

State Telehealth Laws, Regulations, Policies, and Guidance



Since early 2020, the ability of physical therapists to treat patients via telehealth has expanded rapidly, fueled by the necessity of providing continuity of care to patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. Before the public health emergency, many states laws and regulations were silent on whether PTs could treat patients via telehealth. As states began implementing shutdowns in spring 2020, many states issued emergency orders and guidance explicitly permitting PTs to provide services via telehealth and mandating insurance reimbursement for those services. Some states, including Colorado and New Hampshire, codified into statute the emergency expansions in their states last year, recognizing that telehealth should permanently be part of their state’s health care delivery system, given its success during the pandemic.

Numerous states introduced bills to codify the expanded use of telehealth during the 2021 legislative session and H.R. 2168, the Expanded Telehealth Act of 2021, has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives to make permanent the Medicare rules expanding telehealth that were issued in April 2020.

Below is a state-by-state chart that links to current state laws, regulations, executive orders, policies, and guidance governing telehealth for physical therapy. The information and links for each state are current to the best of APTA’s knowledge as of the “Last updated” date at the bottom of the document. States can put different conditions on the delivery of physical therapy services via telehealth, so it is important to follow any protocols and limitations specific to your state. It is also important to know that physical therapists and physical therapist assistants, where allowed, are able to maintain necessary standards of care for any treatment provided through telehealth.

Note: APTA cannot provide legal advice, so if you have questions about your state’s rules governing telehealth, you are advised to seek the latest guidance from your licensing board and insurance carriers before providing physical therapy services via telehealth.

State	PTs Permitted to Practice Using Telehealth?	Authority
Alabama	Yes	Alabama PT board telehealth guidance
Alaska	Yes	Standards for the practice of telerehabilitation by Physical Therapists
Arizona	Yes	HB 2454 (Enacted 2021) includes physical therapists as eligible providers (see pgs. 46-51)
Arkansas	Yes	AR PT Telehealth Rule
California	Yes	California Business and Professions Code 2290.5 includes all licensed healthcare providers as eligible to provide telehealth
Colorado	Yes	Colorado PT Board guidelines on the appropriate use of telehealth
Connecticut	Yes	Connecticut Telehealth Statute includes physical therapists as eligible providers

Delaware	Yes	Delaware PT Practice Act explicitly allows telehealth
District of Columbia	Yes	Guidance on Telehealth in the District of Columbia includes physical therapists as eligible providers (During COVID-19)
Florida	Yes	Florida Statute on Telehealth provides that all licensed healthcare providers may use telehealth
Georgia	Yes	Georgia PT Board Telehealth Policy – see page 9
Hawaii	Silent	No reference found
Idaho	Yes	Idaho Telehealth Access Act includes physical therapists as eligible providers
Illinois	Yes	Executive Order to Expand Telehealth Services includes physical therapists as eligible providers (During COVID-19)
Indiana	Yes	SB 3 includes physical therapists (but not PTAs) as eligible providers
Iowa	Yes	Iowa Administrative Code on Physical Therapy Telehealth
Kansas	Silent	No reference found
Kentucky	Yes	Kentucky Statute on Telehealth for Physical Therapy
Louisiana	Yes	Louisiana PT Board Guidance on Telehealth
Maine	Yes	L.D. 791 (Enacted 2021) includes physical therapists as eligible providers
Maryland	Yes	Maryland Board of Physical Therapy Examiners position on Telehealth
Massachusetts	Yes	Executive Order Expanding Access to Telehealth Services includes physical therapists as eligible providers (During COVID-19, thru 10/31/2021 or until rescinded)
Michigan	Yes	SB 753 (Enacted 2016) includes physical therapists as eligible providers
Minnesota	Silent	No reference found
Mississippi	Yes	Mississippi Board of PT Telehealth Rules
Missouri	Yes	Revised Missouri Statutes §191.1145 includes physical therapists as eligible providers
Montana	Yes	Montana statutory definition of PT includes Telehealth
Nebraska	Yes	Nebraska Telehealth Act includes physical therapists as eligible providers
Nevada	Yes	Nevada Telehealth Statute includes physical therapists as eligible providers – see NRS 629.510 and NRS 629-515
New Hampshire	Yes	New Hampshire Code Title XXXVII §415J:2
New Jersey	Yes	New Jersey Telemedicine and Telehealth Act includes physical therapists as eligible providers

New Mexico	Yes	New Mexico HB 581 includes physical therapists as eligible providers
New York	Yes	New York Telehealth Guidelines for Physical Therapists
North Carolina	Yes	North Carolina Board of PT Telehealth Statement
North Dakota	Yes	North Dakota PT Practice Act includes telehealth in definitions
Ohio	Yes	Ohio Board of PT Statement on Telehealth
Oklahoma	Yes	Physical Therapy Telehealth Act
Oregon	Yes	Oregon Board of PT Telehealth Standards
Pennsylvania	Silent	No reference found
Rhode Island	Yes	Rhode Island Telemedicine Coverage Act includes physical therapists as eligible providers
South Carolina	Silent	No reference found
South Dakota	Silent	No reference found
Tennessee	Yes	HB 8002 allows telehealth or telemedicine services to be provided by any provider licensed under Title 63 or Title68
Texas	Yes	Texas Board of PT Examiners Telehealth Rule
Utah	Yes	Utah Telehealth Act includes physical therapists as eligible providers
Vermont	Yes	OPR's Telehealth and COVID-19 Guidance On March 30, 2020, Governor Scott signed emergency legislation that allows individuals who are licensed in another state to provide telehealth to Vermonters without a license.
Virginia	Yes	Virginia Board of PT Guidance on Telehealth
Washington	Yes	Washington Administrative Code on the Use of Telehealth in Physical Therapy
West Virginia	Yes	West Virginia Board of PT Telehealth Regulations (see pages 11-12)
Wisconsin	Yes	Wisconsin Telehealth Guidance includes physical therapists as eligible providers
Wyoming	Yes	Wyoming Board of PT Guidance on the Practice of Telehealth by PTs (Thru 12/31/2021)

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