

ACT NOW!

Afterschool for Children and Teens

Quality Standards Trainings

ACT Now is holding free trainings around the state on the IL Afterschool Quality Standards. The trainings will provide participants a general overview of the Standards and strategies for implementation. Credit for the trainings will be available through the Gateways to Opportunity system and participants can also earn CEUs. There are trainings scheduled for Chicago, Peoria, Champaign, and Rockford. For more information on these trainings, click [here](#).

Policy

Teen REACH NOFO

The Illinois Department of Human Services has released its Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Teen REACH afterschool program. DHS anticipates awarding 100 grants for an estimated total program funding of \$12.5 million. **Only applications submitted in response to the Teen REACH NOFO posting will be considered for funding in FY18.** The anticipated program start date is November 1, 2017. Applicants will be able to request Pre-Award costs as part of the NOFO for eligible expenditures and services back to July 1, 2017. The submission deadline is **Tuesday, October 18, 2017** at 12:00 p.m. Click [here](#) to learn more about the grant program, eligibility requirements, and how to apply.

Community Youth Employment Program NOFO

DHS has released its competitive funding notice for the Community Youth Employment Program. The submission deadline is **Thursday, October 20, 2017** at 12:00 p.m. Click [here](#) to learn more about the grant program, eligibility requirements, and how to apply.

DHS will hold bidders conferences on **Monday, October 2, 2017** at 2:00 p.m. and **Tuesday, October 3, 2017** at 10:00 am. Call details can be found [here](#).

Child Care Assistance Program Update

The Illinois Department of Human Services has extended the deadline for licensed and license-exempt providers participating in the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) to complete the required Health and Safety trainings. New providers must complete the training within 90 days of hire. The deadline for CCAP approved providers has not been determined. General information on the training requirements can be found [here](#). Information on license exemption can be found [here](#). The school-aged license exemption form for programs seeking CCAP can be found [here](#). The non-CCAP exemption form can be found [here](#).

21st CCLC House Amendment Passed

On September 13, 2017 the Lowey/DeLauro Amendment to restore \$100 million of 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) funds passed the House by a vote of 228 to 188. This decision restores funding for the program to \$1.1 billion. Thank you for all your advocacy on this issue!

Governor's Cabinet on Children and Youth

The Children's Cabinet met on September 7, 2017. The meeting included a presentation and panel on early workforce development. For more information, click [here](#).

ISBE Board Meeting

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) held its retreat in Springfield on September 13 and 14, 2017. The meeting included an update on the strategic plan and the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) implementation plan. For other discussion topics, click [here](#). For information about future Board meetings, click [here](#).

ACT Now policy updates affecting the afterschool/youth development field, including information about Teen REACH and 21st Century, can be found [here](#).

Upcoming Events

National Youth Science Day

4-H National Youth Science Day is the world's largest youth-led science experiment. On **Wednesday, October 4, 2017**, youth from across the country will participate in the 2017 National Science Challenge, Incredible Wearables. For more information on how your afterschool program can register for this event, click [here](#).

Lights On Afterschool

Lights On Afterschool (LOA) is the only nationwide event celebrating afterschool programs and their important role in the lives of children, families, and communities. On **Thursday, October 26, 2017** more than one million Americans will attend more than 8,000 LOA events in all 50 states and in the District of Columbia. For more information on *Lights On Afterschool*, click [here](#). For additional advocacy resources, check out our [Lights on Afterschool 2017: Advocacy and Planning Toolkit](#).

Afterschool Development Conference

The All Stars Project of Chicago will be hosting its 4th Afterschool Development Conference on **Friday, November 3, 2017**. This one-day event will be held at East West University, located at 829 South Wabash in Chicago from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

NAA17 Virtual Convention

The National AfterSchool Association (NAA) will hold its virtual convention focusing on STEM and social emotional learning on **November 3-16, 2017**. For additional details or to register, click [here](#).

Youth Opportunities

Off the Sidelines Chicago's Young Feminist Conference

Off the Sidelines Chicago invites all of Chicago's young feminists ages 14 and older to attend their free half-day conference on **Saturday, October 21, 2017**. The event will be held at Motorola Mobility LLC, located at 222 West Merchandise Mart Plaza, Chicago, IL. For additional details or to register, click [here](#).

Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

Student volunteers in grades five through 12 who have made meaningful contributions to their communities are welcome to apply for a 2018 Prudential Spirit of Community Award. The application deadline is **Tuesday, November 7, 2017**. For additional information or to access the application, click [here](#).

