

# Maintain Funding for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers at \$1.2 Billion

In Illinois, the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC) initiative is the only federal funding source dedicated exclusively to before-school, afterschool, and summer learning programs. Investments in 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC programs are keeping children in high-poverty, low-performing schools safe and supported; engaging them in academically enriching activities; and providing much needed child care to working families.

Data supports that these programs are achieving positive outcomes for Illinois' youth.

- 63% of elementary students and 55% of middle/high school students improved their behavior in the program.
- 71% of elementary students and 61% of middle/high school students improved their academic performance.
- 26.2% of elementary students improved in mathematics, and 30.7% improved in reading.
- 27.1% of middle/high school students improved in mathematics, and 29.7% improved in reading.

21<sup>st</sup> CCLCs also provide a wide variety of opportunities that youth do not receive during the school day.

- 92% of grantees offer STEM programming.
- 90% of grantees working with high school students offer college preparation activities.
- 57% of grantees offer service-learning opportunities.
- 30% of elementary, 70% of middle, and 84% of high school grantees offer entrepreneurial, career development, and job skills programming.

For more information, contact ACT Now: [www.actnowillinois.org](http://www.actnowillinois.org)  
312-877-0725 • [stantons@metrofamily.org](mailto:stantons@metrofamily.org)



## THE CURRENT STATE OF AFTERSCHOOL IN ILLINOIS

404,791 students participate in afterschool programs (18%).

741,400 students in Illinois would participate in an afterschool program if one were available (41%).

20% of children are unsupervised after school.

In the 2014-2015 school year, 47,492 children participated in 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC at 389 sites around Illinois.

84% of Illinois parents support public funding for afterschool programs.

21<sup>st</sup> Century also funds community schools in Illinois. Community schools provide a broad range of programs and services in support of comprehensive child development. Students not in an afterschool program but who attend a community school may receive counseling, health and wellness, and parent engagement supports due to 21<sup>st</sup> Century funding, meaning thousands of additional students are impacted by 21<sup>st</sup> CCLCs. Community schools on average leverage \$1-\$3 in additional resources from additional investors from a \$1 investment through 21<sup>st</sup> Century.