



# KNOW A KID WHO NEEDS A HELPING HAND?

Mass Child offers \$1,000 or more to MTA locals to help preK-12 students



## WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

The Massachusetts Child is a charitable corporation founded by MTA members in 1996 to help students struggling with financial need. The Mass Child is a reimbursement program available to all MTA preK-12 local associations. Members use funds from their local associations to purchase qualifying items for students, and Mass Child reimburses the local associations. Please note that Mass Child cannot reimburse individual members; all grant applications must have the signature of the local president.

## WHAT WE REIMBURSE

MTA locals with fewer than 500 members are eligible for reimbursement grants of up to \$1,000 during the course of the school year. Locals with 500 or more members can receive grants totaling \$2 per member.

### Standard Grants

**Standard grants** can be used to reimburse purchases of clothing, shoes, hygiene products and eyeglasses, as well as school supplies that are not usually provided by the district such as backpacks, notebooks and pens. Many locals use the grants to make sure that students have appropriate winter clothing. Grants have also been used to assist vocational school students with license fees, work clothing and supplies that are not provided by the school. Items must be for specific students; bulk purchases will not be reimbursed.

### Summer Reading Program

**The Summer Reading Grant** is designed to get books into the hands of students for their enjoyment. Locals with 500 or fewer members can apply for up to \$200, and locals with more than 500 members are eligible for \$500. Books must be intended for specific children in need. Ideally the book selections will not be required reading, but books that students themselves choose to read during the summer break. The application process for Summer Reading Grants begins in May.

### Extracurricular Assistance

Mass Child can provide some assistance with funding for **extracurricular activities**. Local associations can apply for up to \$100 to reimburse financial assistance provided to students so they can participate in extracurricular activities requiring school-based fees. For example, the grant can be used toward a needy student's portion of the cost for field trip admission fees or transportation and for fees required to participate in enrichment opportunities, clubs or athletic teams.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

**AFTER** using funds from your local association for qualifying purchases, submit a reimbursement form and original receipts to The Massachusetts Child, MTA Division of Communications, 2 Heritage Drive, 8th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171-2119. Receipts should contain only the items pertaining to the reimbursement requests. Checks are sent to locals after requests are reviewed at Mass Child Board meetings.

To see if an expense qualifies for reimbursement, email Mass Child Board President Nicole Prevost at [suzzyjojo@aol.com](mailto:suzzyjojo@aol.com) or MTA Staff Consultant Scott McLennan at [smclennan@massteacher.org](mailto:smclennan@massteacher.org). For more information and reimbursement forms, visit [massteacher.org/masschild](http://massteacher.org/masschild).

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