

# Montana

**Medicaid Program:** Montana Medicaid

**Program Administrator:** MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Services

**Regional Telehealth Resource Center:** Northwest Regional Telehealth Resource Center <https://www.nrtrc.org/>

## Montana At-a-Glance

MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT			PRIVATE PAYER LAW		PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS	
LIVE VIDEO	STORE-AND-FORWARD	REMOTE PATIENT MONITORING	LAW EXISTS	PAYMENT PARITY	LICENSURE COMPACTS	CONSENT REQUIREMENT
✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	IMLC, NLC, PTC	✗

## Montana Detailed Policy

Medicaid Telehealth Reimbursement	Summary	<p>Montana Medicaid reimburses for live video under some circumstances. There is no reimbursement for store-and-forward or remote patient monitoring based on the definition for telemedicine.</p>
	Definitions	<p>Telemedicine is the use of interactive audio-video equipment to link practitioners and patients located at different sites.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., <i>Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, General Information for Providers, Telemedicine</i> (Feb. 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).</p> <p><b>Healthy Montana Kids</b> Telemedicine is “the use of a secure interactive audio and video, or other telecommunications technology by a health care provider to deliver health care services at a site other than the site where the patient is located. Does not include audio only (phone call), e-mail, and/or facsimile transmission.”</p> <p><b>Source:</b> MT Children's health Insurance Plan, <i>Healthy Montana Kids (HMK). Evidence of Coverage</i> (Nov. 2017), p. 11. (Accessed Sept. 2020).</p>
	Live Video Policy	<p>MT Medicaid reimburses for medically necessary telemedicine services to eligible members. Providers must be enrolled as Montana Healthcare Programs providers and be licensed in the state of Montana.</p> <p>Telemedicine should not be selected when face-to-face services are medically necessary. Members should establish relationships with primary care providers who are available on a face-to-face basis.</p> <p>The originating and distant providers may not be within the same facility or community. The same provider may not be the “pay to” for both the originating and distance provider.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., <i>Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, General Information for Providers, Telemedicine</i> (Feb. 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).</p>



Eligible Services / Specialties

**Healthy Montana Kids**

Services provided by telemedicine are allowed for non-surgical medical services and behavioral health outpatient services.

**Source:** MT Children's health Insurance Plan, Healthy Montana Kids (HMK). Evidence of Coverage (Nov., 2017), p. 24 & 30. (Accessed Sept. 2020).

Telehealth services are available for Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy when ordered by a physician or mid-level practitioner. The order is valid for 180 days. All Montana Medicaid covered services delivered via telemedicine/telehealth are reimbursable so long as such services are medically necessary and clinically appropriate for delivery via telemedicine/telehealth.

The Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) Services program (EPSDT) covers all medically necessary services for children age 20 and under. Therapy services for children are not restricted to a specific number of hours or units as long as the therapy services are restorative, not maintenance. All other applicable requirements apply.

**Source:** MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, Therapies Manual, Covered Services (Mar. 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).

The availability of services through telemedicine in no way alters the scope of practice of any health care provider; or authorizes the delivery of health care services in a setting or manner not otherwise authorized by law.

**Source:** MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, Physician Related Svcs., Telemedicine (Feb. 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).

Eligible Providers

Providers must be enrolled as Montana Healthcare Programs providers and be licensed in the State of Montana in order to:

- Treat a Montana Healthcare Programs member; and
- Submit claims for payment to Montana Healthcare Programs

**Source:** MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, Physician Related Svcs., Telemedicine (Feb. 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).

Eligible Sites

Telemedicine can be provided in a member's residence; the distance provider is responsible for the confidentiality requirements. See Facility/Transmission fee section for list of eligible originating sites for facility fee.

**Source:** MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, General Information for Providers, Telemedicine (Feb. 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).

Geographic Limits

The originating and distant providers may not be within the same facility or community. The same provider may not be the pay to for both the originating and distance provider.

**Source:** MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, General Information for Providers, Telemedicine (Feb. 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).



The following provider types can bill the originating site fee:

- Outpatient hospital
- Critical access hospital\*
- Federally qualified health center\*
- Rural health center\*
- Indian health service\*
- Physician
- Psychiatrist
- Mid-levels
- Dieticians
- Psychologists
- Licensed clinical social worker
- Licensed professional counselor
- Mental health center
- Chemical dependency clinic
- Group/clinic
- Public health clinic
- Family planning clinic

\*Reimbursement for Q3014 is a set fee and is paid outside of both the cost to charge ratio and the all-inclusive rate.

Originating site providers must include a specific diagnosis code to indicate why a member is being seen by a distance provider and this code must be requested from the distance site prior to billing for the telemedicine appointment.

The originating site provider may also, as appropriate, bill for clinical services provided on-site the same day that a telemedicine originating site service is provided. The originating site may not bill for assisting the distant site provider with an examination, including for any services that would be normally included in a face-to-face visit.

**Source:** MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, General Information for Providers, Telemedicine (Feb. 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).

No reimbursement for infrastructure or network use charges.

**Source:** MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, Physician Related Svcs., Billing Procedures (Sept. 2017). (Accessed Sept. 2020).

FQHCs and RHCs can bill a telehealth originating site code if applicable.

**Source:** MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, Rural Health Clinics & Federally Qualified Health Center, Billing Procedures (Jan, 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).

There is no reimbursement for store-and-forward based on the definition for telemedicine restricting the service to interactive audio-video.

**Source:** MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, General Information for Providers, Telemedicine (Feb. 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).

No reference found.



