**Service Descriptions & Limits, Provider Qualifications and Rates**

**Autism Spectrum Disorder Home and Community Based Services Waiver**

***\* Agency Rates include fringe, taxes, overhead and indirect, collateral time Issues, travel time and mileage\****

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| **Service** | **Description of Service** |
| ***Expanded Habilitation, Education***  ***And***  ***Behavioral Consultation (only available to children who have completed three (3) years of Expanded Habilitation, Education services)*** | These Educational Habilitation Services are designed to help participants who demonstrate significant deficits in the areas of behavioral, social and communication skills become more effective in functioning and participating in their home and community. These Educational Habilitation Services consist of one-to one interventions that are described within the Habilitation, Intervention Plan (HIP) developed by the Senior Level Therapist and implemented by the Therapist and Direct Support Staff The HIP is monitored by the family and the Autism Support Broker on an ongoing basis with quarterly reviews of data and progress reports given to the Autism Clinical Manager and related staff.  The Behavioral Consultation Services are available only if a child remains eligible for services after three years of Expanded Habilitation, Education have been completed. Behavioral Consultation is available to provide the family with technical assistance as the child is stepping down from waiver services.  Waiver funding may not be used to pay for special education and related services that are available in the IEP as defined in Sections (22) and (25) of the Childs with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA) (20 U.S.C 1401 et seq.) Nor can waiver funding be used for services covered under the IFSP through Early Intervention.  In order to receive this service, health and safety must be maintained in the home, and the participant must be living in a home setting with a caregiver who is legally responsible for the participant. While the participant is receiving Expanded Habilitation, Education, the Senior Therapist is responsible for working with the family concerning the participant's **Positive Behavior Support (PBS) Plan** a **minimum of at least two hours per month**. **Therapists, direct support workers, or Autism Specialty Providers must provide at least six hours per week of direct services to the participant in the home or in the other natural environments of the participant.**  **Examples of Expanded Habilitation Services, Education** are **Positive Behavioral Support Models** including, but not limited to the following:  Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA): This is a systematic process of studying and modifying observable behavior by using manipulations of the child’s environment.  Pivotal Response Treatment: The goal of PRT is to teach important pivotal behaviors (those behaviors that are central to wide areas of functioning) in order to facilitate broad positive effects on numerous other behaviors and areas of functioning.  Floor Time: The intervention is a one-to-one, home-based model that involves an adult following a child’s lead during play and other interactions. Focus on skills such as joint attention, imitation, initiation; reciprocal interaction and attachment of meaning are key activities.  Relationship Development Intervention (RDI): This approach is focused on building relationships between caregivers and the child with autism in the child’s home. The key point of the intervention is developing joint attention as well as showing and sharing items/activities with a communication partner.  Treatment and Education of Autistic and Related Communication Handicapped Children (TEACCH): This approach teaches the child to engage in activities in a highly structured environment. Direct instruction takes place within the structured program day.  **Service Settings:** Provision of this service is limited to the person’s own home or in other natural environments of the participant; services are not to be provided in the child’s school. |

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| **Provider Type** | **Provider Qualifications** | **Rate for Agency** | **Rate for Individual** |
| ***Ed Hab- Senior Level Therapist* (5520 and 5521)**  ***and***  ***Behavioral Consultant - Senior Therapist* (5574 and 5575)** | *Role is to oversee the development and implementation of the Expanded Habilitation, Education Intervention Plan (“HIP”). This includes the creation of the HIP as well as Quarterly Progress Reports.*  **Licensure or Certification and Education:**   * Doctoral degree in, psychology, education, medicine, or related discipline; and any related state licensure required for the discipline **WITH:**   + 1500 hours of relevant training, including course work in principles of child development, learning and behavior theory, positive behavior supports, knowledge and experience in a range of comprehensive interventions for children on the autism spectrum. The relevant training may be a part of the advanced degree program.   + Two (2) years of relevant experience in assuming the lead role in designing and implementing comprehensive interventions for children with ASD.   + Experience using data-based decision making to inform service plan decisions including data collection and analysis.   **OR**   * Master’s degree in psychology, education or related field **WITH:**   + 2000 hours of relevant training including course work in child development, principles of learning and behavior theory, positive behavior supports, and experience in a range of comprehensive interventions for children on the autism spectrum. The relevant training may be a part of the advanced degree program.   + Three (3) years (or four if the Master’s program was one year) of relevant experience in assuming the lead role in designing and implementing comprehensive interventions for children with ASD.   + Experience using data-based decision making to inform service plan decisions including data collection and analysis.   + Maintenance of professional skills through on-going training and supervision. | **Up to**  **$136.63/ Hr.** | **Up to**  **$114.32/ Hr.** |

