



MCPAP Supports Youth with Autism or Intellectual Disabilities and their Families

MCPAP offers two helpful services related to autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and intellectual disabilities (ID). Your child's PCC can refer your child to either of these services if they think that the service would be helpful.

Early Diagnosis for Children Under 6

Early diagnosis is important. It means that children with ASD can benefit from therapies, support, and school accommodation sooner. Treatment can start early in a child's development.

- If autism may be a concern, MCPAP for Early Childhood can provide a structured evaluation. This is available for children anywhere in Massachusetts, using a tool that screens for ASD.
- The evaluation involves both the child's doctor and a trained clinician.
- The evaluation results and recommendations are shared with the family and the child's doctor.
- If a child is diagnosed with ASD, it can help with insurance approval for ABA therapy.

See more information on the next page.

Behavioral Support for Youth Over 6

- MCPAP for ASD-ID enables families of youth with a diagnosis of ASD or ID to work with licensed ABA experts, called LABAs. They can identify strategies to manage behavioral health symptoms.
- MCPAP for ASD-ID offers scheduled telehealth visits, making it easy for the LABA to talk with the family. They can also observe the child's behavior, if needed.
- Focus areas may include:



Behavior challenges at home or school



Communication and daily life skills



Emotional wellbeing and safety

- After the consultation, the family and PCC receive a written plan. The LABA follows up in 10–14 days to see how things are going.

What Is ABA?

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is a therapy that helps children build skills, improve independence, and reduce challenging behaviors. It can support communication, social skills, daily routines, and emotional wellbeing.

Other Information Families Should Know

- Both MCPAP for EC and MCPAP for ASD-ID are free services for families in Massachusetts
- Both services are available in many languages.
- Only your child's doctor can call MCPAP. If you think one of these services would help your child, ask the child's PCC: "Can you reach out to MCPAP for support for my child?"

Please note: MCPAP for ASD-ID gives advice only. It does not offer testing, diagnosing, or ongoing care or education support. LABAs do not give advice about medication. If you have a question about medication, please talk to your child's PCC, who can call a MCPAP psychiatrist with medication questions.

For more information, please contact mcpap@carelon.com.