



State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS
Louisiana Physical Therapy Board

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Telehealth FAQs

Can PTs and PTAs provide telehealth services in Louisiana?

Individuals who are licensed physical therapists (PTs) and physical therapist assistants (PTAs) in good standing in Louisiana may provide physical therapy via telehealth to a patient within the jurisdiction of Louisiana (LAC 46: LIV §319.B). PTs and PTAs who are Compact Privilege holders in the state of Louisiana may provide telehealth services to patients located in Louisiana (La R.S. 37:2425). Individuals who are licensed PTs and PTAs in a jurisdiction of the United States may provide physical therapy during a declared local, state, or national disaster or emergency. This exemption applies for no longer than sixty days following the declaration of the emergency. In order to be eligible for this exemption the physical therapist shall notify the board of his intent to practice within the state (La R.S. 37: §§2416.A-C). Individuals are directed to contact the Executive Director, Charlotte F. Martin (charlotte@laptboard.org) to notify the board of your intent to practice in Louisiana and complete necessary paperwork prior to beginning practice.

Can Louisiana licensed PTs and PTAs provide telehealth to a patient who is located in another jurisdiction?

A Louisiana licensee providing telehealth services to a patient in a jurisdiction outside of Louisiana may be required to be licensed or registered in the jurisdiction in which the originating site is located. Check with the jurisdiction where the patient is located, you may need a license or privilege to practice in that state to treat the patient via telehealth.

What are the practice and documentation requirements when practicing telehealth?

Louisiana licensed PTs and PTAs shall follow all requirements for standard of practice and documentation as provided in the Practice Act and board rules.

Can an evaluation (reevaluation) be performed via telehealth?

The PT is responsible for determining whether an evaluation (reevaluation) or intervention may be conducted via telehealth or must be conducted in an in-person setting.

Is there a different standard of care for telehealth services than in-person services?

The standard of care for telehealth services shall be at least equivalent to the standard of care for services delivered in-person.

What do I do if there is an emergency at the location of the patient during services?

When providing telehealth services, a licensee shall have documented procedures in place to address remote medical or clinical emergencies at the patient's location. If an emergency occurs, follow the procedures that are documented and take any other necessary action to address the situation.

Do I need a La license to give advice to my patient who is located in Louisiana?

A physical therapist licensed in good standing in another jurisdiction who is providing information, advice, or opinion through telehealth to a physical therapist licensed in Louisiana regarding patient care is exempt from Louisiana licensure requirements.

How do I bill for telehealth services?

For information on reimbursement of telehealth services, licensees will need to contact the payment provider for the patient who is receiving telehealth services to best understand reimbursement rules for the services.

For more information on Telehealth in Louisiana, review Board Rule 319 and La R.S. 40:1223.1 et seq.