## CHAPTER 688 GUIDELINES FOR REFERRAL

<table>
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<th>Transitional Agency</th>
<th>Student Profile</th>
<th>Corresponding DESE Disability Category</th>
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| **DCF** (Area Office) Mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dfc | - Student is in the custody of or has an “open case” with the Department of Children & Families.  
- Exception is if the student is blind, they would then be referred to the Mass Commission for the Blind. | - All except blindness or deaf/blind (e.g., not codes 02,04 or 09, which would be sent to one of the disability agencies below) |
| **DDS** (Area Office) Mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dds | - Intellectually disabled  
- Student may have ID coupled with other disabilities  
- Students residing in a pediatric nursing facility may be referred to DDS.  
- Autism or developmental delay*  
*evidence of intellectual disability should also be present | - Code 01-Intellectual  
- All other codes must be coupled with 01  
- Code 11 –Autism (see note regarding dx of ID)  
- Code 13 –Developmental delay (see note regarding dx of ID) |
| **MCB** (Springfield Office) Mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/mcb | - Registered with the Mass Commission for the Blind  
- May have blindness coupled with other disabilities such as emotional disturbance, deafness, or intellectual | - Code 04 Sensory/Vision Impaired or Blind  
- Code 09-Sensory Deaf/Blind  
- All other codes if coupled with 02 and is registered |
| **DMH** (Area Office) Mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dmh | - Serious and long term mental illness that has resulted in functional impairment that substantially interferes with or limits one or more major life activities. *  
* Serious and long term mental illness is a disorder of thought, mood, perception, orientation, or memory that grossly impairs judgment, behavior, capacity to recognize reality, and that results in an inability to meet the ordinary demands of life. | - Code 05-Emotional  
- All other codes if coupled with 05 |
| **MRC** (Central Office: Anne Spector, Statewide 688 Coordinator 600 Washington Street Boston, MA 02111 Mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/mrc | - Specific learning disabilities; Health related disabilities; Communication disabilities (Voc Rehab Services)  
- Traumatic Brain Injury (SHIP/Statewide Head Injury Program)  
- Physical disability with mobility impairment (Independent Living Program)  
NOTE: Students receiving residential services at the time of 688 referral should not be referred to MRC for transition planning unless specifically directed by the BTP | - Code 03-Communication  
- Code 06-Physical  
- Code 07-Health  
- Code 08-Specific Learning Disabilities  
- Code 10-Multiple Disabilities  
- Code 12-Neurological  
(Codes 11 and 13 may apply if no dx of ID is present) |
| **MCDHH** (Springfield Office) Mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/mcdhh | - Deaf/use of ASL; hard of hearing;  
- Unable to sustain independent competitive employment  
- Unable to complete post –secondary education/training without substantial assistance | - Code 02 – Sensory/Hearing Impaired or Deaf |

In the event it cannot be clearly determined which agency is appropriate, send the 688 referral and complete referral package to: Bureau of Transitional Planning, Executive Office of Human Services, One Ashburton Place, Room 1109, Boston, Massachusetts 02108