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| **Provider Type** | **Provider Qualifications** | **Agency Rate** | **Individual Rate** |
| ***Ed Hab – Therapist* (5522 and 5523)**  ***and***  ***Behavioral Consult – Therapist* (5577 and 5578)** | *Families may choose to use a therapist to provide one-to-one staff support for the implementation of the Habilitation Plan (HIP) and related tasks as assigned by the Senior Therapist. However, this is the choice of the family to hire either a therapist or a direct staff person for the implementation of the plan for the individual receiving Expanded Habilitation, Education.*  **Licensure or Certification and Education:**   * Master’s degree in psychology, education or related field **WITH:**   + Any related state licensure required for the discipline.   + 2000 hours of relevant training (including course work in child development, principles of learning and behavior theory, positive behavior supports, and experience in a range of comprehensive interventions for children on the autism spectrum.). The relevant training may be part of the advanced degree program.   + Two (2) years of relevant experience in assuming the lead role in designing and implementing comprehensive interventions for children with ASD.   + Experience using data-based decision making, including data collection and analysis.   + Maintenance of professional skills through on-going training and supervision.   + Eight (8) hours of annual training required.   **OR**   * Bachelor’s degree in psychology, education, or related field **WITH:**   + 800 hours of course work and or training about the characteristics, therapies curriculum, assessments, and documentation involving children with ASD.   + Experience and development and implementation of developmentally appropriate positive behavior support interventions for children with ASD.   + Five (5) years supervised experience, post degree and maintenance of professional skills through on-going training and supervision.   + Ten (10) hours of annual training on ASD required.   **OR**   * Bachelor’s degree in non-related field **WITH:**   + 800 hours of training about the characteristics, therapies, curriculum, assessments, and documentation involving children with ASD.   + Experience in development and implementation of developmentally appropriate positive behavior support interventions for children with ASD.   + Seven (7) years supervised experience, post degree and maintenance of professional skills through on-going training and supervision.   + Fifteen (15) hours of on-going training about ASD and supervision annually. | **Up to $105.79/ Hr** | **Up to**  **$80.86/ Hr** |

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| **Provider Type** | **Provider Qualifications** | **Agency Rate** | **Individual Rate** |
| ***Ed Hab - Direct Support Staff* (5524 and 5525)**  ***and***  ***Behavioral Consult – Direct Support* (5580 and 5581)** | *Role is to implement the Habilitation, Intervention Plan as designated by the Senior Therapist including one-to-one behavioral interventions and skills training and community integration activities for individuals receiving Expanded Habilitation, Education Services.*  **Licensure or Certification and Education:**   * Bachelor’s Degree **WITH:**   + 120 hours of supervised training, of which 30 hours must be direct supervision in the implementation of positive behavior support interventions for children with ASD.   **OR**   * Bachelor’s Degree **WITH:**   + 160 Hours of supervised training.   **AND**   * Two sessions of initial home visits under the direct supervision of senior therapist with monthly supervision by senior therapist thereafter. * Expertise in serving children with autism spectrum disorders possess appropriate qualifications as evidenced by resume reviews or interviews, two personal or professional references. * Must be knowledgeable about what to do in an emergency, be knowledgeable about how to report abuse and neglect; maintain confidentiality and privacy of the participant, respect and accept different values, nationalities, races, religions, cultures and standards of living. * Any additional specific competencies needed to meet the support needs of the participant will be delineated in Autism Support Planning Document. | **Up to $60.91/ hr** | **Up to**  **$29.71/ hr** |

