

## LINKS TO RELATED AGENCIES

### Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services

**Bureau of Transition Planning:** <http://www.state.ma.us/eohhs/>

The Bureau of Transitional Planning (BTP) was established by the legislature in 1984 for the purpose of administering the Chapter 688 law. This law creates a single point of entry into the adult Human Services System for those coming from Special Education and who meet the 688 eligibility criteria. The BTP is also responsible for providing information and technical assistance to schools, agencies, families and advocacy groups.

**Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission:** <http://www.state.ma.us/mrc/>

The Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission assists individuals with disabilities to live independently and go to work. MRC is the agency of the Commonwealth responsible for Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Independent Living Services, and for eligibility determination for SSI/SSDI (federal) benefits programs for Massachusetts citizens with disabilities. The agency serves individuals with all types of disabilities except those who are registered with the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind (MCB) as legally blind.

**Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services:** <http://www.state.ma.us/DDS/>

Massachusetts has a comprehensive system of specialized services and supports to give individuals with intellectual disabilities the opportunities to live the way they choose. The Department is the state agency that manages and oversees this service system. Every day, we provide these specialized services and supports to approximately 32,000 adults with intellectual disabilities and children with developmental disabilities. The types of specialized services and supports include day supports, employment supports, residential supports, family supports, respite, and transportation. We provide these services through facilities and community-based state operated programs and by contracting with 235 private provider agencies.

**Massachusetts Department of Mental Health:** <http://www.state.ma.us/dmh>

The Massachusetts Department of Mental Health (DMH) sets the standards for the operation of mental health facilities and community residential programs and provides clinical, rehabilitative and support services for adults with serious mental illness, and children and adolescents with serious mental illness or serious emotional disturbance. The aim of service delivery is to integrate public and private services and resources to provide optimal community-based care and opportunities. As the State Mental Health Authority, DMH also is mandated by statute to “take cognizance of all matters affecting the mental health of citizens of the Commonwealth.”

**Department of Children and Families:** <http://www.state.ma.us/DCF/>

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) is Massachusetts’ child welfare and protection agency. DCF provides safety for children and support to families. Please note that when a student with a significant disability is in the care and custody of DCF and is in a placement (not residing at home with parents), a Chapter 688 referral should be sent to DCF for processing.

**Massachusetts Commission for the Blind:** <http://www.state.ma.us/mcb/>

The Massachusetts Commission for the Blind (MCB) is a public agency that partners with blind persons of all ages who are seeking to advance toward their chosen goals. MCB provides a wide range of social and rehabilitative services to legally blind residents of all ages. Agency services may address a number of varied needs of individual blind persons.

**Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing:** <http://www.state.ma.us/mcdhh/>

The Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is the principal agency in the Commonwealth on behalf of people of all ages who are deaf and hard of hearing. It provides or ensures provision of direct specialized services including but not limited to case management, interpreter services, technology services including telecommunication and assistive listening devices, independent living services, information services, and such other services as it determines are needed.