



August 23, 2022

Dear Tribal Leader and Urban Indian Organization Leader:

Thank you for your continued interest in the Maternity Care Health Professional Target Areas (MCTAs). I am writing to provide you with an update on the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) development of the final [Criteria for Determining Maternity Care Health Professional Target Areas](#) and the release of MCTA – specific Update Previews in the Auto-HPSA Portal.

As you know, HRSA, is the primary U.S. Department of Health and Human Services agency for improving health care for people who are geographically isolated and economically or medically vulnerable, including American Indians and Alaska Natives. HRSA was charged with establishing the criteria for identifying MCTAs, in accordance with the [Public Health Service Act, Section 332](#). MCTAs are areas within existing Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) that are experiencing a shortage of maternity health care professionals. MCTAs are not a new designation type. MCTAs are a supplementary score given to Primary Care HPSAs. All Tribal Nations and Urban Indian Organizations will receive a MCTA sub-score as part of their Primary Care HPSA. The National Health Service Corps (NHSC) will use these MCTA scores to direct maternal health NHSC personnel to areas of greatest need.

On May 19, 2022, HRSA published a [Federal Register Notice](#) that presents the final criteria that will be used to provide the MCTA supplementary-score for new and existing Primary Care HPSAs. The Federal Register Notice also summarizes and responds to the comments received during the public comment period held in 2021.

In preparation for the MCTA specific National Update tentatively scheduled for November 2022, HRSA will be providing Tribal Nations and Urban Indian Organizations with a series of update preview reports containing projected MCTA supplementary scores for their facilities. The MCTA update preview scores are for informational purposes and also allow you the opportunity to learn about additional facility-specific data points that you may submit to further update your scores.

HRSA is committed to assisting Tribal Nations and Urban Indian Organizations in addressing the health workforce needs of Indian Country. We look forward to strengthening our relationship with tribes and tribal organizations to deliver health care to American Indians and Alaska Natives.

If you have questions or concerns please reach out to HRSA's Bureau of Health Workforce at [sdmp@hrsa.gov](mailto:sdmp@hrsa.gov).

Sincerely,

/s/

Sheila Pradia-Williams  
Deputy Associate Administrator  
Bureau of Health Workforce