

# Mississippi

**Medicaid Program:** Mississippi Medicaid

**Program Administrator:** Mississippi Division of Medicaid

**Regional Telehealth Resource Center:**  
 South Central Telehealth Resource Center  
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STATE LAW/REGULATIONS	MEDICAID PROGRAM
<b>Definition of telemedicine/telehealth</b>	
<p>“Telemedicine is the practice of medicine using electronic communication, information technology or other means between a physician in one location and a patient in another location with or without an intervening health care provider. This definition does not include the practice of medicine through postal or courier services.”</p> <p><i>Source: Code of MS Rules 50-013-2635 (2012).</i></p> <p>Telemedicine means the delivery of health care services such as diagnosis, consultation, or treatment through the use of interactive audio, video or other electronic media. Telemedicine must be “real-time” consultation, and it does not include the use of audio-only telephone, e-mail or facsimile.</p> <p><i>Source: MS Code Sec. 83-9-351.</i></p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
<b>Live Video Reimbursement</b>	
<p>Mississippi Medicaid and private payers are required to provide coverage for live video consultations.</p> <p><i>Source: MS Code Sec. 83-9-351.</i></p> <p><i>(also see Medicaid column)</i></p>	<p>There is live video reimbursement for Medicaid mental health medication evaluation and management.</p> <p><i>Source: Code of MS Rules 23-206, Rule. 1.9, pg. 28.</i></p>
<b>Store and Forward Reimbursement</b>	
<p>Private payers, MS Medicaid and employee benefit plans are required to provide coverage at the same level as in-person consultation for store-and-forward telemedicine services.</p> <p>A health insurance or employee benefit plan can limit coverage to health care providers in a telemedicine network approved by the plan.</p> <p>Patients receiving medical care through store and forward must be notified of their right to receive interactive communication with the distant site provider.</p>	<p>There is reimbursement for tele-radiology services, however there is no reference to reimbursing for other specialties.</p> <p><i>Source: MS Code Ann. 23-220, Rule 1.4, pg. 6 &amp; Mississippi Division of Medicaid. Radiology Services Provider Reference Guide, pg. 4-5. March 2013.</i></p> <p>MS Medicaid is required to cover store and forward services to the same level as in-person services.</p> <p><i>Source: MS Code Sec. 83-9-353.</i></p>

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<p>Telemedicine networks unable to offer this will not be reimbursed for store and forward telemedicine services.</p> <p><i>Source: MS Code Sec. 83-9-353.</i></p>	<p>(see <i>State law/regulation column</i>)</p> <p><i>Source: MS Senate Bill 2646.</i></p>
<b>Remote Patient Monitoring Reimbursement</b>	
<p>Private payers, MS Medicaid and employee benefit plans are required to provide coverage for remote patient monitoring services for Mississippi-based telehealth programs affiliated with a Mississippi health care facility.</p> <p>A onetime telehealth installation/training fee is also reimbursed.</p> <p>A health insurance or employee benefit plan can limit coverage to health care providers in a telemedicine network approved by the plan.</p> <p>To qualify for reimbursement patients must meet all of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be diagnosed in the last 18 months with one or more chronic condition, as defined by CMS.</li> <li>• Have a recent history of costly services; and</li> <li>• The patient's healthcare provider recommends disease management services via remote patient monitoring.</li> </ul> <p>Remote patient monitoring prior authorization request form must be submitted to request telemonitoring services.</p> <p>The law lists specific technology requirements.</p> <p><i>Source: MS Code Sec. 83-9-353.</i></p>	<p>MS Medicaid is required to cover remote patient monitoring services. (see <i>State law/regulation column</i>)</p> <p><i>Source: MS Code Sec. 83-9-353.</i></p>
<b>Email/Phone/FAX</b>	
<p>No Email No Phone No Fax</p> <p><i>Source: MS Code Sec. 83-9-351.</i></p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
<b>Online Prescribing</b>	
<p>A prescription for a controlled substance based solely on a consumer's completion of an online medical questionnaire is not a valid prescription.</p> <p><i>Source: MS Code Annotated Sec. 41-29-137 (2012).</i></p> <p>A health care practitioner may prescribe medication after an appropriate examination through the use of instrumentation and diagnostic equipment through which images and medical records may be transmitted electronically.</p>	<p>An e-prescribed, telephoned or faxed prescription from the prescriber may be accepted when it is not in conflict with federal and state laws and regulations.</p> <p><i>Source: MS. Code Ann.23-214, Rule 1.7 &amp; Mississippi Medicaid Provider Reference Guide, Pharmacy Services, Jul. 2014, pg. 29.</i></p>

