

Definition of Rural for Rural Health Care Practitioner Tax Credit.

The Department of Health (DOH) has historically used the qualifying Federal definition of rural. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Rural Initiative, the Rural Assistance Center (RAC) was established as a rural health and human services "information portal." The RAC maintains an online tool entitled "Am I Rural" where a State Agency or Practice site can verify if they meet the federal definition of rural. The "Am I Rural" website is located at the following link: <http://www.raconline.org/amirural/>

The "[Am I Rural](#)" service can be used to help determine whether a specific location is considered rural based on various federal definitions of rural, including definitions that are used as eligibility criteria for federal and some state programs. The information provided by this service addresses only the rural aspect of a program's requirements.

Some of the federal definitions of rural incorporated in the "[Am I Rural](#)" online tool include:

Common Rural Definitions

- Rural Urban Commuting Areas (RUCAs), by ZIP code and Census tract
- Core Based Statistical Areas
- Rural Urban Continuum Codes (RUCC)
- Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
- Urban Influence Codes (UICs)

Program-Related Definitions

- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services [Rural Health Clinics](#) status
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Medicare Telemedicine Reimbursement
- Office of Rural Health Policy Grant Programs:
 - [Small Rural Hospital Improvement Grant Program](#)
 - [Rural Access to Emergency Devices Grant Program](#)
 - [Rural Health Care Services Outreach Grant Program](#)
 - [Rural Health Network Development Grant Program](#)
 - [Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant Program](#)