Accessed Aug. 2018).</p>
Store-and-Forward	Policy	<p>No reimbursement. Services must be functionally equivalent to face-to-face.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (Accessed Aug. 2018).</p>
	Eligible Services/Specialties	No reference found.

# Medicaid Telehealth Reimbursement

Store-and-Forward	Geographic Limits	No reference found.
	Transmission Fee	No reference found.
Remote Patient Monitoring	Policy	No reimbursement. Services must be functionally equivalent to face-to-face.  <b>Source:</b> WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (Accessed Aug. 2018).
	Conditions	No reference found.
	Provider Limitations	No reference found.
	Other Restrictions	No reference found.

Medicaid Telehealth Reimbursement	Email/ Phone / Fax	<p>No reimbursement for telephone No reimbursement for written electronic communication (text, email)</p> <p><b>Source:</b> WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (Accessed Aug. 2018).</p>
	Consent	<p>Informed consent required.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (Accessed Aug. 2018).</p>
	Out of State Providers	<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><b>Source:</b> WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (Accessed Aug. 2018).</p>
	Miscellaneous	<p>POS code 02 required.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> WI ForwardHealth Update. Feb. 2018. (Accessed Aug. 2018).</p>
Private Payer Laws	Definitions	No reference found.
	Requirements	No reference found.

Private Payer Laws	Parity	Service Parity	No reference found.
		Payment Parity	No reference found.
Professional Regulation/Health & Safety	Definitions	<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><b>Source:</b> Admin. Code MED Ch. 24.</p>	
	Consent	<p>Informed consent required.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> Admin. Code MED Ch. 24.</p>	
	Online Prescribing	<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><b>Source:</b> Admin. Code MED Ch. 24.</p>	

WI medical license required.

**Source:** Admin. Code MED Ch. 24.

WI adopted the Federation of State Medical Boards' Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

**Source:** Wisconsin Statute 14.89. WI Act 116 (AB 253, 2015).

Member of the Nurse Licensure Compact

**Source:** Nurse Licensure Compact

### Professional Board Telehealth-Specific Regulations

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