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<i>Source: MS Code Sec. 83-9-351.</i>	
<b>Consent</b>	
<p>The physician should obtain the patient's informed consent before providing care.</p> <p><i>Source: Code of MS Rules 50-013-2635 (2012).</i></p>	No reference found.
<b>Location</b>	
No reference found.	No reference found.
<b>Cross-State Licensing</b>	
<p>Physicians practicing telemedicine must have a Mississippi medical license.</p> <p>However, a valid Mississippi license is not required where the evaluation, treatment and/or medicine given by a physician outside of Mississippi is requested by a physician duly licensed to practice medicine in Mississippi, and the physician who has requested such evaluation, treatment and/or medical opinion has already established a doctor/patient relationship with the patient to be evaluated and/or treated.</p> <p>In order to practice telemedicine a valid "physician patient relationship" must be established. The elements of this valid relationship are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. verify that the person requesting the medical treatment is in fact who they claim to be;</li> <li>2. conducting an appropriate examination of the patient that meets the applicable standard of care;</li> <li>3. establishing a diagnosis through the use of accepted medical practices, i.e., a patient history, mental status exam, physical exam and appropriate diagnostic and laboratory testing;</li> <li>4. discussing with the patient the diagnosis, risks and benefits of various treatment options to obtain informed consent;</li> <li>5. insuring the availability of appropriate follow-up care; and</li> <li>6. maintaining a complete medical record available to patient and other treating health care providers.</li> </ol> <p><i>Source: Code of MS Rules 50-013-2635 (2012).</i></p>	No reference found.
<b>Private Payers</b>	
<p>Health insurance plans must provide coverage for telemedicine services to the same extent as in-person consultations.</p> <p><i>Source: MS Code Sec. 83-9-351.</i></p>	No reference found.

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<p>Health insurance plans are also required to provide coverage for store-and-forward and remote patient monitoring services, in accordance with certain requirements (see above store and forward &amp; remote patient monitoring sections).</p> <p><i>Source: MS Source: MS Code Sec. 83-9-353.</i></p>	
<b>Site/Transmission Fee</b>	
<p>The originating site is eligible to receive a facility fee.</p> <p><i>Source: MS Code Sec. 83-9-351 MS Source: MS Code Sec. 83-9-353.</i></p>	No reference found.
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
<p>To practice telemedicine, physicians must establish a valid physician-patient relationship by the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verifying the identity of the patient;</li> <li>• Conducting an appropriate exam that meets the applicable standard of care. This exam need not be in person if the technology is sufficient to provide the same information to the physician as if the exam had been performed face to face;</li> <li>• Establishing a diagnosis;</li> <li>• Discussing with the patient the diagnosis, and the risks and benefits of various treatment options, to obtain informed consent;</li> <li>• Insuring the availability of appropriate follow-up care;</li> <li>• Maintaining a complete medical record.</li> </ul> <p><i>Source: Code of MS Rules 50-013-2635 (2012).</i></p> <p>A health insurance plan may limit coverage to health care providers in a telemedicine network approved by the plan.</p> <p><i>Source: MS Code Sec. 83-9-351.</i></p>	