University Wellness Center: FAQ to using TeleHealth Services at the UWC

In light of the continued spread of COVID-19 in the United States and abroad, the University Wellness Center (UWC) would like to extend our deepest compassion and care to the university community and beyond during this difficult time. The UWC will continue to offer high quality, patient-centered services as we are able. The following FAQ explains the process and answers some questions about our telehealth offerings this semester. Please be aware that in-person services for University Health Service will continue and some appointments may only be scheduled as an in-person visit. This FAQ does not cover procedures for these visits.

How do I access teleservices if I'm on campus?

For those students on campus, telecounseling and telemedicine appointments will be conducted through a secure, and HIPAA compliant, branch of Zoom; students will be able to utilize their Patient Portal (https://wellnessweb.sewanee.edu/login_directory.aspx) to automatically connect to the video conferencing platform in order to talk to their clinicians and providers remotely in a simple and confidential manner.

What are my options if I am no longer on campus?

Please contact either the front desk staff by calling 931-598-1270 or, if you are an established patient, message your clinician/provider through the Patient Portal. We will walk students through their off-campus options based on their individual situations.

How do I schedule an appointment?

Students will need to contact the Wellness Center. Students are still able to call 931-598-1270 to speak with a support staff member. Due to some restrictions in telehealth appointments, we are unfortunately unable to provide web-booking at this time. This may change in the near future, though.

For CAPS patients seeking to schedule an appointment, you can also email caps@sewanee.edu.

I tried calling and no one answered. What do I do?

If you are having an emergency, hang up and immediately call 911 or proceed to the nearest ER.
If you are not in crisis, please leave a message with your full name, phone number, and a brief message. Our support staff is not able to return your call without this information.

**What do I need in order to participate in TeleServices?**

Students need access to a camera and internet/cellular service; this can be a webcam on your laptop, on your tablet, or the camera in your smart phone.

Please be aware that you will be using Zoom, which functions on both Windows and Mac, and Android and iPhone. Zoom may ask you to download a client, app, or extension to facilitate the conference. It is highly recommended that you check into your first telehealth appointment 10 minutes early so that you can obtain the necessary component in a timely fashion.

**What do I need to do before my appointment?**

TeleService appointments are conducted through your Patient Portal: https://wellnessweb.sewanee.edu/login_directory.aspx

When you log in, you will go to the Appointments link on your sidebar or navigation menu. Every appointment that you have scheduled will be listed, as well as a link to Check In and to complete any required Questionnaires.

*Please make sure to complete your questionnaires and any required Forms prior to your appointment; if you have not, the clinician or provider will pause the session to let you complete this paperwork first, which may shorten your time with them. Forms can be found in the sidebar or navigation menu; a number will indicate how many outstanding Forms you have left to complete.*

**How do I attend my appointment?**

When it is time for your appointment, you may click the Check In link listed for your appointment time; if you cannot find your appointment time, please make sure that you have logged into the Patient Portal and clicked the Appointments tab in your sidebar or navigation menu.

For some students, the appointment may say “Join” instead of “Check In.” Please use whichever is provided. Once you’ve clicked that link, Zoom will open. You do not need to sign into Zoom. If you see a link at the bottom of your Zoom screen that says, “Join as an attendee,” please click that; not all students will see this option, though.
Your provider or clinician will be with you shortly and the appointment will begin. The appointment will not start until the clinician or provider joins; you may see a notice that you are waiting to connect with [Provider or Clinician’s name] until they arrive.

**It’s not working, what do I do?**

If you cannot find the link to your appointment and you are in the Appointments tab, please try refreshing your portal. Please also make sure that you are slightly early or on time to your appointment; if you are late, the link may no longer be available. If you are late, you will need to contact the office or your clinician so that we can reset your appointment. Please do your best not to be late, as this reset procedure will take away valuable time from your session.

Please make sure that you do not check in excessively early, either. If you try to check into your appointment a half hour or more before your scheduled time, you may get a notice that the meeting ID is invalid. You will need to wait closer to your scheduled time in order to join the telehealth appointment.

If you cannot connect at all, please make sure you have access to a stable connection. Please also make sure that your phone or computer is up-to-date. Sometimes devices will not connect correctly or well if out of date.

If your provider or clinician can't hear or see you, but you are connected, please make sure that your audio and video settings are correct and on. Once you’re connected with your provider or clinician, you can move your cursor to or touch the bottom of the video screen - you’ll see microphone and camcorder icons in the left bottom corner. If they can’t hear you, make sure that you’re not muted (press the microphone icon). If they can’t see you, make sure that you’re not set to “Stop Video” (press the camcorder icon).

If you’re able to connect and conduct your appointment, but you lose audio or video during the session, try clicking these two icons. Sometimes turning off your audio/video and turning it back on solves the problem.

At the bottom of your screen, you’ll also notice a Chat icon. You can click this to open a chat window with your clinician or provider to the right of your screen. If you’re having some difficulty, you can always send your clinician/provider a message that you’re having technical issues.

**I still have a question or I am not sure if I need a teleservices appointment.**

You are able to contact our staff by calling 931-598-1270 or via the Secure Message option through your Patient Portal. If your request requires a telehealth or in-person appointment, the
staff member will instruct you on how to schedule that service. We can also answer your questions about other needs and services.

Additional Resources for Students

For students remaining on campus who are experiencing a mental health crisis, please call the UWC crisis line at 931-598-1700.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline can be reached at 1-800-273-8255.

For students remaining on campus who are experiencing a medical emergency call 911.

For Tennesseans who have questions about COVID-19:

The Tennessee Department of Health has a Coronavirus Public Information Line: (877)-857-2945. This line is available daily from 10 a.m.–10 p.m. (Central Time Zone). Call volume may be high, so callers are urged to call again if getting a busy signal. Additionally, anyone with suspicious symptoms and concerns about their health should contact their healthcare provider via phone prior to their arrival. These symptoms may include fever, cough, and shortness of breath.

For mental health resources related to coping with COVID-19:

Anxiety and Depression Association of America has links to helpful resources along with a database for finding a mental health provider in your area. https://adaa.org/finding-help/coronavirus-anxiety-helpful-resources

American Psychological Association
https://www.apa.org/practice/programs/dmhi/research-information/social-distancing