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| ***Provider Type*** | **Provider Qualifications** | **Agency Rate** | **Individual Rate** |
| ***Ed Hab – RBT (5526)***  ***and***  ***Behavioral Consult – RBT (5582)*** | *Role is to implement the Habilitation, Intervention Plan as designated by the Senior Therapist including one-to-one behavioral interventions and skills training and community integration activities for individuals receiving Expanded Habilitation, Education Services.*  ***Licensure or Certification and Education:***   * *Registered Behavior Technician (RBT) (AGENCY ONLY)*   **AND**   * *Two sessions of initial home visits under the direct supervision of senior therapist with monthly supervision by senior therapist thereafter.* * *Expertise in serving children with autism spectrum disorders possess appropriate qualifications as evidenced by resume reviews or interviews, two personal or professional references.* * *Must be knowledgeable about what to do in an emergency, be knowledgeable about how to report abuse and neglect; maintain confidentiality and privacy of the participant, respect and accept different values, nationalities, races, religions, cultures and standards of living.* * *Any additional specific competencies needed to meet the support needs of the participant will be delineated in Autism Support Planning Document.* | **Up to $58.92/ hr** | **Not Available** |

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| **Service** | **Description of Service** |
| ***Habilitation, Community Integration*** | This service is designed to assist children in acquiring, improving and retaining the self-help, socialization and adaptive skills necessary to reside successfully in their family home and community settings.  Specifically, Community Integration activities focus on improving socialization skills, decreasing behavioral issues and increasing communication skills. This service may include, but is not limited to, music habilitative services and expressive habilitative services. This service may also include, but is not limited to specialized Individual supports, such as a one-to-one aid to enable the child with a disability to participate in community activities, such as swimming lessons or the Boys and Girls Club. |

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| **Service** | **Service LIMITS** |
| ***Habilitation, Community Integration*** | This service is limited to no more than two different activities per month. These activities must support the enhanced socialization and communication skills of the participant and may include the additional staff necessary such as a one-to-one aid to enable the child to participate. The amount of supervision the child requires for participation must be based on assessed need. One-to-one aide may not replace normal caregiver responsibility. Service Providers, Therapists, and Autism Specialty Providers providing Habilitation-Community Integration are expected to collaborate with the participant’s family, providers of other autism waiver services and other professionals working with the participant in the home of other community settings including schools.  **Service Settings:**  Provision of this service is limited to the community and to no more than two (2) activities per month (though an activity may be repeated within the same month). |

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| **Provider Type** | **Provider Qualifications** | **Agency Rate** | **Individual Rate** |
| ***Individual Community Trainers* (5510)**  ***or***  ***Community Organizations/***  ***Agencies***  **(5511)** | ***If an Individual therapist is overseeing the activity, he/she must meet all relevant state and federal licensure or certification requirements in their discipline.***   * Bachelor’s Degree **WITH:**   + 120 hours of supervised training, of which 30 hours must be direct supervision in the implementation of positive behavior support interventions for children with ASD.   **OR**   * Bachelor’s Degree **WITH:**   + 160 hours of supervised training.   **AND**   * Two sessions of initial home visits by Direct Support Professionals must occur under the direct supervision of the Senior Therapist, with monthly supervision by a Senior Therapist thereafter. * Applicants must possess appropriate qualifications to serve as staff as evidenced by interviews, two personal and/ or professional references, and a resume. * Habilitation Community Integration professionals should also demonstrate a history of working with children with an autism spectrum disorder have a proficient understanding of successful techniques that help to address the core symptoms of autism. * Must be knowledgeable about what to do in an emergency, be knowledgeable about how to report abuse and neglect; maintain confidentiality and privacy of the participant, respect and accept different values, nationalities, races, religions, cultures and standards of living. | **Up to**  **$60.91/ hr.** | **Up to**  **$29.71/ hr.** |

