Policy

ISBE April Board Meeting

The Illinois State Board of Education met on April 18, 2018 via video conference. For access to the meeting materials, click [here](#). The concerns addressed during the public commenting period included the teacher shortage, support for Foundational Services, and high school students having access to information on the armed forces as a career opportunity. The Technical Advisory Committee shared its interim report that details its recommendations and rationale for measuring academic progress and awarding points for academic achievement. In addition, the Office of General Counsel and Department of Special Education provided an update on their inquiry into issues raised with special education within the Chicago Public Schools. The Board also reconvened its discussion on the ESSA Student Success/School Quality Indicators and voted to approve the P-2, 3 to 8, and College and Career Readiness Indicators identified in the April Board packet. ISBE acknowledges that there are limitations within the indicators selected. However, they view this new venture as an opportunity to determine what works and as a chance to continue to explore how to best measure student success in Illinois. The [next Board meeting](#) is May 16th.

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

Upcoming Events

SEL in Afterschool Day

SEL in Afterschool Day builds awareness and highlights the impact of social emotional learning (SEL) in afterschool programming. It will be observed on **Tuesday, April 24, 2018**. To learn more or to participate, click [here](#).

Opportunity Youth Summit

Thrive Chicago in partnership with the City of Chicago, will be leading an Opportunity Youth Summit on **Thursday, May 24, 2018** at the Chicago Cultural Center. For more information
Youth Opportunities

Chicago Freedom School Fellowship

The Freedom Fellowship is a six-month program that brings together youth between the ages of 13 and 17 from across the city of Chicago to explore issues of injustice and gain skills in leadership and activism. The application deadline is Tuesday, April 24, 2018. For more information, click here.

Chicago STEM Signing Day

Boeing will celebrate Chicago public high school seniors who have made a commitment to pursue a STEM degree or program at either a two or four-year college or university. Applications are due Tuesday, May 1, 2018. For more information, click here.

Chicago Summer STEM Camp

Project SYNCERE in partnership with the Chicago Department of Family & Support Services is hosting a free six-week summer STEM camp. Students must be Chicago residents entering grades nine through 12 and in good academic standing. Applications are due by Friday, May 11, 2018. For more information or to apply, click here.

2018 Impact Youth Conference

The Peace Hub’s 4th annual conference designed specifically for youth and youth advocates, will be held on May 11 and 12, 2018 at the Gary Comer Youth Center, located at 7200 South Ingleside in Chicago. For additional information or to register, click here.

For archived youth opportunities, click here.

Trainings and Webinars

Rev Up Training Institute

The Chicago Freedom School is hosting a four-day training institute for youth organizers, youth workers, and educators who seek to incorporate social change practices into their work. The event will be held on Thursday, May 3, 2018 through Sunday, May 6, 2018. For additional details or to register, click here.
Illinois AfterSchool Network

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

- May 15, 2018 (Chicago, IL): Healthy Out-Of-School Time Training
- June 2, 2018 (Glendale Heights, IL): Summer Program Planning: Are You Ready?

To view ACT Now’s calendar of events, click here.

Resource

WINGS for Kids SEL Website

WINGS’ revamped social emotional learning (SEL) website provides organizations and schools with resources for equipping at-risk kids with social emotional skills. To access the website, click here.

For a list of afterschool and youth development related resources collected by ACT Now, click here.

Opportunities for Providers

Youth Mentoring Awards Nominations

Mentor Illinois is accepting nominations to recognize youth mentoring champions in Illinois. The submission deadline is Wednesday, April 25, 2018. For more information, click here.

Force for Good

The Chicago Police Department’s Force for Good initiative is a 12-month program that provides faith-based not-for-profit organizations support in improving their ability to deliver services, such as youth tutoring, mentoring, and structured activities in safe places. The deadline to apply is Friday, May 4, 2018. For more information, click here.

For archived opportunities for providers, click here.
Funding Opportunities

NASA Out-of-School Time Funding

The NASA Glenn Research Center Office of Education is soliciting applications from youth-serving organizations and formal/informal education institutions to implement STEM content in out-of-school time settings. The application deadline is Monday, April 23, 2018. For more information, click here.

Public Welfare Foundation Youth Justice Program

The Public Welfare Foundation’s Youth Justice Program supports groups working to advance a fair and effective community-based vision of youth justice, with a focus on ending the criminalization and incarceration of youth of color. For more information, click here.

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.

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