Important Information Regarding Telemental Health

The Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board (Board) has received many inquiries about providing services remotely, for example by telephone or interactive video. The Board does not have the authority to allow exceptions to the current statutes and regulations concerning teletherapy services, as our agency has not been given authority by the legislative or executive branch of Kansas government to make any type of exception. This does not mean that we as a regulatory agency are being insensitive to these concerns. Quite the contrary – we are aware that the current COVID 19 outbreak has created a critical need for services that would dictate increased flexibility for providing client care across state lines.

There are no statutes or regulations that apply solely to telemental health (teletherapy). All statutes and regulations apply to all services provided regardless of how the services are provided (in-person or by telemental health).

Per Kansas requirements, if the client is physically located in Kansas when services are being provided, the licensed provider must be licensed in the State of Kansas. Kansas does have the option of a temporary permit for those who hold an independent license in another state. Links have been provided below for each profession's temporary out of state permit application.

If the client is physically located in another state when services are being provided, the licensee must contact the state board where the client is located to determine licensure and telemental health requirements.

You may click on your profession and you will be taken to the temporary out of state permit application. You may apply if you hold an independent license in your state even if the title is different from those of Kansas.

Please email all forms to <u>bsrb@ks.gov</u>

Clinical Addiction Counselor
Clinical Marriage and Family Therapist
Master's Level Psychologist at the independent level - Clinical Psychotherapist
Clinical Professional Counselor
Psychologist Out-of-State Permit
Clinical Social Worker

Sincerely,

The Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board