



**Suffolk County Department of Social Services**  
**FCSA Child Care Bureau**  
**Medical Statement in Support of Special Needs Consideration**

*(Must be completed by a medical or other professional if the child  
in need of subsidized child care has "Special Needs")*

Your application/reapplication for child care services indicates that a child in your household may have special needs. In accordance with SSL 415.1, to determine your eligibility/continued eligibility for child care services, please have your child's **physician, licensed or certified psychologist or other professional with the appropriate credentials to make such a diagnosis**, complete the below form.

**Applicant/Recipient Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Case # (if applicable):** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ is a child with special needs that has been **diagnosed** as having one or more of the following conditions to such a degree that it adversely affects the child's ability to function normally. Please complete the applicable box (es) and add comments or documentation explaining how this condition impairs the child's ability to function normally:

Type of Impairment	Diagnosis	Required Special Education or Related Services
Visual impairment		
Deafness or other hearing impairment		
Orthopedic impairment		
Emotional disturbance		
Mental retardation		
Learning disability		
Speech impairment		
Health impairment		
Autism		
Multiple handicaps		
Traumatic Brain Injury		

**Clinician's signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Title** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tel. #:** \_\_\_\_\_



## Suffolk County Department of Social Services

### FCSA Child Care Bureau

#### Definition of "Child with Special Needs" in need of a child care

Families having a child with medically documented special needs who is in need of child care services are income-eligible for child care services providing their family income does not exceed 200% of the federal poverty level. The family must still meet program eligibility requirements.

"Child with Special Needs" is defined as: "a child who is incapable of caring for himself or herself and who has been diagnosed as having one or more of the following conditions to such a degree that it adversely affects the child's ability to function normally:

1. **Visual impairment** - A visual handicap which, even with correction, adversely affects a child's ability to function normally. The term includes impairments that result in a child having partial sight or blindness. Diagnosis of the child's condition must be made by an ophthalmologist, optometrist, physician or pediatrician.
2. **Deafness or other hearing impairment** - A hearing impairment which is so severe that the child is impaired in processing linguistic information through hearing, with or without amplification, and which adversely affects the child's ability to function normally. Diagnosis of the child's condition must be made by an audiologist, otolaryngologist, physician or pediatrician.

**Hard of Hearing** - A hearing impairment, whether permanent or fluctuating, which adversely affects the child's ability to function normally but which is not included under the definition of deaf. Diagnosis of the child's condition must be made by an audiologist, otolaryngologist, physician or pediatrician.

3. **Orthopedic impairment** - A physical handicap resulting from a severe orthopedic impairment which adversely affects a child's ability to function normally. The term includes impairments caused by congenital anomaly (e.g., clubfoot, absence of some limb or digits, etc.), impairments caused by disease (e.g., poliomyelitis, bone tuberculosis, etc.), and impairments from other causes (e.g., cerebral palsy, amputation, and fractures or burns which cause contractures). Diagnosis of the child's condition must be made by a physician, pediatrician, orthopedist, or neurologist.
4. **Emotional disturbance** - An inability to learn which cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory or health factors and which causes a child to exhibit, to a marked degree, one or more of the following characteristics over a long period of time:
  - a. an inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships with peers and teachers;
  - b. inappropriate types of behavior or feelings under normal circumstances;
  - c. a general pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression; or
  - d. a tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal or school problems. Diagnosis of a child as emotionally disturbed must be made by a psychologist, psychiatrist or other clinically trained and State-qualified mental health professional.

5. ***Mental retardation*** - General intellectual functioning that is determined to be 1.5 standard deviations or more below the mean of the general population on the basis of a comprehensive evaluation which includes an individual psychological evaluation and which results in a consistent demonstrable deficit in a child's ability to adapt to his or her learning environment. Diagnosis of the child's condition must be made by a psychologist, physician or pediatrician.
6. ***Learning disability*** - A disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or in using language, spoken or written, which manifests itself in an imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell, or to do mathematical calculations. The term includes such conditions as perceptual handicaps, brain injury, neurological impairment, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia and developmental aphasia. The term does not include learning problems which are primarily the result of visual, hearing or motor handicaps, of mental retardation, of emotional disturbance, or of environmental, cultural or economic disadvantage. A child who exhibits a discrepancy of 50 percent or more between expected achievement and actual achievement determined on an individual basis shall be deemed to have a learning disability. Diagnosis of the child's condition must be made by a psychologist, special education professional, psychiatric social worker or other mental health professional.
7. ***Speech impairment*** - A communication disorder, such as stuttering, impaired articulation, a language impairment, or a voice impairment which adversely affects the child's ability to function normally. A child should not be classified as having a communication disorder when speech and language differences may be attributed to cultural, ethnic, bilingual, or dialectical differences or being non-English speaking. Diagnosis of the child's condition must be made by a speech or language pathologist, audiologist, otolaryngologist, physician, or pediatrician.
8. ***Health impairment*** - A physical handicap which limits a child's strength, vitality or alertness caused by chronic or acute health problems which adversely affect a child's ability to function normally. Examples of such health problems include, but are not limited to, a heart condition, tuberculosis, rheumatic fever, nephritis, asthma, sickle cell anemia, hemophilia, epilepsy, lead poisoning, leukemia, diabetes, tourette syndrome or HIV or AIDS. Diagnosis of the child's condition must be made by a pediatrician, physician or other medical specialist.
9. ***Autism*** - A behaviorally defined syndrome which occurs in children of all levels of intelligence. The essential features of autism are typically manifested prior to 30 months of age and include severe disturbances of developmental rates and/or sequences of responses to sensory stimuli, of speech, of language, of cognitive capacities, and of the ability to relate to people, events and objects. Diagnosis of the child's condition must be made by a psychologist, psychiatrist or other clinically trained and State-qualified mental health professional.  
or;
10. ***Multiple handicaps*** - Two or more handicapping conditions that result in multi-sensory or motor deficiencies and developmental lags in the cognitive, affective, or psychomotor areas, the combination of which cause problems which interfere with the child's ability to function normally.
11. ***Traumatic Brain Injury***

Suffolk DSS requires medical documentation describing how the condition(s) has (have) adversely affected the child's ability to function normally and why and when the child requires child care services. Any such diagnosis must be made by a physician, licensed or certified psychologist or other professional with the appropriate credentials to make such a diagnosis.

Form # CCB-6010-010 Medical Statement in Support of Special Needs Consideration must be completed by a medical professional.