

Medically Underserved Area/Population (MUA/P)

What is a MUA or MUP?

- Medically Underserved Areas (MUA) or Medically Underserved Populations (MUP)
- The criteria for designations are based on federal regulations
- Generally the criteria are:
 - Rational Service Area
 - Criteria and weighted values include poverty, age, infant mortality rate and providers per 1000 population

What are the types of MUA/Ps

- Primary care only

Why do we have shortage designations?

- Certification as a Rural Health Clinic, Community Health Clinic, Federally Qualified Health Center
- The purpose of designations is to identify areas of greatest need, so that limited resources can be prioritized and directed to the people in those areas.
- Provider recruitment – J-1 Visa Waivers
- Requirement for various state loan forgiveness/repayment programs and grants for providers.

When and how are areas, populations or facilities analyzed?

- MUA/Ps are not reviewed on a regular basis and technically do not expire.
- Population groups and facilities sometimes can request to have a particular area analyzed.
- Full-time equivalent (FTE) data is gathered by phone or email surveys, workforce survey data or federal American Medical Association data
- Census or Claritas data are used for population, poverty, social-economic, etc.
- The Minnesota Department of Health submits application online using the Federal Application System

How many MUA/Ps do we have right now in Minnesota?

- MUA = 97
- MUP = 10
- Governor's MUP = 3

More information

HRSA Data Warehouse: <http://hpsafind.hrsa.gov/>

Minnesota Department of Health: <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/orhpc/shortage/index.html>

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1/11/2016



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