

ACT NOW!

Afterschool for Children and Teens

Policy

Federal Budget Update

On February 12, 2018, the Trump administration released its full FY19 budget. The proposal eliminates or cuts funding to programs that are vital for children and families, including:

- Funding for 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC), the only federally sponsored afterschool program, was proposed for elimination.
- Funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), which supports low-income working families with quality child care, was reduced by \$2.9 billion.
- Funding for Title IV Part A Student Support Academic Enrichment Grants, which provides all students with access to a well-rounded education, was proposed for elimination.
- Funding for the Youth Mentoring Initiative was reduced by \$22 million for an allocation of \$58 million.
- Funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service's AmeriCorps VISTA, a volunteer service program used by many afterschool programs, received a proposed funding level of \$5 million, which represents a \$92 million reduction.

Other programs that support children and families identified for elimination or funding cuts in FY19 can be found [here](#). To call on Congress to protect funding for afterschool and summer learning programs, click [here](#).

Governor Rauner's FY19 Budget Address

Governor Rauner delivered his FY19 budget address on February 14, 2018. The proposed budget allocates \$12.5 million for Teen REACH. Although this is \$7 million less than what the General Assembly appropriated in July 2017, it is the first time Teen REACH has been included in the Governor's budget in his term. This inclusion will allow contracts to be obtained in a timely manner and for youth to receive the critical services that they need. Thanks to all the afterschool advocates and providers around the state for your tireless advocacy efforts.

Unfortunately, other programs that serve youth and families did not fare as well. The

proposed budget eliminates the State Board of Education's funding for After School Matters, the Healthy Communities Incentive Fund, and their afterschool programs line. In addition, Child Care Services is recommended for funding at \$380.7 million, representing \$96.1 million cut. Park district afterschool program funding remained level, but the Boys and Girls Scouts received a funding cut. To access the governor's budget proposal, click [here](#). The Illinois Department of Human Services FY19 Budget Briefing presentation can be accessed [here](#).

ISBE Board Meeting

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) met on February 14, 2018. The meeting packet can be found [here](#). Public comment centered on alternative school programs and their lost ability to count growth due to the evidence based funding language.

An update was provided on the Partnership for Educator Preparation (PEP) pilot. The PEP data will inform ISBE and state higher education institutions on licensure and the quality of the educator preparation process. In regards to ESSA, ISBE is in the process of identifying vendors for the IL-EMPOWER pilot. The information gathered will help to inform the statewide launch of the system in August 2018. ISBE has also provided guidance for meeting the ESSA site-based expenditure reporting requirement. That information can be found in the board packet. The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 14, 2018** in Springfield.

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

Upcoming Event

2018 At-Risk After-School Meals Summit

Rise and Shine Illinois will be hosting an At-Risk After-School Meals Summit on **Monday, April 2, 2018** at the YMCA of Metro Chicago, located at 1030 West Van Buren, Chicago. The session will assist afterschool sponsors with increasing participation at their meal sites. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Trainings and Webinars

Robotics and Coding Best Practices

The National AfterSchool Association is hosting a webinar on **Tuesday, February 20, 2018** that will provide best practices for implementing robotics and coding into the afterschool space. For additional information or to register, click [here](#).

Common Grounds for Community System-Building

The National Summer Learning Association will be hosting a webinar on **Thursday, February 22, 2018** at 1:00 p.m. In the session, the President and CEO of the SummerCollab will discuss how they help community centers execute high-quality learning experiences for low-income youth. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Future Scholars Webinar

The National Summer Learning Association in partnership with the Rutgers Future Scholars Program will be co-hosting a webinar on **Tuesday, February 27, 2018** at 1:00 p.m. Participants will explore how higher learning institutions can ensure that under-served, first-generation-to-college youth achieve higher education goals. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

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

Resource

Equity and SEL

Building strong social and emotional competencies, for both teachers and students, can play a key role in ensuring education equity. In their February webinar, CASEL shares some of the ways in which they are advancing work on equity and social and emotional learning (SEL). The recorded webinar can be viewed [here](#).

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

Opportunity for Providers

CCE Conference Proposals

The eighth annual College Changes Everything (CCE) conference will be held **Thursday, July 19, 2018** at the Tinley Park Convention Center. As part of this effort, the Conference Planning Committee has issued a call for proposals that cover a wide range of themes related to college access and completion. The submission deadline is **Friday, March 9, 2018**. For more information about the conference and submitting proposals, click [here](#).

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

Funding Opportunities

After School Digital Learning Center Program

The After School Digital Learning Center Program provides non-profit community agencies and public schools serving underprivileged children ages five through 18 with customized digital learning centers. The proposal submission deadline is ongoing. For more information, click [here](#).

Sustainable Community Schools Initiative

The Chicago Board of Education is seeking non-profit agencies to provide community school programming in Chicago Public Schools for its new Sustainable Community School (SCS) initiative. A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) must be received by 10:00 a.m. on **Friday, March 16, 2018** in order to apply for SCS initiative funding when it is available. A Pre-Submittal Conference will be held at 9:30 a.m. CST on **Wednesday, February 21, 2018** at the Garfield Park Office, located at 2651 W. Washington, Chicago. For more information, click [here](#).

NRPA Commit to Health

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) is accepting grant applications to support children's health through park and recreation out-of-school time programs. The three focus areas are summer/afterschool meals, nutrition literacy, and healthy living practices and policies. The deadline to apply is **Friday, March 16, 2018**. For more information, click [here](#).

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

Youth Opportunities

For archived youth opportunities, 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.

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