## Massachusetts Respite Funding and Eligibility Opportunities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population in Search of Respite</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>State Agency</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Office of Health and Human Services, Executive Office of Elder Affairs</td>
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### What is the name of the program?
- **Home Care**
- Brain Injury and Specialized Community Services (BISCS) (also known as Statewide Head Injury Program (SHIP))
- Respite Services
- **Early Intervention**
- **Family Support Services**
- **See Notes**
- **Kid's Net Respite**

### Who is eligible for respite?
- Individuals age 60+
- Individuals under age 60 with a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease
- Any age with an intellectual disability
- Age 1-4 with a developmental delay
- Eligibility is determined through a Regional DDS Eligibility Team process
- Children in foster care, kinship care or pre-adoptive homes
- Children who are adopted

### How are respite services accessed?
- Aging Services Access Point (ASAP)/Regional Elder Care Agency conducts a needs assessment and develops a service plan
- Apply for services through BISCS. Once determined eligible, an Individual Assessment is done by Regional Coordinator. If respite services are identified as a need and if funding is available, BISCS purchases respite through a private provider network.
- Certified Early Intervention program serving each city and town.
- Family may choose to either receive a stipend for the purchase of service, or have the Family Support Provider Agency hire and pay the respite provider.
- Respite must be approved by the Department and the KidsNet Regional Director at least 4 weeks in advance.

### What is the cost of respite services?
- Sliding fee scale; monthly co-payments of $7 - $135 are
- None
- Families with income above 300% FPL may be asked to pay an
- None---respite is a service that the family can purchase
- None
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<td>required for individuals with incomes above the Federal Poverty Level</td>
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<td>as an allowable expenditure from their FSS stipend. Stipends are usually up to $3,000 per year</td>
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<td>What limitations are there on the use of respite?</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Due to limited funding, respite services are typically restricted to about 14 days per year, but exceptions can be made. Currently, only in-home respite provided by aides with home health aide credentials is available. Check with state agency to see if out-of-home respite options have been reinstated.</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>If receiving waiver services must use first before accessing state stipend for Family Support Services for respite or any other needs.</td>
<td>Maximum of 10 days per year</td>
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<td>Where do I go to receive information on how to apply?</td>
<td>Tel: 800-243-4636 TTY: 800-872-0166 OR One of Elder Care Agencies See: <a href="http://contactus.800ageinfo.com/FindAgency.aspx">http://contactus.800ageinfo.com/FindAgency.aspx</a></td>
<td>Regional service coordinator: 617-204-3852 or 800-223-2559, ext. 2 TTY: 617-204-3817 Email: <a href="mailto:SHIPU@MRC.state.ma.us">SHIPU@MRC.state.ma.us</a></td>
<td>Ron Benham, Part C Coordinator State Department of Public Health 250 Washington Street, 5th Floor Boston, MA 02108-4619 Tel: (617) 624-5901 (617) 624-5070 (800) 905-8437 Email: <a href="mailto:ron.benham@state.ma.us">ron.benham@state.ma.us</a> OR</td>
<td>Department of Developmental Services Tel: 617- 727-5608 TTY: (617) 624-7783 Email: <a href="mailto:DDS.Info@state.ma.us">DDS.Info@state.ma.us</a> OR One of 4 regional eligibility offices: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/consumer/disability-services/services-by-type/intellectual-disability/support/dd">http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/consumer/disability-services/services-by-type/intellectual-disability/support/dd</a></td>
<td>Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Tel: 617-587-1500 Email: <a href="mailto:info@mspcc.org">info@mspcc.org</a> OR One of 6 local offices: <a href="http://www.mspcc.org/page.aspx?pid=400">http://www.mspcc.org/page.aspx?pid=400</a></td>
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**Notes:**

Information about respite offered or provided by every state agency may not be presented in this table, but it does not necessarily mean it is not available. To find additional information, check these resources:

- **Respite services funded by the National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP)** may not be described in this table. NFCSP funds respite for family caregivers of the aging population, anyone with Alzheimer’s or related dementias, or for grandparents or other relatives 55 or older caring for a grandchild or other relative with a disability. Information about how to access a local Family Caregiver Support Program (FCSP) can be found at the Family Caregiver Alliance’s [Family Care Navigator](http://www.fcn.org) or by contacting your local Area Agency on Aging through the [Eldercare Locator](http://eldercare.gov);

- **Respite services funded by Home and Community-Based 1915(c) Medicaid Waivers** are not described in this table. Information about these programs can be found at ARCH’s [Home and Community-Based 1915(c) Medicaid Waivers for Respite Support](http://www.archrespite.org/programs/1915cmedicaidwaivers) and [Updated 2012]; or

- **Contact the designated state agency directly.**

Eligibility is not guaranteed and information changes frequently. Be sure to check with the designated state agency for the most current eligibility guidelines and funding availability.

*Prepared by ARCH National Respite Network, May 2013. For more information, contact ARCH at [jkagan@archrespite.org](mailto:jkagan@archrespite.org) or at 703-256-2084.*