DTA SNAP
Child Care Fact Sheet

The Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) works with the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) and the Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (CCRR) to help eligible families find, enroll in, and pay for child care.

Who is Eligible?

SNAP Path to Work Program participants with one or more children under the age of 13 living in the home* may qualify for a one-time SNAP Child Care referral.

*(a child with a medical/behavioral need, disability, or court-involved status may be eligible up to age 16)

About SNAP Path to Work

SNAP Path to Work provides Massachusetts SNAP clients with the job training, experience, education, employment opportunities, and supports needed to find and keep good paying jobs. Learn more about SNAP Path to Work by visiting **snappathtowork.org**.

Getting a Child Care Voucher

1. DTA will:

- Confirm SNAP Path to Work participation and contact you to get information about your childcare need.
- Send the referral to the CCRR confirming you are eligible for a voucher and that you have no parent fee.* (CCRR will contact you within 3 days from receiving this referral to set up an intake.)

2. You must:

- Select a program that meets your family's needs—tell your CCRR if you need help finding care before your appointment.
- Provide a valid photo ID at the appointment.

*Once your DTA referral expires, you may be required to pay a parent fee.

Important: You must complete your child care authorization with the CCRR before subsidized child care will be paid for.

What happens when my DTA case closes?

You WILL NOT need to renew your child care voucher until it expires, even if your SNAP case closes.

When your voucher is expiring, you will be notified by the CCRR to schedule an appointment to renew your voucher. You will continue to be eligible if you meet:

- EEC Income Requirements; and
- Activity Requirements, such as work, training, or school. DTA will not issue a second SNAP Child Care referral.

You may qualify for Transitional Child Care (TCC) if you used to receive TAFDC (within 24 months). Contact a DTA Full Engagement Worker about this type of child care.

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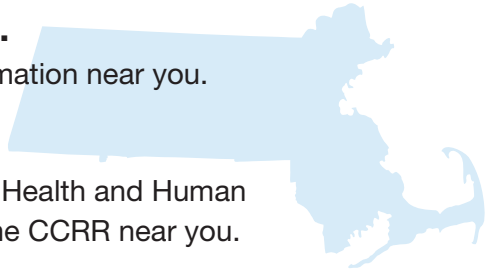
If you are not eligible for a Child Care referral from DTA, you may apply online at childcare.mass.gov/families/login.

If you need additional support, contact your local CCRR or call 2-1-1.

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (CCRR) Contact Information

If you are not sure which CCRR to contact:



1. **Go to https://eeclead.my.site.com/EEC_CCRRSearch.**
   Select the Massachusetts city/town you live in to see the CCRR information near you.

   OR

2. **From any telephone, dial 211,** the Massachusetts state-wide Health and Human Services information and referral phone line, and get information on the CCRR near you.

Types of Child Care

Your CCRR counselor will help you choose the type of child care that is right for you:

- **Family Child Care:** In family child care homes, providers care for small groups of children in their own or a friend's home. Often this type of care has one or two caregivers and may offer more non-traditional hours.
- **Group Child Care:** Group child care programs are usually center-based programs that are larger and often group children by age and are generally in non-residential, commercial buildings. Centers have a dedicated director and numerous staff members.
- **Preschool Programs:** Preschool programs are typically offered for children ages 3-5 years old. Preschool programs may be offered through a school, faith-based organization, or a child care center. Head Start is an example of a preschool program.
- **Informal Caregiver:** A relative caregiver cares for your child in your home or the relative's home; or a non-relative caregiver cares for your child in your home.
- **School Age or After School Programs:** School age programs typically provide child care before and after school hours. They may also offer care during school holidays and summer break.

To find a Licensed Family, Group or School Age Child Care Program you can search by both geographic area and child care program type at:

https://childcare.mass.gov/findchildcare

Questions about SNAP Path to Work?

- Visit **snappathtowork.org**
- Call **(888) 483-0255** to speak with a DTA SNAP Path to Work Specialist.

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