

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
601 E. 12th St., Room 355
Kansas City, Missouri 64106



Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group

March 17, 2021

Susan Birch, Director
MaryAnne Lindeblad, Medicaid Director
Health Care Authority
PO Box 45502
Olympia, WA 98504-5010

Dear Ms. Birch and Ms. Lindeblad:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has completed its review of the enclosed State Plan Amendment (SPA), Transmittal Number WA-20-0026. This SPA was submitted in order to update the information regarding telehealth/telemedicine services in the Medicaid State Plan. Because telehealth/telemedicine is a method of delivering services and not an actual service, it is not necessary to include information about telehealth/telemedicine in the state plan. Therefore, SPA 20-0026 removes that information.

This SPA is approved effective October 1, 2020. Enclosed is a copy of the CMS-179 summary form, as well as the approved pages for incorporation into the Washington State Plan.

If you have any questions, please contact Nikki Lemmon at 303-844-2641 or via email at nicole.lemmon@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

James G. Scott, Director
Division of Program Operations

Enclosure

cc:

Ann Myers, HCA
Jodi Kunkel, HCA
Christopher Chen, HCA

TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF STATE PLAN MATERIAL	1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER: 20-0026	2. STATE Washington
FOR: HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION	3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)	

TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE October 1, 2020
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5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (*Check One*):

NEW STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN AMENDMENT

COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (*Separate Transmittal for each amendment*)

6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION: 1902(a) of the Social Security Act	7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT: a. FFY 2021 \$0 b. FFY 2022 \$0
8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT: Attachment 3.1-A pages 10a, 10b (remove all) Attachment 3.1-B pages 11a, 11b (remove all) Attachment 4.19-B page 45	9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (<i>If Applicable</i>): Attachment 4.19-B page 45

10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT:

Telehealth/Telemedicine Update

11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (*Check One*):

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT OTHER, AS SPECIFIED: Exempt
 COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED
 NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL: 	16. RETURN TO: Ann Myers Rules and Publications Division of Legal Services Health Care Authority 626 8 th Ave SE MS: 42716 Olympia, WA 98504-2716
13. TYPED NAME: MaryAnne Lindeblad	
14. TITLE: Director	
15. DATE SUBMITTED: 12/21/2020	

FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY

17. DATE RECEIVED: 12/21/20	18. DATE APPROVED: March 17, 2021
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PLAN APPROVED – ONE COPY ATTACHED

19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL: 10/1/2020	20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL:
21. TYPED NAME: James G. Scott	22. TITLE: Director, Division of Program Operations

23. REMARKS:

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State WASHINGTON

XX. Telemedicine/telehealth services

Payment for telemedicine/telehealth services is made as follows:

Originating sites (the physical location of the client at the time the service is provided) are paid a facility fee per completed transmission, according to the fee schedule.

Distant sites (the physical location of the practitioner providing the service) are paid the current fee schedule amount for the service provided.

Maximum allowable fees are developed using the Resource Based Relative Value Scale (RBRVS) methodology. Rates are established and updated using the RBRVS methodology as adopted in the Medicare Fee Schedule Data Base (MFSDB), or flat fee (based upon market value, other state's fee, budget impacts, etc.). In the RBRVS methodology, under Washington Administrative Code, chapter 182-531, the State uses CMS-established relative value units (RVU) multiplied by the Geographic Practice Cost Indices (GPCI) and the conversion factors, both of which are specific to Washington. Current conversion factors and descriptions are found in Supplement 3 to Attachment 4.19-B.

Except as otherwise noted in the plan, fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers of telemedicine/telehealth services. See 4.19-B, I, General, #G for the agency's website where the fee schedules are published.