

ELIGIBILITY:

DHSP welcomes individuals with disabilities who meet the basic eligibility requirements of the out-of-school time programs or who with the provision of reasonable accommodations will be able to meet the basic eligibility requirements.

All children participating in out-of-school time Programs either with the provision of the additional supports or independently need to be able and willing to:

- Participate in group activities
- Understand and follow program rules and conduct themselves safely and appropriately in a group setting
- Successfully transition from one activity to another

Reasonable accommodations might include reasonable modifications to a program's rules, policies, or practices, the provision of auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative formats, alteration or removal of physical or transportation barriers.

DHSP may in some circumstances provide additional staffing up to and including a one-on-one aide to an individual with a disability who would not be able to participate in the program without such assistance, but who will be able to meet the basic eligibility requirements of the program to which he or she has applied if such assistance is provided. All such determinations will be made on a case-by-case basis.



City of Cambridge
Department of Human Service Programs
51 Inman Street
Cambridge, MA 02139
617-349-6200

Ellen Semonoff,
Assistant City Manager
for Human Services

Jackie Neel,
Deputy Director, DHSP

FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.cambridgema.gov/DHSP2

OR CALL

Nicole Horton
DHSP Inclusion Specialist
617-349-6200

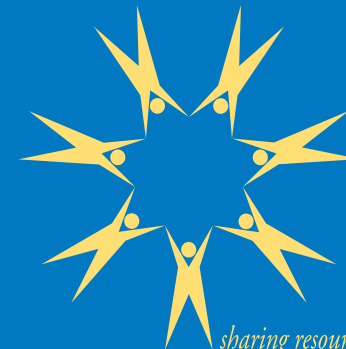
Michael Muehe
Commission for Persons
with Disabilities
617-349-4692 voice
617-492-0235 tty



Inclusion Initiative



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
SERVICE PROGRAMS



sharing resources...building community

INCLUSION MEANS CREATING A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT BY:

- Belonging to a safe and respectful community
- Embracing diversity within programs
- Supporting each individual within group settings
- Listening to each voice



WHAT CAMBRIDGE INCLUSION LOOKS LIKE:

Children with disabilities participate in all out-of-school time (OST) DHSP programs: Community Schools, Youth Programs, Child Care, and Recreation.

DHSP has a full time Inclusion Specialist who supports program staff as well as families and individual children.

All staff receive comprehensive training on inclusion. This allows them to incorporate the best inclusion strategies in their programs.

All staff follow Positive Behavior Support Methods. This creates a safe and respectful community.

Knowledgeable consultants offer staff onsite modeling and coaching.

The Parent Inclusionary Effort enables the department to listen to the voices of families.



HELPING YOUR CHILD TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN AN OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME PROGRAM:

The Team Approach

Teams work best when they are in regular contact and share information and materials as often as possible. The team includes you, your child, your child's classroom teacher, the specialists working with your child, DHSP program staff and the DHSP Inclusion specialist.

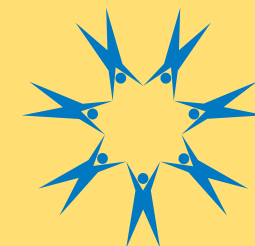
We encourage families to speak to DHSP program staff about their child's strengths, interests and needs on a regular basis.



Questions and more...

Families are encouraged to contact Nicole Horton, the Department's full time Inclusion Specialist at 617-349-6200 with questions regarding enrollment, the types of services the Department provides and the assessment process.

Periodic workshops are offered to family members based on specific interests or needs of the families we serve. These are often co-sponsored with the Cambridge Public Schools Office of Special Education and/or the Parent Advisory Council. If you have any suggestions regarding possible workshops and/or would like to participate in an Inclusion Advisory Committee, please contact Nicole Horton.



To learn more call 1-617-349-6200