



Virtual Services/Visits

A. INTRODUCTION

1. On March 4, 2022, Governor Murphy lifted the COVID-19 public health emergency allowing in-person activities to resume. The following outlines how Division of Disability Services (DDS) staff responsible for administering the TBI Fund (TBIF) will prepare requests for funding of virtual or telehealth services:

B. GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Requests for Virtual Supports and Services:
 - a. Services authorized through the TBIF should be provided in-person for best outcomes. Limited exceptions may be considered and require prior authorization as described below:
 - b. The service plan should describe if virtual services are supplemental to primary in-person services to enhance treatment/support, and include written justification from the provider for the Review Committee to review and make determinations at their monthly meetings.
 - c. An individual who wishes to supplement with virtual services during the provision of services already approved for funding must request an amendment to the service plan and receive prior approval from the Review Committee of the virtual service modality before the TBI Fund will reimburse for these services.
2. Telehealth/Telemedicine:
 - a. The TBI Fund may consider telemedicine and telehealth requests in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:1-61 et al. when initially granting eligibility for services and supports from the Fund.
 - b. An individual who wishes to shift to telemedicine/telehealth during the provision of services already approved for funding must request an amendment to the service plan with a written justification and/or prescription from the provider and receive prior approval of the virtual treatment modality from the Review Committee before the TBI Fund will pay for these services.
3. Annual Assessment:
 - a. All annual assessments must be conducted in person. Assessments should take place at the beneficiary's primary residence. Virtual visits must be preauthorized and require documentation that the virtual visit is medically necessary.
 - b. Requests for virtual visits must be sent to a TBIF Support Specialist and include the following detail:
 - i. Whether the visit can be delayed until the medical basis for the virtual visit is resolved
 - ii. Date of the last in-person contact
 - iii. Medical Documentation from the healthcare provider
 - iv. If safety precautions have been offered to facilitate an in-person meeting (masks, social distancing, etc.)

If you have additional questions, reach out to your TBI Fund Support Specialist.