

A GUIDE TO MOVING TO AND LIVING IN BOSTON



Boston Children's Hospital

Where the world comes for answers

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This document is a work in progress – feedback is definitely welcome, as are contributions – additional information, photos, additions, recommendations etc. Please send to tery.noseworthy@childrens.harvard.edu

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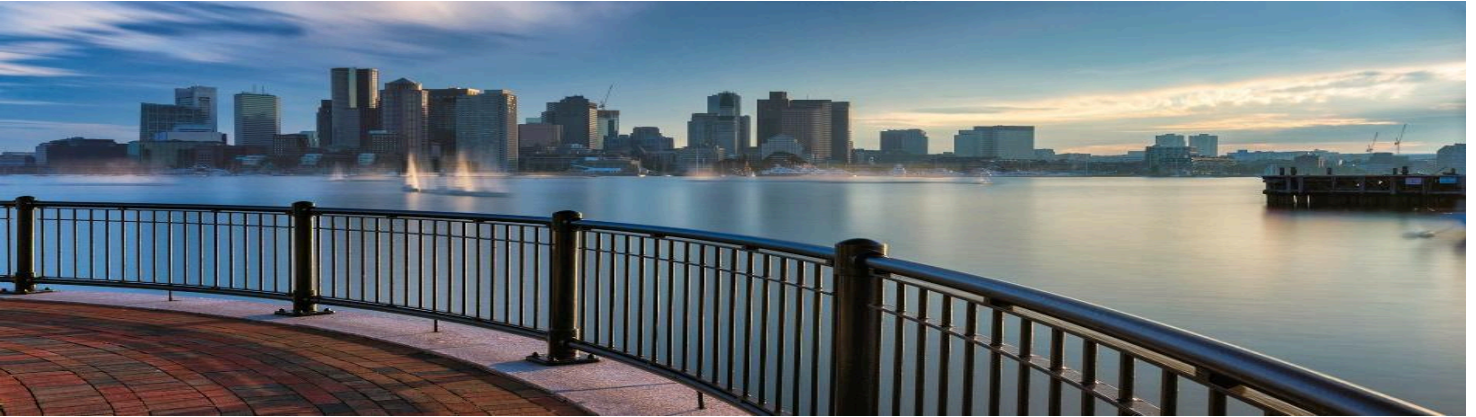
OVERVIEW OF RESOURCES

Deciding where to live while you are training at Boston Children's Hospital can seem overwhelming if you aren't familiar with the area, but we are here to help. This guide is intended to help give you a feel for some of Boston's neighborhoods and where they are in relation to Boston Children's Hospital.

In addition to the information provided in this guide, we have included resources that can help you figure out the best neighborhood or town for you.

https://www.boston.gov/guides	The City of Boston website includes guides to many aspects of life in Boston, as well as information on city offices, parking, and permits. Use the search function to find more specific information on the neighborhood(s) you are interested in. It also includes a guide to help you find housing based on your income.
https://www.brooklinema.gov/	The town of Brookline website includes information on many aspects of being a Brookline resident.
https://www.cambridgema.gov/	The City of Cambridge website includes information for residents or potential residents of the city.
https://statisticalatlas.com/United-States/Overview	Information on the race and ethnicity of cities and towns in Massachusetts.
https://bestneighborhood.org/race-in-boston-ma/	Informative on the race and ethnicity of neighborhoods in the Greater Boston area.
https://www.mbta.com/trip-planner	View public transportation options connecting addresses and neighborhoods and Boston Children's Hospital.
https://www.doe.mass.edu/SchDistrictData.html	Information on school districts in the state of Massachusetts.
https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/domain/175	Information on schools in Boston
https://www.boston.gov/moving	A guide to moving to Boston, including information on moving truck parking permits, trash day, regular parking etc.
Your Training Program	Your training program can provide you with information on where current trainees live, possible apartment shares/takeovers and any realtors or landlords they may have a relationship with.

BOSTON



Boston is the largest city in New England. The area is the homeland of the [Massachusett](#), the indigenous nation from which Massachusetts takes its name. We recognize that this is stolen land; we acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of the region and pay respect to the elders, both past and present.

