

What is MASSTART?

MASSTART is a FREE service supported by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health

MASSTART providers help families and schools plan for the health care and safety of children with special health care needs, especially those who are assisted by medical technology, so that they can attend schools safely in Massachusetts.

MASSTART providers have extensive experience providing health care services to children and adolescents with a wide range of complex health conditions and technology needs



Who can use MASSTART services?

Families who have children with complex health issues and/or are assisted by medical technology (e.g. a child may use feeding tubes, tracheostomy, ventilator, oxygen, intravenous lines) or chronic illness.

Health care providers
School personnel
Early intervention providers
Community agencies



What does MASSTART do?

MASSTART providers work collaboratively with families and school personnel to:

Help the school team understand the special health care needs of the child.

Work with schools and families toward resolving the issues impacting the child's health needs in the school day.

Train school personnel to meet the health care needs of individual children.

Assist in the development of the child's individual health care plan and emergency plan for school.

Provide educational programs about children with special health care needs in school.

Provide information, referral, and community resources.

How can you obtain MASSTART services?

Contact the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Community Support Line for children with special health care needs at 800-882-1435.

See list of providers on other side.

Comments from families and school personnel who have used MASSTART services:

"MASSTART gave immediate attention when called upon."

"MASSTART really helped keep everyone focused as we plowed through each issue again and again."

"MASSTART went above and beyond to ensure that my son got the health and emergency care plans that he needed."

"MASSTART gave me another skilled individual to bounce my ideas off."

"MASSTART is dedicated to advocating for the health care needs of children."

For more information contact:

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REGIONAL MASSTART PROVIDERS:

**Greater Boston Region
Northeast Region
Southeast Region**

Boston Children's Hospital
Project School Care
300 Longwood Avenue, Boston, MA 02115

Contact: Stephanie Porter, MSN, RN

857-218-4333

FAX: 617-730-0049

stephanie.porter@childrens.harvard.edu

Contact: Kimberly Loring, RN, BSN, MEd

857-218-4331

FAX: 617-730-0049

kimberly.loring@childrens.harvard.edu

Central Region

Umass Memorial Medical Center
Pediatric Pulmonary & Cystic Fibrosis Center
55 Lake Ave North, Worcester, MA 01655

Contact: Dorothy Page, FNP, MSN

508-856-4155

FAX: 508-856-2609

PageD02@ummhc.org

Western Region

Baystate Children's Hospital
759 Chestnut Street, Springfield, MA 01199

Contact: Carrie Somppi, RN, BS

413-794-9591

FAX: 413-794-3207

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MASSTART

**Massachusetts
Technology Assistance Resource Team**

A Free Program Providing Services for
Children with Special Health Care Needs and
Who May Be Assisted by Medical
Technology in the School Setting



Sponsored by
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition
Division for Children & Youth with Special Health
Needs

