

**Alaska Telerehabilitation Statutes and Regulations for Physical Therapy and
Occupational Therapy**

ARTICLE 1.**STATE PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
BOARD.****Section****10. Creation and membership of board****20. Applicability of Administrative Procedure Act**

Sec. 08.84.010. Creation and membership of board. (a) There is created the State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board, which consists of seven members. The membership consists of one physician licensed to practice medicine in the state, three physical therapists licensed in the state or two physical therapists and a physical therapy assistant licensed in the state, two occupational therapists licensed in the state or an occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistant licensed in the state, and one lay person with no direct financial interest in the health care industry. Members of the board shall be United States citizens domiciled in the state.

(b) The board shall control all matters pertaining to the licensing of physical therapists, physical therapy assistants, occupational therapists, and occupational therapy assistants and the practice of physical therapy and the practice of occupational therapy. The board shall

- (1) pass upon the qualifications of applicants;
- (2) provide for the examination of applicants;
- (3) issue temporary permits and licenses to persons qualified under this chapter;
- (4) suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue or renew a license under AS 08.84.120;
- (5) keep a current register listing the name, business address, date, and number of the license of each person who is licensed to practice under this chapter;
- (6) keep a record and minutes of its meetings, proceedings, and hearings and submit an annual report of its activities to the governor and other interested parties;
- (7) adopt regulations under AS 44.62 necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter including regulations establishing qualifications for licensure and renewal of licensure under this chapter.

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Article 4. Physical Therapy Standards of Practice

12 AAC 54.530. STANDARDS FOR PRACTICE OF TELEREHABILITATION BY PHYSICAL

THERAPIST. (a) The purpose of this section is to establish standards for the practice of telerehabilitation by means of an interactive telecommunication system by a physical therapist licensed under AS 08.84 and this chapter in order to provide physical therapy to patients who are located at distant sites in the state which are not in close proximity of a physical therapist.

(b) A physical therapist licensed under AS 08.84 and this chapter conducting telerehabilitation by means of an interactive telecommunication system

(1) must be physically present in the state while performing telerehabilitation under this section;

(2) must interact with the patient maintaining the same ethical conduct and integrity required under 12 AAC

54.500(c) and (d);

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(3) must comply with the requirements of 12 AAC 54.510 for any licensed physical therapist assistant

providing services under this section;

(4) may conduct one-on-one consultations, including initial evaluation, under this section; and

(5) must provide and ensure appropriate client confidentiality and HIPAA compliance, establish secure

connections, activate firewalls, and encrypt confidential information.

Authority: AS 08.84.010

Article 7. Occupational Therapy Standards of Practice

12 AAC 54.825. STANDARDS FOR PRACTICE OF TELEREHABILITATION BY OCCUPATIONAL

THERAPIST. (a) The purpose of this section is to establish standards for the practice of telerehabilitation by

means of an interactive telecommunication system by an occupational therapist licensed under AS 08.84 and this

chapter in order to provide occupational therapy to patients who are located at distant sites in the state which are not

in close proximity of an occupational therapist.

(b) An occupational therapist licensed under AS 08.84 and this chapter conducting telerehabilitation by means

of an interactive telecommunication system

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- (1) must be physically present in the state while performing telerehabilitation under this section;
- (2) must interact with the patient maintaining the same ethical conduct and integrity required under 12 AAC 54.800;
- (3) must comply with the requirements of 12 AAC 54.810 for any licensed occupational therapist assistant providing services under this section;
- (4) may conduct one-on-one consultations, including initial evaluation, under this section; and
- (5) must provide and ensure appropriate client confidentiality and HIPAA compliance, establish secure connections, activate firewalls, and encrypt confidential information.

Authority: AS 08.84.010