

Telehealth State/ Federal Updates

MARCH 24, 2025

WashingtonState
Telehealth Collaborative

Federal Updates

- On March 14, 2025, Congress passed a continuing resolution funding the federal government through September 30, 2025, including a critical extension of telehealth flexibilities originally introduced in 2020 as part of the COVID-19 waivers.
 - Bill text [here](#).
- The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) released three new telemedicine rules that continue to open access to telehealth treatment while protecting patients.
 - Expansion of Buprenorphine Treatment via Telemedicine Encounter
 - Special Registrations for Telemedicine and Limited State Telemedicine Registrations
 - Continuity of Care via Telemedicine for Veterans Affairs Patients
 - DEA announcement [here](#).

Federal Updates

- Expansion of Buprenorphine Treatment via Telemedicine Encounter
 - This rule provides patients with remote access to buprenorphine, the medicine used to treat opioid use disorder, which will take effect on December, 31, 2025.
 - Federal final rule [here](#).
- Special Registrations for Telemedicine and Limited State Telemedicine Registrations
 - This proposed rule would establish special registrations that will permit a patient to receive prescribed medications through telemedicine visits without ever having an in-person medical evaluation from a medical provider.
 - Federal proposed rule [here](#).
- Continuity of Care via Telemedicine for Veterans Affairs Patients
 - This rule exempts VA practitioners from Special Registrations requirements. Once a patient has received an in-person medical examination from a VA medical practitioner, the provider-patient relationship is extended to all VA practitioners engaging in telemedicine with the patient.
 - Federal final rule [here](#).