

ACT NOW!

Afterschool for Children and Teens

Policy

Federal Budget Update

On February 9, 2018, both the Senate and the House passed a fifth continuing resolution (CR) attached to a bipartisan budget deal. The recent CR ended a brief shutdown to keep the government open at FY17 levels through March 23rd. The budget deal raises the FY18 non-defense and defense spending caps over a two year period. It extends the recent reauthorization of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) by four years and includes a \$5.8 billion commitment for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG). The FY18 omnibus spending bill is expected to be voted on in the coming weeks. Once in place, appropriators will negotiate individual funding levels for each government program, including 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC). To read more on the CR, click [here](#). To tell Congress to support 21st CCLC funding in 2018, click [here](#).

FY19 21st CCLC RFP Modification

A recent modification to the FY19 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) RFP allows nonprofit agencies, community/faith-based organizations, for-profit entities, and colleges and universities to apply an eight percent indirect cost rate for their services rather than the 3.15 percent previously stated. Application materials and instructions can be found [here](#). The 21st CCLC RFP submission deadline is 4:00 p.m. on **Thursday, February 15, 2018**.

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

Upcoming Events

Digital Learning Day 2018

Digital Learning Day was started in 2012 as a way to actively spread innovative practices and ensure that all youth have access to high-quality digital learning opportunities no matter

where they live. It provides traditional and out-of-school time education leaders an opportunity to highlight innovative teachers, leaders, and instructional technology programs that are improving student outcomes. This year's celebration will take place on **Thursday, February 22, 2018**. Click [here](#) for more information as well as activity ideas that encourage new ways of using technology for learning.

Strengthening Chicago's Youth's Quarterly Meeting

Strengthening Chicago's Youth's next quarterly meeting will focus on the many roles that schools can play in violence prevention. The event will take place on **Tuesday, February 27, 2018**, from 1:30 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. It will be held at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital, located at 225 East Chicago Ave, Chicago, IL. For additional details or to register, click [here](#).

Youth Opportunities

Chicago City Treasurer's 2018 Black History Month Essay Contest

The Black History Month Essay Competition recognizes a Chicago Public High School senior who has displayed outstanding academic achievement or community involvement and writes a thoughtful and impactful essay on a topic related to Black History Month. The winner of this competition will receive a \$2,500 non-renewable scholarship to support the cost of attending the first year of college. The deadline to apply is **Friday, February 23, 2018**. For more information, click [here](#).

Young Men of Color Summit

DePaul University will be hosting a one-day conference on Friday, March 16, 2018 that is designed to prepare ninth through 12th grade African-American and Hispanic males for personal and professional success through college and career knowledge exposure, internship/summer job opportunities, and mentorship programs and initiatives. The session will be held at the Lincoln Park Student Center, located at 2250 North Sheffield. Students desiring to attend must register by **Friday, February 23, 2018**. For more information, click [here](#).

Imagination Foundation Inventor's Challenge

AT&T and the Imagination Foundation's Inventor's Challenge is an opportunity for pre-K through high school students to create novel, imaginative, and possibly viable solutions to challenges in their schools and communities. Entries must be submitted by **Wednesday, February 28, 2018**. For more information or to enter, click [here](#).

Girls Who Code Summer Immersion Program

The Girls Who Code Summer Immersion Program is a seven-week computer science course that offers rising female high school juniors and seniors instruction, hands on experience, and mentoring within the technology field. The program offered in Chicago, IL will run from June 25th through August 10th. The final application deadline is **Friday, March 16, 2018**. For additional details or to apply, click [here](#).

College Connect: Summer Enrichment Program

DePaul University's College Connect is a summer enrichment program designed for rising Chicago high school juniors and seniors. Students will be introduced to college-level coursework and take part in career exploration opportunities. Applications are due on **Saturday, March 31, 2018**. For more information, click [here](#).

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

Trainings and Webinars

Solving the Software Development Pipeline Crisis

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission is hosting an hour-long webinar on IT Coding and Cybersecurity apprenticeship programs. The session will be held on **Tuesday, February 13, 2018** at 9:00 a.m. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Becoming an Engineer

Join Click2Science on **February 14, 2018** at 1:00 p.m. for their upcoming Webinar Wednesday. The workshop will introduce afterschool professionals to resources that can support them in helping youth learn about engineering careers. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Involving Youth Advocates in Policy Change

Youth to Youth will be hosting a webinar on **Tuesday, February 20, 2018** at 2:00 p.m. that will assist youth group advisers in preparing youth advocates to participate in policy change activities. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Building Resilience of Refugee/Immigrant Children

Lurie Children's Center for Childhood Resilience will provide a training on **Friday, February 23, 2018** that will address how the current sociopolitical climate has affected marginalized youth. The event will be held at the Chicago Public Library's Brighton Park Branch from 9:45 a.m. through 11:45 am. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

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

Resources

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

Opportunities for Providers

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

Funding Opportunities

For a list of previously listed afterschool and youth development related grants, 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.

Please send this information to others who might be interested by forwarding this e-mail.

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