The colonists founded the city in 1603 and renamed the area Tremontaine for the three hills in the area. The name was later changed to Boston after a town in Lincolnshire, England, where many of the colonists came from. Boston has a rich and storied history. While Boston's history is marked by both positive and negative events, it is a city that continues to change and grow.

The greater Boston area holds nearly fifty colleges and universities, including three medical schools. It is also home to many cultural institutions. We have many museums, including the [Museum of Fine Arts](#), the [Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum](#), the [Museum of African American History](#), the [Institute of Contemporary Art](#), the [Museum of Science](#), and the [Boston Children's Museum](#). We also have the [Boston Symphony Orchestra](#), the [Boston Pops](#), the [Longwood Symphony Orchestra](#) as well as many other concert venues, both large and small, that host travelling acts from all genres of music.

There are many open spaces in Boston, too; some of our favorites include the [Boston Public Garden](#), the [Arnold Arboretum](#), [Jamaica Pond](#), the [Esplanade](#), and the [Boston Harbor Islands](#).

Last but not least, the Boston area is home to many professional sports teams. The [Boston Red Sox](#) play at Fenway Park, less than a mile from Boston Children's Hospital. Both the [Boston Celtics](#) and the [Boston Bruins](#) play at TD Garden in the west end of Boston. Both the [New England Patriots](#) and the [New England Revolution](#) play at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, south of Boston. We also can't forget about the [Boston Marathon](#), a major event in Boston every April.



NEIGHBORHOODS IN BOSTON

Listed in approximate order of proximity to Boston Children's Hospital

Longwood Medical Area (LMA)

MAP: <https://www.masco.org/about/lma-map>

This is the neighborhood the hospital is located in. It is also home to Harvard Medical and Dental Schools, Harvard School of Public Health, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, and several colleges and universities.

There are limited housing options in the LMA itself, but there are a few high-rise apartment buildings. It is adjacent to the Fenway-Kenmore, Mission Hill, and Jamaica Plain neighborhoods, as well as the town of Brookline.

Fenway-Kenmore

This is a large neighborhood that borders the LMA on its southern border and extends north to Kenmore Square, east to Huntington Avenue, and west to the town of Brookline. It is home to several colleges and universities, [Fenway Park](#), the [Museum of Fine Arts](#), the [Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum](#), and [Symphony Hall](#). Housing options are mostly apartments and condos.

Depending on where you are, it would take 10 to 30 minutes to walk to/from BCH.

All Green line trains go through Kenmore station, and the Orange line Ruggles stop is very close to the western edge of the neighborhood. There are also several bus lines that run through the area.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Some apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots, although there may be an additional fee to park.

Mission Hill

This neighborhood is small (only one square mile in area). It overlaps with the LMA, making it a popular choice for people that work in the LMA area and students from area colleges and universities. It is considered to be part of the larger Roxbury neighborhood. It has a mix of row houses, apartments, and condos. It is a busy urban neighborhood, but it has some green space known as the [Back of the Hill](#).

It is a 10 to 20-minute walk to/from BCH.

The Green E line and the Orange lines go through this neighborhood, as do several bus routes.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Some apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

Jamaica Plain

This is a large neighborhood in Boston, adjacent to the LMA and surrounded by Roxbury, Dorchester, and Roslindale. Commonly known as JP, this is an urban neighborhood with many restaurants and shops, but it is also home to several beautiful green areas, including [Arnold Arboretum](#), [Jamaica Pond](#), and [Franklin Park](#). It is a mix of apartments, condos, and single-family homes.

Due to its large size, it could take from 15 to 60 minutes to walk to the hospital.

The 39 bus is convenient to Longwood from JP and runs frequently during peak travel times.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Some apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

Roxbury

This is one of the largest neighborhoods in Boston, with many restaurants and shops, and is home to the [Museum of the National Center of Afro-American Artists](#), [Franklin Park](#), and many historical sites.

Due to its large size, it could take from 15 to 60 minutes to walk to the hospital. Lower Roxbury and Fort Hill are the closest areas of Roxbury.

The Orange Line and the 47 and 66 busses connect this neighborhood to the LMA.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Some apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

Back Bay

This is a large neighborhood in Boston known for its shopping and restaurants, and is home to the main branch of the [Boston Public Library](#) and the finish line of the Boston Marathon. It is bordered by the [Esplanade](#) and the [Boston Public Garden](#).

