



Peak Counseling
(A Company of Eric Unruh Counseling, LLC)
17105 Park Place Street
907-622-1002
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Consent for Telehealth Services / Telebehavioral Health Services

Telehealth or telebehavioral health refers to a therapy/counseling service delivered through a method of videoconferencing (with devices such as computers or cell phones), where the provider and client are in two separate physical locations. Peak Counseling offers telebehavioral health services. By signing below, you have acknowledged you have reviewed and understand the following:

- For counseling services, the provider must be licensed in the state for which he/she is providing services via telehealth or telebehavioral health. All providers at Peak Counseling are licensed in the state of Alaska and providing assessments and counseling services via videoconferencing and are within their scope of practice in Alaska.
- Counseling services provided by Peak Counseling through telebehavioral health are treated in the same manner as in person counseling services. As such, all clients participating in telebehavioral health counseling are also required to sign the patient care agreement, confidentiality, disclosures, payment agreement, consent to treat, client's rights and HIPAA.
- Counseling services provided through telebehavioral health are billed at the same rate as counseling services provided in person. Fees for no-shows or late cancel's follow the same fee schedule as in-person counseling sessions. This information is found in the patient care agreement.
- When participating in telebehavioral health counseling services, it is the responsibility of the client or guardian receiving those services to be in a private location in order to ensure their own confidentiality. For minors (under age 18), the guardian or parent can monitor their child's video conference at any time. When conducting videoconferencing, the therapist will be in a location where the video and audio cannot be seen or heard by anyone else, to ensure confidentiality.
- At no time can the video conferencing be recorded by either the provider or the client.
- Note that there is no way for our company (or any company, for that matter) to 100% guarantee the security/privacy of a videoconferencing communication through the Internet. To ensure that the highest level of privacy and security encryption is used for our telebehavioral health service, our company pays for the online videoconferencing through a company called Zoom. Zoom is a trusted leader in the healthcare market for

offering high-quality, encrypted and secure video/audio conferencing services. For more information on Zoom's security measures, visit: <https://zoom.us/docs/doc/Zoom-Security-White-Paper.pdf>

- Each online session will require the client to enter a code or click on a link to take them to the online session. In addition, to ensure the meeting is confidential, the client will need to enter a password. The Therapist will give both the room ID and room password to the client by phone, text or email.
- Peak Counseling pays for the Zoom service and the client is not charged or billed for the Zoom service. The client is responsible for using their own device for the videoconferencing and installing the appropriate videoconferencing app to that device. The client is also responsible for their own internet or cell phone charges incurred when using their own device from their home or office. The zoom videoconferencing app can be installed on either smart phone, tablet or computer. Visit here to find out how to install: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/sections/200704559-Installation>
- Most insurance companies have embraced telebehavioral health and will pay in the same way that they do for in person counseling sessions. As a courtesy, we will bill your insurance in the same manner that we bill in person counseling services. Just as with our other in person sessions, the client is responsible for payment regardless of insurance coverage. It is highly recommended that you verify coverage for telebehavioral health with your insurance provider, before services are rendered. Here is a list of codes that will be used to bill for services in case you would like to verify coverage: 90791, 90832, 90834, 90837, 90847, 90853.
- At the start of the telehealth session, the client will be required to disclose the location of where they are at and disclose who is in the room with them (if anyone). The Therapist will make sure to disclose their location as well and to allow the client to visually see (by the therapist rotating their camera) that there are no other people in the room.
- If there is a time where a technical issue arises and the videoconferencing is no longer working, cell phone or telephone will be used as a backup to continue the counseling session. Please indicate on the form below what cell phone or home phone number you would like us to use if the need arises.
- **IMPORTANT NOTICE – Emergency Backup Plan!** If during your telehealth session you get disconnected from your therapist and the backup to your preferred contact phone (listed below) does not work, you agree to call 911 or the crisis line at 907-563-3200 ***IF*** you are in a life threatening situation (such as wanting to harm yourself or others).

****Preferred Contact Phone Number as Backup with area code:** _____

By signing, I acknowledge that I have read this disclosure statement regarding telebehavioral health and consent to using this service as a method of counseling.

Client Name: _____

Client (or guardian) Signature: _____ Date: _____