**For Incorporation in 28 CCR § 1300.67.2**

The following Geographic Access Measurement Methodology is hereby incorporated by reference in 28 CCR § 1300.67.2., sub. (a)(3), pursuant to the exemption to the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) set forth in Health and Safety Code section 1367.03(f).[[1]](#footnote-2)

**Geographic Access Measurement Methodology**

The Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) shall determine health care service plan (plan) compliance with the geographic accessibility standards set forth in Rule 1300.67.2(a) by measuring the driving distance and expected driving time between the reported practice address of a network provider and the population points contained within a plan’s network service area, as these terms are defined in Rule 1300.67.2.2(b)(11) and below.[[2]](#footnote-3) The DMHC shall use geographic information system (GIS) software that utilizes technology that is generally accepted in the industry to calculate these measurements.

The DMHC shall measure according to the population points within the counties and ZIP Codes (CountyZIPs) in the plan's approved network service area, according to the standardized ZIP Code and county list released annually, as set forth in Rule 1300.67.2.2(h)(8)(D). Where the plan's approved network service area counties and ZIP Codes are not reflected on the DMHC’s standardized list because they are outdated or otherwise not comparable, the DMHC may require health plans to reconcile the CountyZIPs listed in the network service area on file with the Department through a filing pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 1352. Similarly, plans may be required to re-file a past request for alternative standards of accessibility under Rule 1300.67.2.1, as applicable, to conform to the DMHC's current standardized list and population points.

When determining compliance with geographic accessibility standards, the following measures shall apply:

1. Driving distance - The DMHC shall measure driving distance, using GIS software, by calculating the actual driving miles between a network provider and each of the network service area’s population points, as set forth in the *California ZIP Code and County Combinations and Population Points* document, posted on the DMHC’s web portal annually, as set forth in Rule 1300.67.2.2(b)(11).
2. “Actual driving miles” shall mean the nearest distance in miles measured based on public roads and the measurable length of each road segment.
3. Expected driving time – Where the geographic accessibility standard includes a driving time, the DMHC shall measure expected driving time using GIS software that takes into consideration relevant factors such as speed limit, actual driving miles, and traffic patterns.

For the purposes of the network adequacy review conducted pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 1367.035, when determining compliance with the geographic accessibility standard for primary care providers set forth in Rule 1300.51(d) Item H and Rule 1300.67.2(a), the DMHC shall review the driving distance and expected driving time between a population point and a primary care physician, as defined in Rule 1300.45(m).

1. *See* Senate Bill (SB) 221 (Wiener, Chap. 724, Stats 2021), and SB 225 (Wiener, Chap. 601, Stats 2022). The Department solicited stakeholder feedback prior to releasing the final methodology. The Knox-Keene Act is set forth in California Health and Safety Code sections 1340 et seq. References herein to “Section” are to sections of the Act. References to “Rule” refer to the California Code of Regulations, title 28. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. “Population points” is defined in subsection (b)(11) of Rule 1300.67.2.2 as “a representation of where people live and work in the state of California based on United States Census Bureau population data and United States Postal Service (USPS) delivery route data, and made available annually by the Department on the web portal accessible at [www.dmhc.ca.gov](file:///C:/Users/MWofford/OneDrive%20-%20California%20Department%20of%20Managed%20Health%20Care/Desktop/Final%20Drafts/Group%202/Final%20-%20Ready%20for%20Formatting/www.dmhc.ca.gov).” [↑](#footnote-ref-3)