Medically Underserved status is designated to areas or populations having a shortage of personal health services according to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services rules.

Eligibility for designation as an MUA is based on the demographics of the entire population in an area compared to national statistics for four health care demand/resource indicators:

-Percentage of elderly population (over 65 years)
-Poverty rate
-Infant mortality rate
-Ratio of primary care physicians per 1,000 population