## Medicaid Telehealth Reimbursement

Store-and-Forward	Geographic Limits	No reference found.
	Transmission Fee	No reference found.
Remote Patient Monitoring	Policy	<p>There is no reimbursement for remote patient monitoring based on the definition for telemedicine restricting the service to interactive audio-video.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, General Information for Providers, Telemedicine (Feb. 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).</p>
	Conditions	No reference found.
	Provider Limitations	No reference found.
	Other Restrictions	No reference found.



Email / Phone / Fax

Telemedicine reimbursement does not include:

- Consultation by telephone
- Facsimile machine transmissions
- Crisis hotlines

**Source:** MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, General Information for Providers, Telemedicine (Feb. 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).

No reimbursement for telephone services in home.

**Source:** MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, Audiology Svcs., Rural Health Clinics & Federally Qualified Health Center, Covered Services (Jan. 2020); Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy, Covered Services (Mar. 2020); Hospital Outpatient Services, Covered Services (Mar. 2020); Hospital Inpatient Services, Covered Services (Jul. 2020); Physician Services, Covered Services (Sept. 2017); Federally Qualified Health Center, Covered Services (Jan. 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).

Consent

No reference found.

Out of State Providers

Providers must be licensed in the state of Montana.

Any out of state distance providers must be licensed in the State of Montana and enrolled in Montana Healthcare Programs in order to provide telemedicine services to Montana Healthcare Programs members. Providers must contact the Montana Department of Labor and Industry to find out details on licensing requirements for their applicable professional licensure.

**Source:** MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, General Information for Providers, Telemedicine (Feb. 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).

Miscellaneous

Effective January 1, 2017, providers must also use the telehealth place of service of 02 for claims. By coding with the GT modifier and the 02 place of service, the provider is certifying that the service was a face-to-face visit provided via interactive audio-video telemedicine.

**Source:** MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, General Information for Providers, Telemedicine (Feb. 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).

If a rendering provider's number is required on the claim for a face-to-face visit, it is required on a telemedicine claim

**Source:** MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, General Information for Providers, Telemedicine (Feb. 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).

Confidentiality requirements apply (see manual).

**Source:** MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Svcs., Medicaid and Medical Assistance Programs Manual, General Information for Providers, Telemedicine (Feb. 2020). (Accessed Sept. 2020).



Definitions

Telemedicine means the use of interactive audio, video, or other telecommunications technology that is:

- Used by a health care provider or health care facility to deliver health care services at a site other than the site where the patient is located; and
- Delivered over a secure connection that complies with the requirements of HIPPA.
  - The term includes the use of electronic media for consultation relating to the health care diagnosis or treatment of a patient in real-time or through the use of store-and-forward technology.
  - The term does not include the use of audio-only telephone, e-mail, or facsimile transmissions.

**Source:** MT Code Annotated Sec. 33-22-138(6)(d). (Accessed Sept. 2020).

Requirements

Eligible providers under the parity law include:

- Physicians
- Physician Assistants
- Podiatrists
- Pharmacists
- Optometrists
- Physical Therapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Speech-language Pathologists and Audiologists
- Psychologists
- Social Workers
- Licensed Professional Counselors
- Nutritionists
- Addiction Counselors
- Registered professional nurse
- Advanced practice registered nurse
- Genetic counselor certified by the American board of genetic counseling
- Diabetes educator certified by the national certification board for diabetes
- Dentists & Dental Hygienists

Eligible facilities under this law include:

- Critical access hospital
- Hospice
- Hospital
- Long-term care facility
- Mental health center
- Outpatient center for primary care
- Outpatient center for surgical services

A health insurer is not:

- Required to provide coverage for services that are not medically necessary, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy
- Permitted to require a health care provider to be physically present with the patient at the site where the patient is located unless the distant site provider determines that the presence of a health care provider is necessary.

**Source:** MT Code Sec. 33-22-138. (Accessed Sept. 2020).



Private Payer Laws	Parity	Service Parity	<p>Private payers are required to provide coverage for services delivered through telemedicine if the services are otherwise covered by the policy, certificate, contract, or agreement.</p> <p>Coverage must be equivalent to the coverage for services that are provided in-person by a health care provider or health care facility.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> MT Code Sec. 33-22-138. (Accessed Sept. 2020).</p>
		Payment Parity	No explicit payment parity.
Professional Regulation/Health & Safety	Definitions	<p>Telemedicine means the practice of medicine using interactive electronic communication, information technology, or other means between a licensee in one location and a patient in another location with or without an intervening health care provider. Telemedicine typically involves the application of secure videoconferencing or store-and-forward technology, as defined in 33-22-138. The term does not mean an audio-only telephone conversation, an e-mail or instant messaging conversation, or a message sent by facsimile transmission.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> MT Code Sec. 37-3-102(14). (Accessed Sept. 2020).</p>	
	Consent	No reference found.	
	Online Prescribing	No reference found.	
	Cross-State Licensing	<p>Member of the Interstate Medical licensure Compact.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> The IMLC. Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. (Accessed Sept. 2020).</p> <p>Member of the Nurse Licensure Compact.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> Current NLC States and Status. Nurse Licensure Compact. (Accessed Sept. 2020).</p> <p>Member of the Physical Therapy Compact.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> Compact Map. Physical Therapy Compact. (Accessed Sept. 2020).</p>	
	Miscellaneous	<p><b>Professional Board Telehealth-Specific Regulations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MT Board of Speech-Language Pathology (MT Admin Rules, Sec. 24.222.9. (Accessed Sept. 2020).</li> </ul>	

