



## Public Benefits to Maximize Services for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

Parents of children with a disability, chronic health condition, vision or hearing impairment or loss, or other disabling condition often need help to support their child's health needs. You may know *the challenge* of finding accurate information about public benefit programs. Help is available.

Parents or guardians of children with special health care needs can apply for MassHealth, our state's Medicaid program, which provides a broad range of health-related services. Benefits may include inpatient and outpatient services, testing, medications, therapies, medical equipment and supplies, and home-based nursing and personal care services.

MassHealth offers a number of programs that may suit your child's needs for primary or supplemental insurance and family income, including MassHealth Standard, CommonHealth, and premium assistance programs. To learn about services or how to qualify, contact:

- ▼ **Community Support Line at Mass. Department of Public Health: 800-882-1435**
- ▼ **Massachusetts Family Voices: 800-331-0688, Ext. 210**
- ▼ **MassHealth: 800-862-4840 or visit: [www.mass.gov/masshealth](http://www.mass.gov/masshealth)**

The Social Security Administration may also be able to assist you. Children who have a disability may qualify for a monthly cash benefit from Supplemental Security Income (SSI), possibly with automatic eligibility for MassHealth. Benefits are determined based on a disability determination, family income (until the child turns 18 years of age), and citizenship or legal immigrant status. For details, call:

- ♥ **Social Security Administration: 800-772-1213 or [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)**

**Massachusetts Family –to-Family Health information Center** provides free services to families with children and youth with special health care needs. For more information, contact **Massachusetts Family Voices: 800-331-0688, Ext. 210.**

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