

“WHEN YOUR CHILD NEEDS ADVOCACY, MAC IS ALWAYS THERE TO HELP.”

DOUG FLUTIE, PRESIDENT AND COFOUNDER
OF THE DOUG FLUTIE JR. FOUNDATION
FOR AUTISM, INC.

OTHER AUTISM RESOURCES

*Asperger's Association of
New England*
617-527-2894

*Autism Alliance of
Metrowest*
508-652-9900

*Autism Center of the
South Shore*
800-482-5788

*Autism Resource
Center of Central MA*
508-595-9101

*Autism Society of
America— MA Chapter*
781-237-0272

Autism Support Center
978-777-9135

*Boston Families
for Autism*
617-327-9486

*Community Autism
Resources, Inc*
508-379-0371 or
800-588-9239 (toll calls)

*Community Resources
for People with Autism*
413-529-2428

Family Autism Center
781-762-4001 x329

*Parent-TILL
Partnership for Autism*
781-302-4733

Arc Massachusetts
781-891-6270

*The Federation for
Children with Special
Needs*
800-331-0688
www.fcsn.org

LADDERS/MGH
781-449-6074

*MASSPAC
(to find your local Parent
Advisory Council)*
www.masspac.org

*The Doug Flutie Jr.
Foundation For
Autism Inc.*
1-866-3AUTISM

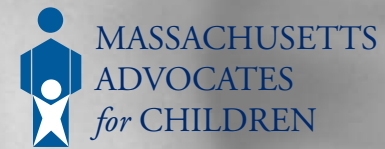
Massachusetts Advocates for Children (MAC), formerly Massachusetts Advocacy Center, is a private non-profit organization dedicated to improving educational and life opportunities for children throughout the commonwealth. For over 30 years MAC has responded to the needs of children who are vulnerable because of race, poverty, limited English, or disabilities.

Massachusetts Advocates for Children
100 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02116
www.massadvocates.org



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AUTISM SPECIAL EDUCATION LEGAL SUPPORT CENTER

“HELPING CHILDREN WITH AUTISM
SPECTRUM DISORDER ACCESS EQUAL
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES BASED
ON A PRESUMPTION OF COMPETENCE”

Helpline: 617-357-8431, ext 224

www.massadvocates.org

WHAT IS THE AUTISM SPECIAL EDUCATION LEGAL SUPPORT CENTER?

The Autism Special Education Legal Support Center was created to implement comprehensive training and advocacy strategies to provide parents and professionals with the knowledge and supports necessary to obtain appropriate programs which reflect a child's full potential.

Too often parents face significant barriers as they try to obtain essential services and supports for their child. The Center seeks to remove these barriers using multiple strategies focused on the needs of individual children and the need for systemic change. The Autism Special Education Legal Support Center addresses the unique educational needs of children on the autism spectrum by informing parents of their educational rights and options.

WHAT WE PROVIDE

The Autism Special Education Legal Support Center provides support to parents of children with autism, advocates, educators, service providers, and lawyers by providing information about the legal rights governing the education of children with autism, the array of services available, and strategies for ensuring that a child receives services that meet his or her unique needs.

The Center provides:

- **Autism Legal Hotline:** Callers will receive free technical assistance and answers to their questions about educational rights of children with disabilities on the autism spectrum.



- **Advocacy Services:** Callers who need assistance for their child will receive free technical assistance, advocacy assistance, and/or referral to a private or pro bono attorney. The Center will also provide free legal advocacy for a limited number of cases.
- **Free Community Workshops on Autism:** The Center will provide workshops for parents, educators, lawyers, and medical professionals to address new legal requirements and effective strategies to secure the full range of educational services necessary for children on the autism spectrum. These workshops focus on legal rights and procedures, MCAS, literacy, behavioral and social supports, and access to the general curriculum.
- **Legislative & Policy Advocacy:** The Center will address system-wide barriers affecting children with autism.

EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS OF CHILDREN ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM

The IEP must specify all of the special education programs and services necessary for children on the autism spectrum to reach their full potential. For instance:

- School districts must provide high quality special education programs and services which meet all your child's unique needs.
- Your child is entitled to special education services necessary to learn the material covered by MCAS.

IEP OPTIONS

Has your child's IEP Team considered all the options? Some IEPs for children with autism might include:

- ABA
- Home programs
- Summer programs
- Floor time
- Sensory integration
- Assistive technology
- Socialization supports
- Behavioral supports
- Augmentative communication: i.e., PECS, facilitated communication
- Specialized speech & language therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Vocational supports
- Life skills training
- Classroom aides
- Transition services
- Other services to meet your child's unique needs



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ADVOCATES
for CHILDREN

100 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02116
617-357-8431

Ext. 234 for information/workshops
Ext. 224 for help with your child

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