## Designation Definitions

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<th>Type of Designation</th>
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| Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) | Population to Physician Ratio | • National Health Service Corps (NHSC) providers  
• Rural Health Clinic status (may be for-profit private practices) | These designations may be for:  
1) geographic areas,  
2) special populations (low income, homeless, migrant seasonal farmworkers)  
3) dental health,  
4) mental health, or  
5) facilities like prisons |
| Medically Underserved Area (MUA) | A weighed index of four criteria that produce a numeric score called the Index of Medical Underservice (IMU) score. A score of less than 62.0 qualifies an area for designation. The four criteria are:  
1) population to physician ratio,  
2) percentage of people age 65+,  
3) percentage of people below the poverty line, and  
4) the infant mortality rate. | • Rural Health Clinic status (may be for-profit private practices)  
• Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act funds for operating support of public and community based non-profit health organizations | Rural Health Clinic status allows for reasonable cost based reimbursement for Medicare and Medicaid clients |
| Oregon Office of Rural Health Areas of Unmet Health Care Need (AUCHN) | A weighted index of five criteria that produce a numeric score. A score of 53 and below qualifies an area for designation. The five criteria are:  
1) primary care capacity,  
2) ambulatory care sensitive conditions ratio,  
3) travel time to nearest hospital,  
4) comparative mortality ratio, and  
5) low birth weight rate. | • Oregon Rural Health Service Loan Repayment Program | This is an Oregon specific designation |