It would take approximately 30 minutes to walk to the hospital.

The Green Line D and E trains and the 39 bus connect this neighborhood to the LMA.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Few apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

South End

This is a large neighborhood in Boston, bordered by Back Bay, Chinatown and Roxbury. It is known for its art scene and many restaurants. [Boston Medical Center](#) is also located in this neighborhood.

It would take approximately 45 minutes to walk to the hospital.

While no subway lines serve this neighborhood, it is a short walk to the Orange and Green lines and bus routes 39 and 8, both of which connect to the hospital.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Few apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

Downtown

Downtown Boston is a busy business district that is also home to many condos and apartment buildings. It is the home of [Boston Common](#) , Boston City Hall, and many other historic sites.

It would take an hour or more to walk to the hospital.

This area is well-served by the subway, with the Green, Orange and Red lines all servicing this neighborhood.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Few apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

Chinatown/Leather District

This is a historically Asian neighborhood on the edge of downtown. It is known for its many restaurants and is home to Boston's theater district as well as [Tufts Medical Center](#).

It would take an hour or more to walk to the hospital.

The Orange Line runs through Chinatown, and the Green and Red Lines are a short walk away.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Few apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

Beacon Hill

This is a historic, hilly neighborhood known for its brownstones and narrow cobblestone streets. It has many restaurants and borders Downtown and the West End.

It would take an hour or more to walk to the hospital.

The Red line and the Green line both service this neighborhood.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Few apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

West End

This is a small neighborhood sandwiched between Beacon Hill, the North End and Charlestown. It is home to [Massachusetts General Hospital](#) and the [TD Garden](#), where the Bruins and Celtics play their home games.

It would take more than an hour to walk to the hospital.

The Green D and E trains and the Red and Orange Lines service this neighborhood.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Some apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

North End

This is a small, historically Italian neighborhood, with narrow streets and many restaurants.

It would take more than an hour to walk to the hospital.

The Green D and E trains and the Orange line service this neighborhood.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Few apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

Charlestown

This is the oldest neighborhood in Boston and has many old, historic homes. It is home to the USS Constitution.

It would take approximately 90 minutes to walk to the hospital.

The Orange line services parts of Charlestown, and the CT2 bus connects Sullivan Station on the Orange Line and the hospital.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Some apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

East Boston

This neighborhood is known for Logan Airport, but it is also home to houses, apartments and restaurants.

It would be a very long walk to the hospital, but the Blue line runs through this neighborhood.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Some apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

Allston

This is a large neighborhood that is home to many students as well as young professionals.

It would be a 45 – 60 minute walk to the hospital.

A part of the area is served by the B Branch of the Green Line, which would require a transfer at Kenmore to the D or at Copley for the E line. It is possible to take the bus, but it requires a bus connection to complete your trip.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Some apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

Brighton

This is a large neighborhood that is home to many students and young professionals but has a growing population of families as well.

It would take more than an hour to walk to the hospital.

The B Branch of the Green Line services the neighborhood, but it would require a transfer at Kenmore to the D or at Copley for the E line. The 65 bus runs from Brighton to the hospital.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Some apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

South Boston and the Seaport District

This is a large area that includes the long-standing South Boston neighborhood and the more recently developed Seaport area. South Boston is primarily residential and includes access to some of the city of Boston's beaches. The Seaport is home to the [Institute of Contemporary Art](#) as well as many other arts venues and many restaurants.

It would take more than 90 minutes to walk to the hospital.

The Silver Line serves the Seaport District, and the Red Line serves South Boston; both would require a transfer to the Green Line or a bus to get to the LMA. The CT3 bus runs from Andrew Station in South Boston to the LMA.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Some apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

Dorchester

This is the largest neighborhood in Boston and is comprised of many smaller areas and squares. It is primarily residential, with many shops and restaurants. It is home to [Franklin Park](#), the [JFK Library and Museum](#) and the [Strand Theater](#).

It would take more than 90 minutes to walk to the hospital.