World of 7 Billion Video Contest

The World of 7 Billion video contest challenges middle and high school students to illustrate the connection between world population growth and one of three global challenges: advancing women and girls, feeding 10 billion, or preventing pollution. Participating teachers can receive free curriculum resources and student winners will receive cash prizes up to \$1,000. All entries must be submitted by **Thursday, February 22, 2018** to be considered. Contest guidelines and resources can be accessed [here](#).

For archived youth opportunities, click [here](#).

Trainings and Webinars

Advancing Youth Development Certification Training

The Advancing Youth Development (AYD) course is comprised of six sessions and will be held at Gary Comer Youth Center, 7200 South Ingleside Ave., in Chicago from 9:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., beginning **October 3, 2017**. For additional information contact, Annette Kelly at akelly@4usyouthdevelopment.org or click [here](#).

Afterschool and SEL

The American Youth Policy Forum is hosting a webinar on **Wednesday, October 11, 2017** at 12:00 p.m. entitled "The Intersection of Afterschool and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) for 21st Century Readiness." For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Illinois AfterSchool Network

The Illinois AfterSchool Network's (IAN) upcoming trainings are listed below. For more information or to register, contact Jackie Richie at ianetwrk@att.net or call 217-753-4620.

- **October 20, 2017** (Harvard, IL): Dealing with Behavioral Management in our Afterschool Program
- **October 20, 2017** (Peoria, IL): Dealing with Behavioral Management in our Afterschool Program
- **October 24, 2017** (Chicago, IL): Not Just Another Leadership Workshop: How to Help Your Youth Become Second-to-None Leaders
- **October 26, 2017** (Carbondale, IL): "Words Will Never Hurt Me" – Building Skills in Youth when Dealing with Teasing, Bullying and Putdowns

The Need to Grow Afterschool in Illinois Webinar

ACT Now has created a white paper that uses research and data to explain what the

afterschool field looks like in Illinois and where the gaps are in afterschool programming statewide. We will be hosting a webinar on **Wednesday, October 25, 2017** at 10:00 a.m. that will explain what is inside the “The Need to Grow Afterschool in Illinois” white paper as well as how it can be used and accessed. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

IAN Educational Leadership Symposium

The Illinois AfterSchool Network (IAN) is sponsoring an Educational Leadership Symposium on **Friday, November 10, 2017**, from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referrals in Bloomington, IL. The workshop will assist front line staff and program coordinators with integrating social and emotional learning into their afterschool programs. The deadline for submission is **Friday, November 3, 2017**. For more information contact Curtis Peace at 312-608-0730.

To view ACT Now's calendar of events, click [here](#).

Employment

Metropolitan Family Services

Metropolitan Family Services is looking to fill the following full-time positions:

- [Resource Coordinators](#): Individuals would be responsible for the financial, programmatic, and operational oversight of a school-based 21st Century Community Learning Centers program.
- [Recess Coordinator](#): Person would be responsible for the full oversight of the school's recess program, but is also needed to provide SEL programming in the afternoon.

Family Focus

Family Focus has five full-time Resource Coordinator positions open. The overall responsibilities are to plan, implement, and coordinate all Community School programs. For more information, click [here](#).

Funding Opportunities

Seeds for Education Grant Program

The Seeds for Education Grant Program provides grants under \$500 for youth-centered

efforts to establish and maintain native plant landscape learning environments. Applications are due by **Sunday, October 15, 2017**. For more information, click [here](#).

Fuel Up to Play 60

The Fuel Up to Play 60 competitive, nationwide funding program is designed to support K-12 schools that implement Plays from the 2017-18 edition of the Fuel Up to Play 60 Playbook. Applications are due by **Wednesday, November 1, 2017**. For more information or to apply, click [here](#).

Advancing Informal STEM Learning

The National Science Foundation's Advancing Informal STEM Learning program is currently soliciting grant proposals for informal STEM education. The deadline to apply is **Monday, November 6, 2017**. For funding and eligibility guidelines, click [here](#).

Community Impact Grants

The Home Depot Foundation offers grants, up to \$5,000, to IRS-registered 501(c) designated organizations and tax-exempt public service agencies in the U.S. to support the renovation, refurbishment, retrofitting, accessibility modifications, and/or weatherization of existing homes, centers, schools, and other similar facilities. The next grant deadline is **Sunday, December 31, 2017**. For funding guidelines or to determine eligibility, click [here](#).

For a list of previously listed afterschool and youth development related grants, click [here](#).

Resources

For a list of afterschool and youth development related resources collected by ACT Now, click [here](#).



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

October 2, 2017: Child Care License Exemption Update, Funding Opportunities, and Lights On Afterschool

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