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 Massachusetts 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.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

AFTER using funds from your local association for qualifying purchases, complete a reimbursement form found online at massteacher.org/masschild and be sure to include receipts with submission.

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

WHAT WE REIMBURSE

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<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>With the full return of in-person learning, Mass Child is modifying the COVID-19 Relief Fund to be a broader Student Wellness Grant. Local associations can apply for up to $1,000 to reimburse purchases of items that assist the physical, mental and emotional health of students experiencing financial need. This grant can continue to be used to address food insecurities with grocery gift cards (sorry, we cannot reimburse restaurant gift cards), but can now be used by locals if a student needs athletic equipment, items that facilitate physical activity, a bike helmet, or access to a program or activity that boosts self-esteem or physical well-being. For the remainder of the 2021-22 school year, locals can apply for a wellness grant in an amount equal to the unused portion of the $1,000 they are eligible for via the COVID-19 Relief Grant.</td>
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