

Information You Need To Know When Providing Services During Times of Crisis

Series of Six Videos



Licensing and Practicing Across Different States

What you need to keep in mind:

- You can only practice in the state you are licensed.
 - » For questions on this matter, you can contact your local state licensing board offices.
 - » The entity that regulates state licensing boards for social workers is the Association of Social Work Boards – ASWB. You can reach them <https://www.aswb.org/>
- You can provide services face-to-face and via teletherapy. It does not matter what delivery method you use, both you and your client need to be physically in the state you are licensed when service is provided.
 - » In order to make sure you are not in violation of your state licensing board while practicing via teletherapy make sure you:
 - Ask your client where he/she is located

**GET THE
FACTS!**

- » Also make sure you guarantee confidentiality and safety by asking the following:
 - Are you at your home, if not, where are you?
 - Are you alone?
 - If at the car, is the car parked? Are you the only person in the car?
- Have the required informed consent signed by your client for communicating or offering services via teletherapy (phone, text, email, and video).
 - » The social worker can obtain informed consent verbally if seeing a client via telehealth for the first time. However, documenting the conversation and following-up by obtaining a written and signed informed consent is required.
- You cannot continue care if your client travels internationally. But you can advise the following:
 - » Tell your client to:
 - Research if his/her health insurance provider offers coverage outside the country in case of an emergency, and if not, recommend obtaining travel insurance.
 - Look for resources in the country of travel to make sure he/she is prepared if an emergency occurs.
- You can also as a provider look for resources through the International Federation of Social Work (IFSW) – <https://www.ifsw.org/>



**For questions or comments on these videos,
please email us at asi@naswasi.org.**