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| **Provider Type** | **Provider Qualifications** | **Agency Rate** | **Individual Rate** |
| ***Community Organizations/***  ***Agencies - RBT***  **(5512)** | ***If an Individual therapist is overseeing the activity, he/she must meet all relevant state and federal licensure or certification requirements in their discipline.***   * Registered Behavior Technician (RBT) (AGENCY ONLY)   **AND**   * Two sessions of initial home visits by Direct Support Professionals must occur under the direct supervision of the Senior Therapist, with monthly supervision by a Senior Therapist thereafter. * Applicants must possess appropriate qualifications to serve as staff as evidenced by interviews, two personal and/ or professional references, and a resume. * Habilitation Community Integration professionals should also demonstrate a history of working with children with an autism spectrum disorder have a proficient understanding of successful techniques that help to address the core symptoms of autism. * Must be knowledgeable about what to do in an emergency, be knowledgeable about how to report abuse and neglect; maintain confidentiality and privacy of the participant, respect and accept different values, nationalities, races, religions, cultures and standards of living. | **Up to**  **$58.92/ hr.** | **Not Available** |

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| **Service** | **Description of Service** |
| ***Family Training*** | Family training focuses on the development of parenting skills with particular emphasis on parenting a child with Autism Spectrum Disorder including parental interactions that influence success or hinder progress for the child while taking into account linguistic and cultural differences and family circumstances, how to modify the environment to promote success for the child, manage transitions and developmental milestones and employ effective communication strategies with the waiver participant. These goals are established as part of the Autism Plan of Care. Participation in Family Training is dependent upon family need identified by Senior Therapist and agreed to by the family. This service enables family members to gain the knowledge and skills needed to participate more fully in the various aspects of caring for and advocating on behalf of their child in the home, school and community. This service is instructive only and is therefore not meant to be used as a stand-in for the family in caring for the child or advocating for the child’s needs, nor is it a counseling service for the family or child. Family Training services must be overseen by a Family Training – Senior Therapist or Family Training - Therapist. |

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| **Provider Type** | **Provider Qualifications** | **Rate for Agency** | **Rate for Individual** |
| ***Individual Family Trainer, Senior Therapist (*5537)**  ***or***  ***Agency Family Trainer, Senior Therapist* (5534)** | ***If an individual therapist is overseeing the activity, he/she must meet all relevant state and federal licensure or certification requirements in their discipline.***   * Doctoral degree in psychology, medicine, or related discipline **WITH**:   + 500 hours of relevant training and experience, including course work, in complex family systems and dynamics, co-occurring life stresses, principles of child development, learning and behavior theory, positive behavior supports, the impact of trauma on child development, and knowledge and experience in a range of comprehensive interventions for children on the autism spectrum. The relevant training may be part of the advanced degree program.   + Post-licensure experience working in a community-based setting with families that have extensive family issues including experience advocating and working effectively with other community systems that may offer support to the family and the waiver participant, such as educational and health systems.   **OR**   * Master’s degree in psychology, education, or related field **WITH**:   + 2,000 hours of relevant training and experience as described above.   + Three (3) of relevant experience years (or four (4) years, if the Master’s program is counted as one year of relevant experience) working in a community-based setting as described above.   + Eight (8) hours of on-going training about family systems and supervision annually.   **AND**   * All Senior Therapists must supply a resume and two professional or personal references as evidence of qualifications. | **Up to**  **$136.63/ hr.** | **Up to**  **$114.32/ hr.** |

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| **Provider Type** | **Provider Qualifications** | **Rate for Agency** | **Rate for Individual** |
| ***Individual Family Trainer, Therapist (*5539)**  ***or***  ***Agency Family Trainer, Therapist* (5538)** | ***If an individual therapist is overseeing the activity, he/she must meet all relevant state and federal licensure or certification requirements in their discipline.***   * LISCW or LMHC with at least one (1) year post-licensure experience working in a community based setting with families that have complex family issues, including experience advocating and working effectively with other community systems that may offer support to the family and the waiver participant, such as educational and health systems.   **OR**   * Master’s degree in psychology, education, or related field **WITH:**   + 2,000 hours of relevant training and experience, including course work, in complex family systems and dynamics, co-occurring life stresses, principles of child development, learning and behavior theory, positive behavior supports, the impact of trauma on child development, knowledge and experience in a range of comprehensive interventions for children on the autism spectrum. The relevant training may be part of the advanced degree program.   + Two (2) years of relevant experience working in a community-based setting with families that have extensive family issues, including experience advocating and working effectively with other community systems that may offer support to the family and the waiver participant, such as educational and health systems.   + Eight (8) hours of on-going training about family systems and supervision annually.   **OR**   * Bachelor’s degree in psychology, education, or related field **WITH**:   + 800 hours of relevant training and experience as described above.   + Five (5) years of relevant experience working in a community-based setting as descried above.   + Ten (10) hours of on-going training about family systems and supervision annually.   **OR**   * Bachelor’s degree in non-related field **WITH**:   + 800 hours of relevant training and experience as described above.   + Seven (7) years of relevant experience working in a community-based setting as described above.   + Fifteen (15) hours of on-going training about family systems and supervision annually.   **AND**   * All Family Training Therapists must supply a resume and two professional or personal references as evidence of qualifications. | **Up to**  **$105.79/ hr.** | **Up to**  **$80.86/ hr.** |

