**Dynamic Access Standards**

**Overview**
The Quest Analytics Suite™ provides you with the ability to apply *Dynamic Access Standards* to your analyses. Access Standards can be made *Dynamic by Zip Code Classification* or *Dynamic by County Classification*. Selecting the method in which you prefer to assign Urban, Suburban, and Rural classification can be done within the *Calculation Options* located in *Project Preferences*, as shown below. *Project Preferences* can be found in the *File* menu of the Quest Analytics Suite™.

**Note:** By default, *Zip Classification* is set to *Population Density*.

![Project Preferences](image)

**Methods of Defining Urban, Suburban, or Rural Zip Code Classification**
To learn more about the two different methods used to define Urban, Suburban, or Rural Zip Code Classification, see the below descriptions:

**Population Density Standard**
- This standard uses population per square mile to determine the Urban, Suburban, and Rural Classification for a given zip code.
- This methodology is preferred by Medicare when submitting reports to CMS for Part D.
  - **Urban** – Zip Codes containing a population of more than 3,000 people per square mile
  - **Suburban** - Zip codes containing a population between 1,000 – 3,000 people per square mile
  - **Rural** – Zip codes containing a population of less than 1,000 people per square mile

**US Census Standard**
- This standard is a modern update to the process of assigning Urban, Suburban, and Rural classification to a zip code.
- It is based on Urban, Suburban, and Rural population data supplied by the US Census Bureau, which assigns classification down to the census tract level.
- This model ‘generalizes’ the classification of the zip code to the one with the *majority* of that classification. For example, if the majority of the population of a zip code is Urban, then the Quest Analytics Suite™ will consider the whole zip code to be Urban.
How to: Create a Dynamic Access Standard

To generate an analysis utilizing a Dynamic Access Standard, follow the below process:

1) Create the project Resources that will be utilized in your analyses.
2) Under Analyses, click on the Access tab. By default, the Access Standard is set to Standard Access and the Calculation Method is set to Distance Calculations Only. Within the Calculation Options, make the appropriate selection from the Access Standard dropdown menu, as shown below.
3) Select the + button to add a new access criteria item.
4) As prompted, in the Access Analysis Criteria dialog box select both the group in which you wish to measure access from and the group in which you wish to measure access to.
5) Lastly, define your Access Standard by clicking into the individual Min Count and Miles boxes within each Zip Code/County Classification, as illustrated below.

Note: Access Standards can be made Dynamic by Zip Code Classification or Dynamic by County Classification before or after adding a new access criteria item.