



Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council:

PSYPACT is beneficial to Texas because it functions as a licensure mobility tool that allows qualified psychologists from other PSYPACT states to deliver services to Texans, helping alleviate the state's mental health workforce shortage. Importantly, PSYPACT expands access to care without growing the administrative state or lowering professional standards, as participating psychologists must meet uniform licensure requirements that preserve the quality of behavioral health services available to Texans.

PSYPACT

Authorization Holder:

I am so glad that I joined PSYPACT - it has been wonderful for my practice. Not only do I receive regular referrals from the PSYPACT Directory, but I can also provide continuity of care for clients who live and work, or go to school, in different states. PSYPACT has increased my practice visibility and mobility!"
— Dr. Jennifer Doran



ARTICLE I PURPOSE

- Allows for the delivery of psychological services via telecommunications from providers to patients in separate states.
- Allows for up to 30 days of in-person, face-to-face practice.
- Recognizes that states have a vested interest in the protection of public health and safety and through this compact and regulation will afford the best available protection.

ARTICLE II DEFINITIONS

This article defines terms used throughout the compact to alleviate confusion on the part of the states and practitioners.

- (N) "Home State" is the Compact State where a psychologist is licensed to practice.
- When delivering telepsychology services it is where the psychologist is physically located, and in this case the client/patient is in the (V) "Receiving State."
- When practicing in-person and face-to-face on a temporary basis, both the psychologist and the client/patient are present is the (K) "Distant State."

ARTICLE III HOME STATE LICENSURE

This article denotes what home state licensure means, what the minimum requirements to provide services through the compact are, and what must be required by the state to allow for the practice of telepsychology and the temporary inperson, face-to-face practice of psychology.

ARTICLE IV COMPACT PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE TELEPSYCHOLOGY

This section lays out the education and training requirements to provide services through the compact. This section also requires a psychologist practicing under the compact to practice within their areas of competencies, and be subject to the scope of practice of the Receiving State.

ARTICLE V COMPACT TEMPORARY AUTHORIZATION TO PRACTICE

By accepting the compact, the jurisdiction will allow for temporary in-person, face-to-face practice for up to 30 days within each calendar year. The other components are like those in Article IV.

ARTICLE VI CONDITION OF TELEPSYCHOLOGICAL PRACTICE IN A RECEIVING STATE

A psychologist must practice interjurisdictional telepsychology in accordance with the scope of practice of the Receiving State and within the rules of the Commission. Specifically, this means that any psychologist practicing telepsychology into a Receiving State via PSYPACT would abide by the Receiving State's scope of practice; therefore, no psychologist would be afforded prescriptive privileges even if those privileges were granted by his/her Home State.

ARTICLE VI ADVERSE ACTIONS

This section covers how the Home, Receiving, and Distant States will conduct and report adverse actions to each other, as well as the consequences for a psychologist who receives an adverse action. Any compact state can cause the APIT and TAP to be revoked for an out-of-state psychologist who violates that state's laws.

ARTICLE VIII ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES INVESTED IN A COMPACT STATE'S PSYCHOLOGY REGULATORY AUTHORITY

- This section provides all compact states the right to maintain their psychology regulatory authority and the right to: Issue Subpoenas, for both hearings and investigations.
- Issue Cease and Desist and/or Injunctive Relief Orders to revoke a psychologist's authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology and/or authorization for temporary practice.

ARTICLE IX COORDINATED LICENSURE INFORMATION SYSTEM

This section denotes the requirement of sharing licensee information for all compact states.

ARTICLE X ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PSYPACT COMMISSION

This section establishes the ruling Commission of the compact. The compact is not a waiver of sovereign immunity.

- The Commission shall consist of one voting representative appointed by each compact state who shall serve as that state's Commissioner, appointed by each state's psychology regulatory authority.
- Each Commissioner is granted (1) vote regarding creation of rules and bylaws and shall otherwise have the opportunity to participate in the business and affairs of the Commission.

ARTICLE XI RULEMAKING

This section lays out the requirements for rules made to the current compact once accepted by the first seven (7) states. Commission rules are limited to Compact administration and do not constitute new rules for the State Regulatory Authority as to its state responsibilities. The rules of PSYPACT would only supersede any state law pertaining to the interjurisdictional practice of telepsychology and temporary in-person, face-to-face practice pursuant to the compact.

ARTICLE XII OVERSIGHT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND ENFORCEMENT

This section details the oversight and enforcement of the compact by accepting states.

ARTICLE XIII DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PSYPACT COMMISSION AND ASSOCIATED RULES, WITHDRAWALS, AND AMENDMENT

The compact becomes effective on the date of enactment in the seventh compact state. States that join after the adoption of the rules shall be subject to the rules as they exist on the date which the compact becomes law in that state.

ARTICLE XIV CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY

This compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes thereof. If this Compact shall be held contrary to the constitution of any state member thereto, the compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining compact states.