

Medicare Geographic HPSA Bonus Payment Update – 2026

The [Health Resources & Services Administration](#) (HRSA) designates areas as Geographic Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) where there are insufficient healthcare providers to meet community needs. Medicare offers a 10% quarterly bonus for eligible professional services to physicians practicing in these areas.

Eligibility Overview

- Eligibility is determined by calendar year.
 - If an area gains or loses a Geographic HPSA designation, eligibility begins or ends **January 1** of the following year.
 - Medicare automatically issues quarterly bonus payments to most eligible physicians.
 - Please refer to the [CMS website](#) for official information, including:
 - Automatically qualifying ZIP code lists by year
 - Claims AQ modifier guidance
 - Additional program details
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Billing Information

- Services provided in a Geographic HPSA where the ZIP code is not classified as “dominant” require use of the AQ modifier to receive the bonus.
- The ZIP codes listed below:
 - Are not included on the CMS 2026 automatically qualifying ZIP code list
 - Are partially located within an eligible HPSA
- Physicians should use the [Medicare Physician Bonus Payment Eligibility Analyzer](#) to determine whether claims should be submitted with the AQ modifier for these and any other potentially eligible practice locations.

2026 Partial Geographic HPSA ZIP Codes

The ZIP codes below include known partial HPSA areas as of this notice and may not represent all partially eligible zip codes.

Non-Psychiatrists: Primary Care Geographic HPSA

Barnwell	29808
Calhoun	29160
Chester	29720
Chesterfield	29550, 29593
Dorchester	29414, 29418, 29426, 29470
Edgefield	29821, 29835, 29838, 29845, 29848
Fairfield	29016
Kershaw	29128
Lancaster	29720
Lee	29040, 29069, 29104, 29128, 29153, 29550
Marlboro	29565
Orangeburg	29137
Saluda	29006, 29037, 29070, 29105, 29127, 29484, 29666
Union	29178, 29335, 29372, 29374
Williamsburg	29111, 29440, 29510, 29560
York	29702, 29707, 29743

Psychiatrists: Mental Health Geographic HPSA

Anderson	29611, 29673
Calhoun	29160
Chester	29031
Dorchester	29414, 29418, 29426, 29456, 29470
Kershaw	29130
Laurens	29335, 29388, 29644
Lexington	29033, 29036, 29063, 29160, 29210, 29212
Newberry	29036
Orangeburg	29436
Pickens	29611, 29635, 29661
York	29702, 29743