

## **DESE/DDS Program**

### **What is the DESE/DDS Program?**

“The DESE/DDS Program is a collaboration between the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) for DDS-eligible students [ages 6-21] who are at risk of a future residential placement.”

“The primary goal is to help prevent a more restrictive educational or out-of-home residential placement.”

<https://www.mass.gov/dese-dds-program>

### **Services DESE/DDS can provide:**

- In-home supports such as senior level therapists and skills trainers
- An agency, also called a “Family Navigator”, to hire and identify staff.
- Life-long skills development
- Opportunities to practice skills in their home setting and community

### **Link to frequently asked questions about the DESE/DDS Program:**

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/desedds-frequently-asked-questions#program-requirements->