The Red Line and numerous bus lines serve Dorchester. There is also a free shuttle between JFK Station and the LMA; it runs from 5:45 a.m. – 8:30 p.m., with more frequent service during rush hours.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Some apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

Mattapan

This is a small neighborhood in Boston. It is primarily residential, and is home to the [Boston Nature Center and Wildlife Sanctuary](#).

It would take more than 90 minutes to walk to the hospital.

The area is primarily served by bus lines.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Some apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

Hyde Park

This is the southernmost neighborhood in Boston. It is primarily residential, with many shops and restaurants.

It would take more than 90 minutes to walk to the hospital.

The area is primarily served by bus lines.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Some apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

Roslindale

This is a residential neighborhood in Boston that is sometimes referred to as the “garden suburb”. It has many shops and restaurants.

It would take more than 90 minutes to walk to the hospital.

It is served by the commuter rail and several bus lines.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Some apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

West Roxbury

This is a neighborhood with many single-family homes and a suburban feel. It has many shops and restaurants.

It would take more than 90 minutes to walk to the hospital.

It is served by the commuter rail and several bus lines.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Boston. Some apartment buildings in the area offer parking spots.

NEIGHBORHOODS IN BROOKLINE

Listed in approximate order of proximity to Boston Children's Hospital

Coolidge Corner

This neighborhood is adjacent to both Fenway/Kenmore and the LMA. It has a busy center, with many shops, restaurants, and an [independent movie theater](#). Surrounding streets are tree-lined and have a mix of apartments, condominiums and single-family homes.

It is a 15-30-minute walk to Boston Children's Hospital.

The Green Line C train and several bus routes go through this neighborhood.

Street parking is available with a permit from the town of Brookline, but overnight street parking for all, including those with permits, is banned between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m.

Brookline Village

This neighborhood is adjacent to the LMA. It is also home to a Boston Children's Hospital ambulatory care building. It has many restaurants, shops, and a large urban park, [Emerson Garden](#). It has a mix of apartments, condominiums and single-family homes.

It is a 15-to-30-minute walk to BCH.

The Green D line train and several bus routes go through this neighborhood.

Street parking is available with a permit from the town of Brookline, but overnight street parking for all, including those with permits, is banned between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m.

Washington Square

This is a central area of Brookline, adjacent to Coolidge Corner and Brookline Village. It is a busy area with many shops and residents.

It is a 40 to 60-minute walk to BCH.

The Green B and C line trains and the 65 bus route go through this neighborhood.

Street parking is available with a permit from the town of Brookline, but overnight street parking for all, including those with permits, is banned between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m.

Chestnut Hill

This is a residential neighborhood on the edge of Brookline with a busy shopping area.

It would be too far to walk to BCH.

The Green D line train and the 65 bus route go through this neighborhood.

Street parking is available with a permit from the town of Brookline, but overnight street parking for all, including those with permits, is banned between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m.

CAMBRIDGE

<https://www.cambridgema.gov/>

The city of Cambridge neighbors Boston. There are many residential areas, as well as world-famous Universities like Harvard and MIT.

It would take more than an hour to walk to BCH.

Different areas of Cambridge are serviced by the Red Line, the Green D line and several bus lines.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Cambridge; some apartments have parking spaces.

SOMERVILLE

<https://www.somervillema.gov/>

The city of Somerville neighbors Boston and Cambridge. There are many residential areas, and it is home to Tufts University.

It would take more than an hour to walk to BCH.

Different areas of Somerville are serviced by the Red Line, the Green D and E lines and several bus lines.

Street parking is available with a permit from the City of Somerville; some apartments have parking spaces.

ARLINGTON

<https://www.arlingtonma.gov/>

The town of Arlington neighbors Cambridge. It is primarily a residential area.

It would take more than an hour to walk to BCH.

Arlington is served by the Red Line and several bus lines. Street parking is available; some apartments have parking spaces.

MEDFORD

<https://www.medfordma.org/>

The city of Medford borders Somerville and Cambridge.

It would take more than an hour to walk to BCH.

Medford is served by the Green E line and the Orange line as well as several bus lines.

Many housing options in Medford include parking.

NEWTON

<https://www.newtonma.gov/>

The city of Newton also borders Boston. It is a primarily residential area.

It would take more than an hour to walk to BCH.