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| **Provider Type** | **Provider Qualifications** | **Rate for Agency** | **Rate for Individual** |
| ***Individual Family Trainers, Direct Support (*5535)**  ***or***  ***Agency Family Trainers, Direct Support* (5536)** | ***If an individual therapist is overseeing the activity he/she must meet all relevant state and federal licensure or certification requirements in their discipline.***   * Bachelor’s degree **PLUS**:   + 120 hours of supervised training, of which 30 hours must be direct supervision in the implementation of positive behavior support interventions for children with ASD.   + Two sessions of initial home visits by Family Training Direct Support Professionals must occur under the direct supervision of the Family Training Senior Therapist, with monthly supervision by a Family Training Senior Therapist thereafter.   **OR**   * Bachelor’s degree **PLUS**:   + 160 hours of supervised training as described above.   + Two sessions of initial home visits by Family Training Direct Support Professionals must occur under the direct supervision of the Family Training Senior Therapist, with monthly supervision by a Family Training Senior Therapist thereafter.   + Experience and training in assisting families with co-occurring life stresses through lived experience, mentoring, modeling and role playing to support the development of advocacy skills in educational plan development for the participant and advocating effectively in other community systems that may offer support to the family and waiver participant.   **AND**   * All Family Training Direct Support Professionals **MUST**:   + Must supply a resume and two professional or personal references as evidence of qualifications. | **Up to**  **$60.91/ hr.** | **Up to**  **$29.71/ hr.** |

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| **Service** | **Description of Service** |
| ***Respite*** | Services provided to participants unable to care for themselves that are furnished on a short-term basis because of the absence or need for relief of those persons who normally provide care for the participant. |

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| **Service** | **Service LIMITS** |
| ***Respite*** | Provision of this service is limited to the home setting\* and cannot be provided by the child’s parent, legal guardian, or member of the household. Service may not exceed 40 hours in one month or 40 hours in one week. Respite services cannot occur on the same day as a ***Homemaker Service***.  \****Respite in the Home of the Caregiver*** (5532) can be accessed under certain circumstances and is paid as a daily rate up to ($99.72/day). This service cannot exceed thirty (30) consecutive days. |

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| **Provider Type** | **Provider Qualifications** | **Rate for Agency** | **Rate for Individual** |
| ***Individual Respite Providers (5530, 5532\*)***  ***or***  ***Agency Staff***  **(5531)** | * High School Diploma or GED * Applicants must possess appropriate qualifications to serve as staff as evidenced by interviews of two personal and/ or professional references. * Staff members shall Direct Support Professional should also demonstrate a history of working with children with an autism spectrum disorder as evidenced by a resume. * Must be knowledgeable about what to do in an emergency, be knowledgeable about how to report abuse and neglect; maintain confidentiality and privacy of the participant, respect and accept different values, nationalities, races, religions, cultures and standards of living. | **Up to**  **$27.25/ hr.** | **Up to**  **$20.28/ hr.** |

