



Arizona

Federal Medical Underserved Areas and Populations

Purpose:

The federal Health Medically Underserved Area/Population (MUA/MUP) designation identifies areas or populations as having a need for medical services on the basis of demographic data. These designations are important when seeking a Federally Qualified Health Center status.

Requirements:

Designation is based on an area having an Index of Medical Underservice (IMU) score less than or equal to 62.0 points. The IMU is a weighted score derived from four criteria:

- Ratio of primary medical care physicians per 1,000 population
- Infant mortality rate
- Percentage of population below the federal poverty level
- Percentage of the population 65 years and older

Eligibility:

Geographic areas that are rational areas for delivery of services and meet the IMU score requirement are eligible for a federal MUA/MUP designation.

Designation is not a competitive process. Any person or organization may apply on behalf of an area.

Benefits:

Benefits include:

- Enhanced federal grant eligibility
- Eligibility to apply for federal funding to develop and operate Community Health Centers, Migrant Health Centers, Health Care For The Homeless, Federal Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and FQHC Look-A-Likes
- Eligibility for enhanced reimbursement for Rural Health Clinics
- J-1 Visa Waiver Program
- Arizona Medical Student Loan Program

Highlights:

- As of June 26, 2007, 47 areas in Arizona have federal MUA/MUP designations
- Currently, 13 Arizona counties have MUA designations; in addition 7 also have MUP designations

Contact Us:

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