Policy

Federal Budget Update

On June 28th, the full Senate Appropriations Committee passed their FY19 education spending bill. It included funding for the 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) afterschool and summer learning programs at $1.212 billion. Funding allocations for other programs vital for children and families included:

- Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) at $5.2 billion
- Title I of ESSA at $15.9 billion
- Title IV Part A Student Support Academic Enrichment Grants a $125 million increase
- Career and Technical Education at $1.2 billion
- Evidence-based STEM education programs, including computer science education, within the Education Innovation and Research program at $65 million

The House full Appropriations Committee is scheduled to mark up its bill on July 11th. The federal fiscal year ends on September 30, 2018. To share with your legislators the importance of funding afterschool, click here. For more information on the appropriation proceedings, click here.

Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act

The Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act updates the 2006 Perkins career and technical education (CTE) legislation. On June 26, 2018 the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) committee voted to pass their version of CTE out of committee. Similar to H.R.2353, the Senate’s bill promotes the inclusion of employability skills and establishes that career exploration programming can begin as early as the fifth grade. However, while the bill makes provisions for community-based partners to be included in the state plan, in comparison to H.R.2353 the language regarding community partners is not as strong. The next step is for the bill to be presented to the full Senate. For more information on CTE and afterschool, click here.
**ACT Now** policy updates affecting the afterschool/youth development field, including information about Teen REACH and 21st Century, can be found [here](#).

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**Upcoming Events**

**Stepping Up for Summer Learning**

The Spring Forward Learning Center with sponsorship from John Deere, will host more than 800 children from twenty summer camps at their Summer Learning Day celebration on **Thursday, July 12th**. The Stepping up for Summer Learning event will be held at the TaxSlayer Center in Moline, IL. For more information, click [here](#). To post your Summer Learning Day event, click [here](#).

**Building Stronger Systems for Youth Symposium**

Get IN Chicago will be hosting a free symposium on **Wednesday, July 25, 2018** that will bring together researchers, policy makers, and practitioners to examine the promising efforts in youth violence prevention. The event will be held at the Loyola University School of Law in Chicago. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

**Youth Opportunities**

**Summer Tech Camp**

Black Girls Code Chicago is offering limited scholarships for its **August 6th through August 17th** summer camp. Young ladies ages 13-17 interested in tech instruction are welcome to apply. For more information, click [here](#).

**The Best Scholarship Search Platforms of 2018**

Review.com’s scholarship search platform guide ranks sites based on their ease of use, variety of scholarships available, dollar amounts, and supportive tools. To access the guide, click [here](#).

**Woke & Winning: Youth Action Workshop Series**

The National Youth Art Movement Against Gun Violence and The WasteShed will
be hosting a series of youth action workshops in July. The sessions are aimed at connecting Chicago youth to local and national organizations who are using their platforms to engage people in gun reform activism. For more information, click here.

Love Learning Poster Contest

Lands’ End, in partnership with the National Summer Learning Association, invites summer learning program participants to enter its Love Learning poster contest. Drawings must be submitted by Sunday, August 12, 2018. For additional details, click here.

For archived youth opportunities, click here.

Trainings and Webinars

Discoveries and Innovations with Summer Learning

The National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment (NCASE) is hosting a summer learning webinar on Wednesday, July 11, 2018. For more information or to register, click here.

An Introduction to Online Fundraising for Small and Medium-Sized Nonprofits

CharityHowTo will be hosting a free webinar on Monday, July 16, 2018 that will assist nonprofits with raising funds online. For more information or to register, click here.

Implicit Bias: Exploring the Connections

Strengthening Chicago’s Youth will host a training on implicit biases on Monday, July 16, 2018. The session will be held at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital, located at 225 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago. For more information or to register, click here.

Sustaining Summer Learning
Join Click2Science on **July 18, 2018** at 1:00 p.m. for their upcoming Webinar Wednesday entitled “Sustaining Summer Learning.” For more information or to register, click [here](#).

**Data Driven Decision Making: Myth to Reality**

The National AfterSchool Association will be hosting a webinar on **Thursday, July 19, 2018**. In the workshop, providers will review strategies for program planning that is reflective of evaluation data. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

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

**Resources**

**Trauma-Sensitive School Action Pack**

The Salud America! Action Pack contains resources that aid school personnel with talking to decisions makers, building a support team, and identifying/supporting students dealing with trauma. To sign up for the Action Pack, click [here](#).

**Spinner Winner**

In this STEM Gem, participants will use a penny, cardstock, and glue to learn the physics of angular momentum. To view the lesson plan, click [here](#).

**Summer Programs and CCDF**

The National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment (NCASE) has developed a Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) frequently asked questions document aimed at supporting providers that may be interested in participating in the CCDF program. To access the tool, click [here](#). To view NCASE’s national and state/territory data profiles on school-age children served through the CCDF, click [here](#).

**Combining Resources to Support Quality OST Programs**
In a recently published brief, the National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment explores methods for braiding program and state levels funds in order to support out-of-school-time (OST) care. To access the brief, click here.

CCAP Payment Requirements

In its summer newsletter, Gateways to Opportunity has outlined the steps that Illinois providers must take by **September 30, 2018** in order to continue to receive Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) payments. To access the list of requirements, click here.

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

Opportunity for Providers

**Love Learning Campaign**

Lands’ End, in partnership with the National Summer Learning Association, is accepting applications for its First Annual Lands’ End Love Learning Award. Summer programs that focus on environmental stewardship and STEM/STEAM (science, technology, engineering, math, arts) are welcome to apply. The winning program will receive a $10,000 award and national recognition. The submission deadline is **Friday, November 30, 2018**. For more information, click here.

*For archived opportunities for providers, click here.*

Funding Opportunity

**Youth Equity Challenge**

Chicago Beyond is committed to improving life outcomes for young Chicagoans. To increase their impact, they are seeking nonprofit organizations that have developed programs and approaches that support the well-being and safety of Chicago’s young people as investment partners. Interested organizations should submit a 90-second video of their program by **Wednesday, July 18, 2018**. For more information, click here.

*For a list of previously listed afterschool and youth development related grants, click here.*
Afterschool in the News

Most Influential in Research and Evaluation

In the summer 2018 edition of AfterSchool Today, the National AfterSchool Association recognized 20 organizations and individuals that are doing remarkable research in the field of youth and adolescent development. Included among the most influential researchers are Illinois’ very own After School Matters, Chicago; Dr. Joseph Durlak, Emeritus Professor Loyola University; Dr. Reed Larson, University of Illinois; and Dr. Roger Weissberg, University of Illinois at Chicago and Chief Knowledge Officer, Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning. To read more on the impact of their work, click [here](https://www.actnowillinois.org).