The Green D line runs through Newton, as do several busses.

Many housing options in Newton include parking.

WATERTOWN

<https://www.watertown-ma.gov/>

The city of Watertown borders Cambridge and Newton. It is a primarily a residential area.

It would take more than an hour to walk to BCH.

There are busses from Watertown to the surrounding areas, including Boston.

Many housing options in Watertown include parking.

OTHER AREAS

There are many, many other cities and towns surrounding the city; in fact, there are too many to cover. The [MBTA's Trip Planner](#) can help you determine the feasibility of public transportation in those areas, and Google Maps can help you determine distance and drive times.

HOUSING

Other Housing Information

The Harvard University Housing website, <http://huhousing.harvard.edu>, also includes information about private market housing and finding a roommate at

<https://www.huhousing.harvard.edu/other-housing-and-resources/other-housing>.

Lease Guaranty Program

The Lease Guaranty Program was designed to ease the burden of high housing costs in Boston for residents (including interns) and fellows. All residents and fellows salaried through Boston Children's are eligible to participate in this program.

If a landlord requires advance payment of the last month's rent and/or a security deposit, Boston Children's Hospital will guarantee payment to the landlord according to the lease guaranty procedure. In return, the resident or fellow agrees to reimburse Boston Children's Hospital for any payment Boston Children's Hospital is required to make under this guaranty.

Information about this program can be requested through your program administrator or the HR Service Center at 617.355.7780 or via email to HRESC@childrens.harvard.edu.

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION

PARKING

Parking in the Boston area can be hard to find, particularly if you live in an apartment that does not provide a parking spot. Many of Boston and Cambridge's residential streets are "Resident Parking Only." If you are planning to leave your car on the street, you will need a permit to avoid getting a ticket. Parking permits are free. However, you will need to provide proof of residency, and your car must be registered at your current address. Brookline does not allow overnight street parking in most areas, even for residents.

Boston Children's Hospital has a monthly parking program for residents and clinical fellows in the Simmons Garage, approximately two-tenths of a mile from the hospital. Current rates are \$147.50 for PGY 1 -3 and \$208.50 for PGY 4 and above. Daily parking passes are available for \$11 a day, with a \$1 discount if purchased online.

All residents/clinical fellows can park in the patient/family garage at no cost after 5 p.m. Monday – Friday (must exit by 10 a.m.) and 24 hours on Saturday and Sunday.

MBTA

www.mbta.com

If you live in or close to Boston, the MBTA is probably one of the easiest ways to get around. Boston Children's Hospital offers employees a 50% discount off purchasing either a bus pass, a link (bus and subway) pass, or a commuter rail pass. Selecting "Trip Finder" on the MBTA website can help you identify the best route to the

hospital or other places in Boston.

Other Non-MBTA Public Transportation

Harvard Bus (M2)

<https://www.masco.org/lma-shuttles/m2-cambridge-boston>

The Longwood Collective runs buses between the Longwood Medical Area and Harvard Square in Cambridge; these buses are available and free to anyone with a Harvard appointment (which you would have as a resident or clinical fellow); other employees may purchase tickets to ride.

Other LMA Bus Options

<https://www.masco.org/lma-shuttles/shuttle-routes>

The Longwood Collective runs shuttle buses to and from the LMA from many area MBTA stations, including JFK on the Red Line and Ruggles on the Orange Line

Biking

<https://www.masco.org/moving-around-the-lma/biking-resources>

Boston Children's Hospital offers discounted memberships to the BlueBikes programs, allowing you to rent and return a bicycle at numerous stations around the area. In addition, secure bike parking is available at no charge in the Boston Children's Hospital Garage.

The link above will take you to a page that contains many resources for commuters who opt to bike to work.

ZipCar

<https://www.masco.org/moving-around-the-lma/zipcar-discount>

Boston Children's Hospital employees get discounted memberships to the Zipcar program, allowing for short-term car rental from various locations in the area.

Safe Ride Home Program

Boston Children's Hospital provides the option of taking a paid taxi or an Uber home if you are too fatigued to transport yourself home safely, or if you are leaving late at night. You will be given information on enrolling in this program at orientation.

