



## Memorandum

Date: April 30, 2020

To: Marriage and Family Therapists  
Professional Counselors  
Social Workers

From: Dawn B. Crim, Secretary-designee

RE: Telehealth and Remote Supervision

We understand that the COVID-19 public health emergency has affected health care in many ways, including how and where providers care for their patients. The circumstances of the pandemic have also, in some cases, disrupted provider/patient relationships. For example, college students returning to Wisconsin from out-of-state universities may have had access to campus mental health providers cut off because of limitations on licensing and telehealth practice. Also, some licenses require in-person supervision for clinical training hours, which is not feasible when so much of care is now being delivered via telehealth and in-person contact is discouraged.

These new circumstances have prompted questions from credential holders regarding the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board's flexibility in responding to the current environment.

The board has issued [guidance](#) to answer two specific questions. First, they explained under what circumstances providers licensed under [Emergency Order 16](#) or the [2019 Act 185](#) COVID-19 legislation could provide telehealth services. Next, they clarified that they will accept remote supervision in place of in-person supervision. Please see the guidance for details.

Thank you for your continued professional service and your efforts to maintain the health and wellbeing of Wisconsin residents.