

The definition of rural and frontier varies depending on the purpose of the program or policy in which they are used. Therefore, these are referred to as programmatic designations, rather than definitions. One designation commonly used to determine geographic eligibility for federal grant programs is based on information obtained through the Office of Management and Budget: *All counties that are not designated as parts of Metropolitan Areas (MAs) are considered rural*. The Colorado Rural Health Center frequently assumes this designation, as well as further classifies frontier counties as those counties with a population density of six or fewer persons per square mile. You may visit the Rural Health Grants Eligibility Advisor to determine if a county or address is designated rural, or contact the Office of Rural Health Policy at (301) 443-0835.