HOUSES OF WORSHIP

The Greater Boston area is home to many religious and spiritual communities, and would be challenging to provide a comprehensive list. Below you will find some resources to help guide you.

Boston Children's Hospital has a large spiritual care staff available to patients, families, and staff. If you'd like to be connected to a member of the chaplaincy at BCH, please reach out to gme@childrens.harvard.edu, and we will put you in touch with the appropriate person.

You can reach out to a Harvard chaplain for more information on your faith; please go to <https://chaplains.harvard.edu/>.

Here are some personal recommendations from members of the BCH community. This section of our guide is a work in progress and we apologize if your faith is not listed

Faith/Tradition	Name	Location	Contact
AME	Bethel AME Church	Jamaica Plain	https://www.bethelame.org/
Baha'i	Boston Baha'i	Boston	https://www.bostonbahais.org/
Baptist	People's Baptist Church of Boston	Boston	https://www.pbcboston.org/
Christian	City on a Hill Church	Brighton, Brookline, Forest Hills, Somerville	www.coahchurch.org
Episcopal	Church of our Savior	Brookline	http://oursaviourbrookline.org/
Hindu	Shivalaya Temple of Greater Boston	Medford	https://www.shivalayaboston.com/
Islam	Islamic Society of Boston	Boston, Cambridge	https://isbcc.org/
Judaism	Temple of Israel Boston	Boston	https://www.tisrael.org/
Methodist	Union Church	Boston	https://unionboston.org/
Roman Catholic	St. Cecilia Parish	Boston	https://www.stceciliaboston.org/
Unitarian	Arlington Street Church	Boston	https://www.ascboston.org/

CHILD CARE

BCH Child Care Center

The Boston Children's Hospital main campus is located near 5 Brookline Place, Brookline, and 145 Wells Ave in Newton. Demand for spaces at the center is high, and there is often a waitlist. Rates vary on the age of the child and currently range from \$2250 - \$3000 per month.

For more information, call (617)355-6006 or email donna.warner@childrens.harvard.edu.

Bright Horizons at Landmark

Boston Children's Hospital reserves 20 spaces at Bright Horizons Landmark (a 5 minute drive or 10 minute walk) for BCH employees. Rates are similar to those of the BCH Child Care Center. There are also several other locations in the area.

For more information, go to <https://child-care-preschool.brighthouse.com/MA/Boston/landmark>.

Cultural Care Au Pair

Cultural Care Au Pair (CCAP) is the world's largest Au Pair company in the world, with more than 90,000 au pairs in the U.S. CCAP offers a \$500 discount to employees new to their program. They also offer our employees customized consultations and webinars at no cost.

For more information, please contact a program consultant at 800-333-6056 x 3605

or: <http://culturalcare.com/childrens>

Neighbor Schools

NeighborSchools helps employees find, tour, and enroll in licensed home daycare centers & preschools. As a Boston Children's employee, you're able to tour as many programs as you want and join the Early Access list at no cost.

To learn more and/or start looking for childcare, please click [here](#) to access NeighborSchools' Boston Children's Hospital branded website.

Employee Assistance Program

BCH's Employee Assistance Program, run by KGA, can assist you with finding dependent care resources and support in addition to the other services they provide. To learn more, go to <https://www.kgreer.com/>

Care.Com

BCH offers all benefits-eligible employees backup child care for up to 30 days per year for a daily co-pay, currently \$6.00 per hour in-home or \$15.00 per day at a center.

To learn more about this benefit contact Care.com at 855.781.1303.

Nanny Network

This is an informal email distribution list where members of the BWH, MGH, and other local medical systems post nannies available and nannies sought for. <https://cdi.brighamandwomens.org/nanny-network/> (note – must have an HMS or HMS affiliate email address to subscribe)

SCHOOLS

https://www.doe.mass.edu/SchDistrictData.html	Information on school districts in the state of Massachusetts.
https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/domain/175	Information on schools in Boston
https://www.cpsd.us/	Information on schools in Cambridge
https://www.brookline.k12.ma.us/	Information on schools in Brookline
https://somerville.k12.ma.us/	Information on schools in Somerville

QUESTIONS NOT ADDRESSED HERE?

- Reach out to your program administrator
- Send an email to gme@childrens.harvard.edu