Hearing & Vision Supports

For Lexington families navigating Deaf/hard-of-hearing, blindness, low vision, and deafblind supports. A diagnosis-specific resource need not be your only starting point.

Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Deaf and hard-of-hearing children, adults, and families

Location / access: Statewide agency; use the official website and online contact form to identify the appropriate service and communication access.

A starting point for information, advocacy, communication access, and education-related support. Ask about services for your child's age and preferred language or communication method. This is not a substitute for an audiology evaluation.

Program information & contact details

Massachusetts Commission for the Blind: Children's Services

Children who are legally blind and their families

Location / access: Statewide services; begin with the Children's Services page and ask about registration and the appropriate regional contact.

Children's services workers help families navigate supports for growth and development. Ask about eligibility, registration, and coordination with school services. Not every child with low vision qualifies for MCB; ask about alternatives if registration criteria are not met.

Program information & contact details

Perkins: community programs

Children and young adults with visual impairment or deafblindness

Location / access: 175 North Beacon Street, Watertown, MA 02472. Main phone: 617-924-3434; ask for Community Programs.

Options include infant-toddler support, school district services, and outreach short courses. Programs differ by age, goals, referral process, and cost. Community services are distinct from admission to the Perkins school; confirm which option fits.

Program information & contact details

Before you contact a program

Describe your child's age, needs, goals, and preferred language or communication method. Ask about eligibility, referral requirements, fees, waitlists, and accessible appointments. Addresses are contact locations, not confirmation of walk-in service.

Tools, Access & School Support

Practical connections for Lexington families. Contact programs before visiting or applying.

Easterseals Massachusetts: assistive technology

All ages | Free demonstrations and short-term device loans

Location / access: Boston ATRC: 89 South Street, 1st Floor, Boston, MA 02111. 617-226-2634; atrc@eastersealsma.org. Contact before visiting.

MassAbility's centers, hosted by Easterseals, let Massachusetts residents explore and borrow tools for communication, hearing, vision, education, and daily living. Loans are generally up to 30 days; confirm device availability. This is a trial program, not a promise of permanent equipment funding.

Program information & contact details

Lexington: hearing, vision, and community access

Residents and families seeking local accommodations

Location / access: Online town accessibility hub; follow its links to Cary Library and the relevant town department before visiting.

The town lists library assistive-listening options, a video magnifier, building accessibility information, and recreation inclusion resources. Ask the host department about equipment availability and how far ahead to request accommodations.

Program information & contact details

FCSN: school information and parent support

Families of students with disabilities | Statewide

Location / access: Online and phone support through the Federation for Children with Special Needs: 800-331-0688 or 617-236-7210.

The Parent Training and Information Center is a starting point for special education information and parent training. Bring questions about evaluations, participation, accommodations, and working with the school team. It is separate from your child's school and clinical providers.

Program information & contact details

Questions to bring to your school team

What evaluations or specialist input would help? Discuss accessible materials, classroom listening and visual access, communication preferences, assistive technology, and safe navigation. Ask how supports will work in activities, transportation, and emergency drills—not only in the classroom.

A starting point, not a comprehensive directory, endorsement, or medical/legal advice. Program details can change. State-agency summaries were checked against official indexed listings; some full Mass.gov pages could not be accessed during review. Confirm details directly.

More LexSEPTA family resources