

## INSTRUCTIONS

### REGISTRATION OF HEALTH PRACTITIONERS TO UTILIZE TELHEALTH/TELEPHYSICAL THERAPY IN RESPONSE TO STATE OF EMERGENCY

On March 30, 2020, Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear signed SB 150, an act relating to the state of emergency in response to COVID-19 and declaring an emergency. This legislation became effective immediately.

This legislation provides a process by which health practitioners (including physical therapists and physical therapist assistants) who are credentialed outside of Kentucky may treat a patient located in the Commonwealth of Kentucky via telehealth. The relevant provision of this legislation is below:

*“Unless specifically prohibited or limited by federal law, a health care provider who establishes a provider-patient relationship, regardless of whether or not the telehealth provider has previously conducted an in-person examination or consultation or is conducting a new patient examination or consultation, with a patient in this state may remotely provide health care services to a patient through the use of telemedicine at an appropriate site for both the provider and patient and in compliance with HIPAA. Such provider must have an active unencumbered license for a health care profession which is issued by another state, the District of Columbia, or a possession or territory of the United States and have never been subject to discipline by a licensing agency in any state or federal jurisdiction and never had their license or permit for controlled substances suspended or revoked. **Such providers must register with the relevant state agency and only offer clinically appropriate, medically necessary services.**”* (emphasis added)

Consistent with this provision of SB 150, the Kentucky Board of Physical Therapy (“Board”) has created a Registry and application process for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants to utilize telehealth/telephysical therapy while treating patients located in the Commonwealth of Kentucky during the state of emergency.

Please note the following:

- A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant who holds a Kentucky compact practice privilege under the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact during Kentucky's state of emergency does NOT need to apply for authorization to utilize telehealth/telephysical therapy in Kentucky through this registry process.
- A registry applicant must have an active unencumbered physical therapist or physical therapist assistant credential issued by another state, the District of Columbia, or a possession or territory of the United States and have never been subject to discipline by a licensing agency in any state or federal jurisdiction and never had their credential suspended or revoked.
- Board staff will verify the applicant's license/certificate through the appropriate jurisdiction's online license search. If this information is not available to Board staff, the applicant will be required to provide documentary proof of good standing and active licensure in the state of licensure as a prerequisite to inclusion on the Board's Registry.
- To make this process as easy as possible on the applicant, the application form may be completed online and submitted using Google Forms.
- Follow the link to the application, fill out all relevant fields and submit the documentation to the Board.
- There is no fee to apply for the Board's Registry to Utilize Telehealth/Telephysical Therapy during Kentucky's State of Emergency.
- This authorization to utilize telehealth/telephysical therapy, as granted by this registry process, will be automatically revoked thirty (30) days following the expiration of the state of emergency regarding COVID-19.

- After your Registry authorization granted by this process is revoked, an applicant who intends to continue practicing in Kentucky, via telehealth/telephysical therapy or any other means, will need to either:
  - purchase a Compact Privilege for Kentucky; or
  - complete the Board's application process to be issued a physical therapist license to practice in Kentucky or a physical therapist assistant certificate to work in Kentucky.
- Upon review of the application and verification of a credential in good standing, a letter authorizing permission to practice via telehealth/telephysical therapy during the state of emergency will be emailed to the applicant.