

ACT NOW!

Afterschool for Children and Teens

Policy Update

Teen REACH Update

DHS began distributing Teen REACH funding notices on October 28, 2016. Despite the stopgap deadline of December 31, 2016, DHS has indicated that they will provide full payment to programs through June 30, 2017. Teen REACH grant recipients must establish an external Illinois.gov account using the DoIT Identity Management system. Steps for creating an account can be found [here](#).

ESSA Round Three of Statewide Listening Tour

Congress passed the [Every Student Succeeds Act](#) (ESSA) in December 2015, reauthorizing the nation's largest education law with many much needed updates and revisions. Included in ESSA is language that is favorable to afterschool programs. It is important that afterschool providers point this out to ISBE so that it is incorporated in Illinois' plan.

The second draft of the plan will be released in mid-November and will be posted at isbe.net/essa. Following the release, ISBE will be hosting its third round of listening tour meetings, which will provide participants an opportunity to engage in a group discussion regarding the ESSA State Plan and a chance to provide feedback. For additional information and to access the listening tour schedule, click [here](#).

Child and Adult Care Food Program

The USDA's Food and Nutrition Service [Child and Adult Care Food Program \(CACFP\): Meal Pattern Revisions Related to the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act](#) amended the CACFP meal pattern regulations. The final rule requires that centers and day care homes, including afterschool programs and family child care homes, participating in CACFP serve more whole grains, serve a greater variety of vegetables and fruit, and

reduce the amount of added sugars and solid fats in meals. Centers have until October 1, 2017 to comply. For more information, click [here](#).

Title IV, Part A Non-Regulatory Guidance

The U.S. Department of Education recently released its non-regulatory guidance on student support and academic enrichment (SSAE) grants, authorized under Title IV, Part A. The guidance document provides information on the activities that LEAs may conduct under the SSAE program and offers examples of practices that may be helpful to grantees. It requires LEAs receiving an SSAE program allocation of at least \$30,000 to use at least 20 percent of the SSAE program funds for activities that support student access to a well-rounded education. It also necessitates that these programs and activities be coordinated with other schools and community-based services. Allowable uses of these funds include programming and activities that improve instruction and student engagement in STEM subjects. Assuming that funding is appropriated, the SSAE program will be implemented in the 2017-2018 academic year. The Senate appropriations bill currently proposes funding the program at \$300 million, the House bill proposes \$1 billion, and ESSA authorizes spending at \$1.65 billion. To access the document, click [here](#).

Upcoming Events

NAA16 Virtual Convention

The National AfterSchool Association (NAA) will be hosting its second virtual convention **November 6-20, 2016**. This online resource features the top-rated workshops from the annual convention in a convenient format that allows afterschool providers access to professional development opportunities on their own time. For additional details or to register, click [here](#).

12th Annual Community Schools Forum

The Federation for Community Schools will convene its 12th Annual Community Schools Forum on **Thursday, November 10, 2016**. The event will be held at The Hilton Lisle/ Naperville, located at 3003 Corporate W Drive, in Lisle, IL. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Afterschool Development Work Group

The All Stars Project's Afterschool Development Work Group will be convening on

Wednesday, November 30, 2016, from 9:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. at 53 West Jackson Blvd, Suite 1135. The group's purpose is to consider how to work together to raise the profile of, and support for, developmental afterschool programs to engage the social crises in our poorest communities. For more information or to join, contact David Cherry at dcherry@allstars.org or 312-994-3100.

Mentoring Networking Breakfast

The Illinois Mentoring Partnership is hosting its second annual IMPACT Awards Breakfast, honoring the champions of youth mentoring, on **Friday, January 27, 2016**. The event will be held from 7:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. at The Union League Club of Chicago, located at 65 West Jackson Blvd. For more information, click [here](#).

IAN Spring Conference

IAN's 31st Annual Spring AfterSchool Conference will be held on **Saturday, April 29, 2017**, at the Sheraton Lisle Hotel, located at 3000 Warrenville Road in Lisle, IL. The 2017 spring conference will include professional development sessions for front line staff and seasoned professionals, an interactive market, and a public policy meeting sponsored by ACT Now. Click [here](#) for additional details or to register.

Youth Opportunity

Chicago Regional Bridge Building Contest

The 41st Annual Chicago Regional Bridge Building Contest will be held on **Tuesday, January 24, 2017** on the campus of the Illinois Institute of Technology. The competition is open to high school physics and science students who have placed in the top four of a bridge building contest at their school. For more information, click [here](#).

Trainings and Webinars

Youth and Resilience Professional Development Training Series

The Night Ministry and the National Runaway Safeline (NRS) will be hosting its next installment of the Youth & Resilience Professional Development Training Series entitled "Emotional Intelligence: Active and Empathetic Listening" on **Wednesday, November 9, 2016**. The workshop will be held, from 12:30 p.m. through 4:00 p.m. at the NRS office, located at 3141B North Lincoln, Chicago. This training will help participants build

skills in active and empathetic listening, better understand what real communication looks like, and teach strategies for de-escalating conflict. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

West 40 Youth Health Focused Workshops

West 40 is hosting youth health focused professional development workshops in November and December 2016. All events will be held at the West 40 Intermediate Service Center No. 2, located at 4413 West Roosevelt Road, Hillside, IL. For more information or to register for these events, click on the links below.

