

### **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.

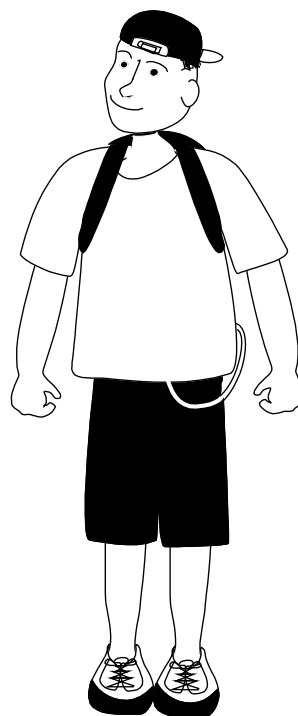
MASSTART providers have extensive experience providing health care services to children and adolescents with a wide range of complex health conditions and technology needs



### **Who can use MASSTART services?**

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

- 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.

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### **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.

**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 thru 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."

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**For more information contact:**

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**REGIONAL MASSTART PROVIDERS:**

***Greater Boston/ Northeast Regions***

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Project School Care  
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***Southeast Region***

Centrus Premier Home Care Inc.  
225 Water Street, Plymouth, MA 02360

**Contact: Karen Baldassari, RN, BS**  
508-528-3090  
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***Central Region***

University of Massachusetts Medical Center  
Pediatric Pulmonary & Cystic Fibrosis Center  
55 Lake Avenue North, Worcester, MA 01655

**Contact: Dorothy Page, FNP, MSN**  
508-856-4155  
FAX: 508-856-2609

[PageD02@ummhc.org](mailto:PageD02@ummhc.org)

***Western Region***

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

**Contact: Sheila Rucki, RN, PhD**  
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FAX: 413-654-1430

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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

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Sponsored by  
Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition  
Division for Perinatal, Early Childhood and  
Special Health Needs

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