2020 QAP - Access to Higher Performing Schools Methodology

Data updated to include graduate rates for 2016/2017

Access to higher performing schools is based on a development being located in an area that meets at least two out of three school performance assessments:

- Share of 3rd graders who are reading proficient (2016/2017 school year). The area's neighborhood elementary school needs to meet or exceed the statewide proficiency rate of 56.5%[1]
- Share of 8th graders who are math proficient (2016/2017 school year). The area's neighborhood middle school needs to meet or exceed the statewide proficiency rate of 58.0%[1]
- Share of high school students that graduate on time (2016/2017 school year). The area's high neighborhood school needs to meet or exceed the statewide graduation rate of 82.68%[2]

Applicants will receive 4 points if the development is located in an area with access to higher performing schools. **The same regions eligible for economic integration points are also eligible for access to higher performing school points. This includes the 7-county Twin Cities metropolitan area and areas in and around Duluth, Rochester, and Saint Cloud.**

Each elementary school, middle school[3], and high school attendance boundary are assessed separately and then combined for a final score. If a school is equal to or greater than the statewide average, it meets that performance threshold for that measure. If at least two of the three measurements achieve the performance threshold, the area is eligible for points.

Access to higher performing schools is based on elementary school attendance boundaries.[4] Points for 8th grade math proficiency and high school graduation rate are assigned to the elementary school that feeds into those middle and high schools. Private, charter, and magnet schools are excluded from this analysis.

This document includes maps of the areas eligible for points given their access to higher performing schools. Interactive tools will be made available for applicants to map project locations and determine the high-performing school points through the community profiles at www.mnhousing.gov > Policy & Research > Community Profiles.

Areas outside the 7-county Twin Cities metropolitan area, Duluth, Rochester, and St. Cloud are not eligible for school performance or economic integration points, but they are eligible for 10 points under

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[1] Based on Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) Series III test scores by school for 2016/2017 school year – 3rd and 8th grade proficiency. Data source: http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/Data.jsp.
[2] Based on 4-year graduation rates by school for 2016/2017 school year. Data source: http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/Data.jsp.
[3] If a middle school attendance boundary is not defined or a middle school does not exist, the high school attendance boundary is used.
[4] Data source Minnesota Department of Education via the Minnesota Geospatial Commons: https://gisdata.mn.gov/organization/us-mn-state-mde.

the Rural/Tribal Designated
Areas.

Duluth

St. Cloud

Rochester

Access to Higher Performing Schools (4 Points)

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