- [November 14th: Facilitating Play for Children with Autism and Related Challenges](#)
- [November 17th: Nurse Network Meeting](#)
- [December 5th: Illinois Caucus for Adolescent Health 3 Trainings Workshop](#)

Making Common Core Connections

IAN is offering a training that will assist afterschool providers with linking their programs to Common Core math and reading standards. This workshop will be held on **Tuesday, November 15, 2016**, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at Erie Neighborhood House, located at 1347 West Erie in Chicago. For more information, click [here](#). To register, email Jackie Richie at ianetwrk@att.net or call 217-953-4620.

Controlling the Environment, Not the Child/Youth in Afterschool Programming

IAN will be conducting a regional training on **Tuesday, November 15, 2016** entitled "Controlling the Environment, Not the Child/Youth in Afterschool Programming." Participants will learn the basics of operating a high-quality afterschool program and how to create a "PEACE-PLACE" for their students. This session will be held at Menard Hall on the campus of Lincoln Land Community College, located at 5250 Shepherd Road, Springfield, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. For more information, click [here](#). Contact Jackie Richie at ianetwrk@att.net or call 217-953-4620 to register.

Building 21st Century Skills through Global Learning

Foundations, Inc., a nonprofit committed to improving educational experiences for America's children and youth throughout the day, will be hosting their next live online quarterly discussion on **Wednesday, November 16, 2016** at 12:00 p.m. This session will aid afterschool, expanded learning, and out-of-school time practitioners with helping youth to make meaningful connections with the wider world through innovative

strategies and hands-on projects. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Using Your Space Creatively

Join Click2Science on **November 16, 2016** at 1:00pm for their upcoming Webinar Wednesday entitled “Using Your Space Creatively.” Learn strategies for inspiring STEM learning by maximizing the program space. Click [here](#) for more information or to register for this event.

Prioritizing Social Emotional Learning

The American Youth Policy Forum is holding a webinar on **Wednesday, November 30, 2016** from 2:00 p.m. until 3:15 p.m. entitled “Bringing Social and Emotional Learning to the Forefront: What Happens When Districts Prioritize SEL?” The session will feature a panel of researchers and practitioners who will share what coordinated and purposeful SEL looks like in practice. Click [here](#) for additional details or to register.

Resources

Maximizing Your Space

Click2Science’s November learning modules are designed to assist out-of-school time staff with maximizing their environment to engage youth in STEM learning. Program elements include exploring local habitats and creating informal learning spaces that generate interest in STEM exploration. For more information, click [here](#). Click [here](#) to register for the November 16th, “Using Your Space Creatively,” webinar.

Stepping Into Leadership

Leadership carries great responsibility and can bring many challenges. In the latest edition of Talk Tuesday, the National AfterSchool Association provides afterschool professionals strategies that they can employ to fully step into their roles as leaders. Suggestions for leading with intention, dedication, and courage include, fostering a culture of giving and receiving feedback, knowing and understanding your team, and clearly communicating expectations. For more tips, click [here](#).

Chicago STEM Pathways Cooperative Landscape Survey

The Chicago STEM Pathways Cooperative is conducting a STEM out-of-school time

(OST) landscape survey on programs offered in Chicago between January 1 and December 31, 2015. The findings will help the Cooperative understand how the Chicago STEM OST community is serving youth and families, identify gaps in service, and inform future work to better meet community needs. The survey must be completed by **Saturday, December 31, 2016**. Participants will receive a \$5 Starbucks gift card as a thank you for filling out the survey. To take the Assessing Chicago OST STEM Opportunities 3.0 survey, click [here](#).

Funding Opportunities

Afterschool Meals Grant

No Kid Hungry Illinois is offering mini-grants up to \$2,500 that can be used by schools, child care centers, and eligible non-profit or for-profit organizations to help maximize their ability to serve full supper meals through the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) At-Risk After-School Meals Program. Grants may be used toward staffing, equipment, outreach materials, transportation, and other program costs. To apply for funding you will need to first create an account using the access code: ILCACFP2017. Applications must be submitted by Friday, November 18, 2016. The grant portal can be accessed [here](#).

School Breakfast Grant

The No Kid Hungry Illinois Breakfast Grant provides schools with up to \$5,000 for the purchase of approved equipment, materials, and initiatives facilitating alternative breakfast models such as Breakfast in the Classroom, Grab N Go or Second Chance Breakfast. To apply for funding you will need to first create an account using the access code: ILBREAKFAST2017. Applications must be submitted by **Friday, November 18, 2016**. The grant portal can be accessed [here](#).



Read more about the [ACT Now Coalition](#). Please send any information you would like included in the next newsletter to SStanton@voices4kids.org

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The ACT Now Coalition brings together afterschool and youth development stakeholders from across Illinois to work towards ensuring that all young people in Illinois have access to quality, affordable afterschool programs.

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