How to: Use the Rurality Tier Search Tool

This tool helps users search, by site location, the applicable rurality tier for the health care provider (HCP) site. The rurality tier is used to calculate the “rural rate” for determining the amount of support for eligible telecommunications services to the site location for the Telecommunications (Telecom) Program. In addition to helping to determine a HCP site’s rural rate, the rurality tier is a factor in the prioritization of funding in the event eligible funding requests exceed the amount of available funding for a particular funding year.

Step 1 – Navigate to Page
Navigate to the Rurality Tier Search Tool page on the USAC public website.

Step 2 – Review Information
Read the information on the page and then click on the “Get Started” button.

Step 3 – Enter HCP/Site Address Information
For the HCP/Site for which you’d like to find the rurality tier: enter the Street Address, Apt or Unit Number (optional), City, State, and Zip Code of the site. The results will not populate unless all mandatory fields are entered. Then click Search.

Continued on next page...
Step 4 – View Results

The search tool will display the rurality tier and whether the site is located in a Medically Underserved Area/Population (MUA/P), which together with the rural tier is used to determine funding prioritization. The funding priority level for the HCP site location will be displayed. There are eight priority categories, with Priority 1 being the highest priority and Priority 8 being the lowest priority.

Your Rurality Tier Information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rurality Tier:</th>
<th>Less Rural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medically Underserved Area/Population (MUA/P):</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority:</td>
<td>Priority 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You will need the rurality tier results when using the Telecom Program Rates Database. To calculate the rate you will use on your FCC Form 466, click “Calculate the median rate for my location.”