
1625 North Market Blvd., Suite S-200
Sacramento, CA 95834
(916) 574-7830, (916) 574-8625 Fax
www.bbs.ca.gov

To: Board Members

Date: February 16, 2024

From: Rosanne Helms
Legislative Manager

Subject: Telehealth Committee Update

The Telehealth Committee (Committee) began meeting in January 2021, and held its final meeting on December 15, 2023. The purpose of the Committee was to determine if any of the Board's statutes and regulations related to the practice of telehealth by Board licensees, registrants, and trainees needed to be updated or clarified.

During the last meeting the Committee members and stakeholders discussed the following:

- The results of a Board survey and additional research to gather information about licensee and registrant experiences working for online-only therapy platforms and utilizing alternative methods of therapy.

Result: Staff developed a guidance document for its licensees and registrants regarding the use of online-only therapy platforms, which has been posted online [here](#).

- Potential amendments needed for the Board's current telehealth regulations.

Result: Those proposed amendments were approved by the Policy and Advocacy Committee and will be considered by the Board today.

During its three-year run, the Telehealth Committee was successful in making the following law changes:

- Creating a temporary practice allowance in law for out-of-state licensees whose clients are visiting in California, or whose clients are transitioning to living here. Signed in 2023 via AB 232 (Aguiar-Curry).
- Amendments to permit supervision via videoconferencing in all settings. Signed into law in 2022 via AB 1758 (Aguiar-Curry).

- Amendments requiring applicants for licensure and current licensees to complete 3 hours of training or coursework in the provision of mental health services via telehealth, including law and ethics related to telehealth, as a one-time requirement. Signed into law in 2022 via AB 1759 (Aguiar-Curry).
- Clarifications that certain pre-licensees may provide services with clients via telehealth. Signed into law in 2022 via AB 1759 (Aguiar-Curry).