Types of Child Care

Early Education (From Birth to Preschool)
1. Infant: birth to 15 months
2. Toddler: 15 months to 2 years and 9 months
3. Preschool: 2 years and 9 months to kindergarten
4. HEAD Start/Early Head Start: infants through 5 years, whose families receive public assistance, children with a disability or low income families

School Age
1. Out of School Time
2. Before and after School Programs
3. School Vacation Programs

Finding Child Care

You can receive a listing of child care providers based on your location and type of child care you are interested in by contacting, either:

Mass-211
Phone: 211
Web: www.mass211help.org

Child Care Choices of Boston
Phone: 617-348-6641
Web: www.childcarechoicesofboston.org

Child Care Centers: Child care centers are agencies that operate with many teachers and classrooms, similar to a small school setting. To operate in Massachusetts, each child care center must be licensed by the Department of Early Education and Care.

Family Day Care: Family day cares are operated by licensed professional child care providers in their homes. To operate in Massachusetts, each provider must be licensed by the Department of Early Education and Care. Some providers operate independently, and other are supported by Family Child Care Agencies, that provide supervision and additional training.
Child Care

Family Child Care Agencies can provide referrals and assist with vouchers to their network of family child care providers:

Associated Early Care & Education
4640 Washington Street, Roslindale
(617) 522-0440

Bethel Child Care
376 Norfolk Street, Dorchester
(617) 822-7506

Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center Family Child Care System
885 Washington Street, Boston
(617) 635-5129x1034

College Bound Family Child Care System
18 Samoset Street, Dorchester
(617) 282-5034x1225

AECE Child Care Project
42 Charles Street Suite D, Dorchester
(617) 825-6554

Children's Services Of Roxbury
520 Dudley Street, Roxbury
(617) 516-5203

Clarendon Family Day Care, Inc.
120 Mt. Hope Street, Roslindale
(617) 327-3201

Family Day Care Program, Inc.
120 Mt. Hope Street, Roslindale
(617) 323-6899

Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corporation
31 Germania Street, Jamaica Plain
(617) 522-2424

Project Hope Little Sisters of Assumption
550 Dudley Street, Roxbury
(617) 442-1880

Paying for Child Care

Massachusetts is one of the most expensive states for child care. Low income families have a few options to help pay for child care costs. Child care vouchers may also provide transportation assistance for your child to go to and from child care.

Income Eligible Child Care
This provides vouchers for low income families to pay for child care. There is a long wait list for these vouchers so it is best to get on the waitlist as soon as possible.

Eligibility:
- For children with a diagnosed disability: income at or below 85% of the state median income
- For all other children: income at or below 50% of the state median income
- You must have a service need (that can be verified) such as a job, education or training, incapacitated parent, or a child with a diagnosed disability
- Homeless families
Child Care

- Parents who are 19 years or younger who are currently in high school or in a GED program

To apply:
Complete a “Family Profile” which can be found at http://www.childcarechoicesofboston.org/parents/documents/FamilyProfile.pdf
And mail it to
I&R Department – Family Profile
Child Care Choices of Boston
105 Chauncey Street
Boston, MA 02111
Phone: 617-348-6641
Web: www.childcarechoicesofboston.org

Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children (TAFDC)
TAFDC is a cash assistance program that is administered by the Department of Transitional Assistance. It is available to extremely low income families and provides access to child care for parents who are either working or participating in a DTA-approved job training, education, community service or job search activity. The amount of child care is approved based on the number of hours you are in these activities:

- Full time – 50 hours of child care: Your work or other activities total at least 30 hours per week. If you are in school, you must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hour courses. Child care hours include up to five hours per week to cover the time transport your child(ren)
- Part time: You may be eligible for part time child care if your work related activities are less than 30 hours or you enroll in school for less than 12 credit hours.
- Transitional Child Care: If you were formerly on TAFDC and your case closed within the last 12 months and you are employed, you can transition to “Income Eligible” childcare.
- If your case closed while you are working in a DTA approved work activity, you may continue to receive child care for six months after your case closed.
- Former TAFDC recipients would be charged a sliding scale fee for transitional child care.

You may be eligible for a very small child care benefit if a relative or friend is providing informal child care.

Information compiled by ROSIE'S PLACE