* ***All providers must demonstrate compliance with state and national criminal history background checks as described at Appendix C-2(a). Accordingly, providers are required to submit to and pass both a CORI and finger-print National Background Check (NBC) prior to working with a waiver participant. Agencies are responsible for completing both checks for any employee or contractor they use to provide services to a waiver participant. Individual Contractors and Employees (in the case of Respite providers) will complete these background checks through Public Partnerships, LLC (PPL) which is the FEA (Fiscal/Employer Agency) for the program.***
* ***Additionally, all providers must be at least 18 years of age and have the ability to communicate effectively in the language and communication style of the child to whom they provide services as well as to their family.***

***\* Agency Rates include fringe, taxes, overhead and indirect, collateral time Issues, travel time, and mileage\****

**Vendor-based Supports and Services (i.e. Purchases of Goods):**

* Homemaker Services (5507 for Independent Contractors and 5508 for Agency Providers): Services that consists of the performance of general household and/or chore tasks (e.g., meal preparation and routine household care) provided by a qualified homemaker, when the caregiver regularly responsible for these activities is temporarily absent or unable to manage the home and care for him or herself or others in the home. All providers must have a taxpayer identification number, be 18 years of age or older, must have two personal and/or professional references, and is preferred to be licensed/bonded in Massachusetts. Must maintain confidentiality and privacy of consumer information, must be respectful and accepting of different values, nationalities, races, religions, cultures, and standards of living. Service is limited to 2 episodes per month and cannot occur on the same day that respite services are provided.
* Adaptive Aids (5540): A piece of equipment or item used to develop, increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of the participant. This is defined as a service that directly assists the person in the selection, acquisition, or customization of an assistive tech device. Assistive Tech includes the evaluation of assistive tech needs including a functional evaluation of the impact of the providing appropriate assistive technology devices for the participant, including its customization. It also includes the coordination of therapies as interventions associated with the other services included in the Plan of Care. This also includes training for the person, their family, or related support personnel as needed. There needs to be documentation of the need and appropriateness of the device for the participant. State Plan (MassHealth) resources for Assistive Tech must be thoroughly explored prior to the using the Waiver for purchases. There is an annual $1,200 limit per participant.
* Home Adaptations (5545): Physical adaptations to the home are modifications that are necessary to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of the participant or that enable them to function with more independence. These must be included on the participant’s plan of services. This may include assessment and evaluation of home safety modifications. Some examples include: Door and window locks or alarms, non-breakable windows, and fences. **Excluded** are purchases that would add to the value of the home, are of general utility, or are not of direct medical benefit to the individual. Some examples include carpeting, roofing, and central air conditioning. General household repairs are not included in this service, and funding shall only be used for renovations that will allow the participant to remain in the home. All renovations must specifically relate to the impairments caused by the participant’s disability. There is an annual $5,000 limit per household as well as a $15,000 lifetime cap on this service.
* Vehicle Adaptations (5550): Adaptations or alterations to an automobile that is the participant’s primary mode of transportation to accommodate their specialized needs. The modifications are specified in the service plan and must enable the participant to participate more fully into their community and to ensure their welfare, health and safety. These items may include seating/safety restraints, specialized seating equipment, tie downs, and ramps. Excluded are improvements of general utility, purchase or lease of a vehicle, and regular maintenance of the vehicle. Vehicle modifications must be made by certified entities that are licensed to perform vehicle modifications and conversions. There is a $10,000 lifetime cap per household on this service.
* Home Delivered Meals (5554): Delivery of ready-to-eat meals to the home. Must be purchased from provider that will accept payments made through FEA. Limits may be imposed on the frequency based on access to other forms of food assistance.
* Individual Goods and Services (5555): Services, equipment, or supplies that will provide direct benefit and support specific outcomes that are identified in the participant’s Autism Support Plan. These services are not provided through either another Waiver service or through MassHealth. These services promote community integration, provide resources to purchase safety equipment, decrease the need for other MH services, reduce the reliance on paid support, or are directly related to the health and safety of the participant in his/her home or community. One or more of the following criteria must be met to access this service:
  + Item/service would increase participant’s functioning related to the disability
  + Item/service would increase safety in home or
  + Item/service would decrease reliance on other MH-funded services
  + Item/service is not available through other sources and
  + Service doesn’t include experimental goods/services for which there is no evidence to support its efficacy