

Office of Primary Care and Rural Health
State Primary Care Grants Program for Medically Underserved Populations
Updated December 1, 2014

Function

The Office of Primary Care and Rural Health continues to be a resource for Utah's rural, multi-cultural, and underserved communities. The Office works with communities that need assistance in conducting needs assessments, recruiting health care professionals, identifying sources of funding, and implementing other projects related to decreasing disparity and increasing access to primary health care.

Program Description

The State Primary Care Grants Program for Medically Underserved Populations makes grants to public and non-profit entities for the cost of providing primary health care services to medically underserved populations. The program strives to decrease the number of individuals without access to appropriate, high quality, cost-effective primary health care by making these grants to qualified provider organizations.

The program targets Utah's low-income populations, who have no health insurance, or whose health insurance does not cover primary health care services and do not qualify for Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, or other government insurance programs.

The scope of this program includes populations in medically underserved areas, including the working poor, individuals with chronic diseases, children of low-income families, the homeless, Native Americans, seasonal and migrant farm workers, and other disadvantaged group.

Utah Code Annotated, 26-18, Part 3, authorizes the State Primary Care Grants Program for Medically Underserved Populations.

Key Facts

The performance measures in the State Primary Care Grants Program for Medically Underserved Populations area monitor both the efficiency of the office and the funding available from the Legislature. Processing the awards is an important aspect of the program to assure funding to serve targeted populations. Our state's medically underserved (uninsured and underinsured, minority, geographically isolated) populations are also served by several, federally supported community, migrant and homeless health centers.

These centers depend on a combination of federal, state, and local funds that include many donations and some funding from patient care billings (primarily selfpay patients on sliding-fee schedules and Medicaid clients).

The performance measures in this program area monitor both the efficiency of the office and the funding available. The ultimate number of awards is based on the amount of funds available and the purposes for which they are allocated.

Appropriation

The 1996 and 1997 Legislatures approved \$350,000 from Mineral Lease Funds for a State Primary Care Grants Program for Medically Underserved Populations. The 1998 Legislature increased the funding to \$500,000. This amount was also appropriated in 1999 for FY 2000 and FY 2001, but the source of the funding switched in FY 2001 to the Medicaid Restricted Account. Since FY 2002, the funding for the State Primary Care Grants Program has been from the State General Fund.

During FY 2014 a one-time appropriation of \$2 million was included with the base appropriation.

Intent Language

The Utah Legislature included intent language for the State Primary Care Grants Program for Medically Underserved Populations in the FY 2006 Supplemental Appropriations Act. The FY 2007 Supplemental Appropriations Act (H.B. 150), changed the amount of funding that could be considered non-lapsing to \$400,000.

**STATE PRIMARY CARE GRANTS PROGRAM
 FOR MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS HISTORY**

	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015 on-going estimated	FY 2015 one-time estimated	Cumulative
Rural Served	13,023	34,080	22,525	21,745	24,324	23,382	20,614	16,838	176,531
Urban Served	11,367	26,836	20,223	8,100	6,891	6,087	5,387	97,603	182,494
Total Served	24,390	60,916	42,748	29,845	31,215	29,469	26,001	114,441	359,025
Rural Sites Awarded	30	28	22	19	19	20	18	12	168
Urban Sites Awarded	28	24	17	10	8	6	6	16	115
Total Sites Awarded	58	52	39	29	27	26	24	28	283
Expenditures	\$1,491,667	\$1,641,836	\$1,166,100	\$757,708	\$786,233	\$757,896	\$698,026	\$1,897,189	\$9,196,655

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