



ACT Now Events Calendar				
January				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
21	22	23	24	25
		STEM Programming & Funding Webinar (10 AM to 11 AM)		
28	29	30	31	
	Effectively Communicating the Need for Afterschool Webinar (10 AM to 11 AM)	The State of Afterschool in Illinois (9 AM to 10:30 AM Springfield, IL)		
February				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
04	05	06	07	08
	60 by 25 Conference			
11	12	13	14	15
		IL-QPSA Webinar #3: Analyzing Your Data (10 AM to 11 AM)		
<p>To register for events, click on the calendar, or visit: actnowillinois.org For questions, email Faith Knocke (ACT Now - Youth Development Associate) at Knockef@actnowillinois.org</p>				

Policy Updates

ISBE Board Meeting Recap

On Wednesday, January 16th, the Illinois State Board of Education held their monthly board meeting. The board voted to approve the renewal of 21st Century FY15 grantees for another 5 years. This means that pending all grant paperwork FY15 cohort members will receive an additional five years of funding starting in the next fiscal year. The Board also heard a review of the ISBE's Budget Recommendations for the next fiscal year. These recommendations include funding for After School Matters, After School Programs, Healthy Communities Investment Grants, and Community Schools. The full-service Community Schools model was highlighted as an ideal model to promote statewide in Illinois. It was noted that a portion of the funds for Healthy Communities Investment Grants are intended to support the implementation of this model. The Board mentioned that afterschool advocates in the community provided strong testimony about the need to increase afterschool

funding. (More about the Budget Recommendations can be found in the ISBE board packet.) The ISBE board packet with full agenda can be found [here](#). The Board will meet next on **February 20, 2019**. For more details, click [here](#).

Child Nutrition Programs Update

Despite the federal government shutdown, Child Nutrition Programs funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture will receive funding into March. To learn more, [click here](#).

Rep. Bustos Tapped for Key Committees

Congresswoman Cheri Bustos (D-IL 17th District) was named to the House Appropriations Committee and will also sit on subcommittees for defense; military construction and veterans affairs; and labor, health and human services and education. Bustos called them "the best subcommittees I possibly could get on to help our district." To learn more, [click here](#).

For a list of previously listed policy updates, click [here](#).

Trainings and Events

Webinar: Effectively Communicating the Need for Afterschool

ACT Now will be holding a webinar to provide information on how to effectively communicate the need for afterschool programs according to research. This webinar will cover common communication misconceptions, how to tailor your message to different stakeholders, and evidence-based messaging practices that have been proven to be effective in the afterschool space. Additionally, you will receive access to a messaging tool developed by ACT Now to support you in your communication efforts. This webinar will be held **January 29th from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** To register, [click here](#).

The State of Afterschool in Illinois

ACT Now collected data on locations of afterschool programs in Illinois and the services they offer in order to create the Afterschool Map & Database. This data has allowed us to define the afterschool landscape for policymakers & providers alike. Join us to hear more about the subsequent report ("The State of Afterschool in Illinois 2018") generated from our map data and learn about what you can do to support the afterschool landscape in Illinois in order to provide vibrant enrichment experiences to our youth. This event will be held in **Springfield, IL on January 30th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.** To register, [click here](#).

Data-Driven Decision Making

Join Vinay Mullick and Charles Brown of [UpMetrics](#) to explore how data can help organizations and practitioners develop programs, increase impact, and increase funder investment. A free lunch is included! UpMetrics will hold this lunch-and-learn in **Downtown Chicago on January 31st from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** To register, [click here](#).

ACT Now Membership Meetings

ACT Now is holding meetings for ACT Now members to network with one another and learn more about the work of ACT Now. We are holding our second membership meeting for the year on **February 27th in Granite City, IL from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** At this meeting, ACT Now will

provide information about our advocacy efforts, resources we offer to support afterschool programs, and professional development. Providers will spend Much of the time will be spent interacting with one another and creating new partnerships. To register, [click here](#).

Community School Providers Meetings

ACT Now is continuing to hold meetings for community school providers to network with one another and learn more about the work of ACT Now in the Community Schools space. Participants will hear about policy updates, network with other providers, and receive professional development. (See below for a schedule of upcoming meetings.)

Upcoming Community School Providers Meetings:

- **Skokie, IL:** February 28th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. ([Register Here](#))
- **Chicago, IL:** March 5th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. ([Register Here](#))

Youth Development, Programming, & Activities

Webinar: Getting to Work on Summer Learning

This webinar will explain the elements of successful summer programs and dive into the accompanying online [Summer Learning Toolkit](#), which features more than 50 practical tools and planning resources to help school districts and their partners design and deliver high-quality summer programs. This webinar will be held on **February 27th from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.** To register, [click here](#).

Safety, Health, & Nutrition

Local Wellness Policy Workshop

ISBE is providing a free Local Wellness Policy workshop for schools participating in the National School Lunch and/or School Breakfast Program. This training will provide attendees with information on regulatory requirements, best practices, resources, and more to make the most of their school's Local Wellness Policy. The workshop will take place in **O'Fallon, IL on February 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** For more information, [click here](#).

Keeping Youth Active Indoors

After spending a day sitting at a desk, work table, or a variety of screens, research shows that it is imperative that children and youth spend time in physically active activities as part of their afterschool program offerings. Attend this workshop to learn 15 ways to make that happen, especially utilizing the indoors and small space environments. This workshop will take place in **Chicago, IL on February 28th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** (*This workshop is \$15 for IAN members and \$30 for non-members.*) To register, [click here](#).

National Child Nutrition Conference

Attend this jam-packed event to hear from expert speakers about policy and programming rooted in nutrition research. Attendees will also have full access to the exhibit hall where they can visit with food manufacturers, food service vendors, nutrition education resources providers, software

solutions, and training and accounting resources. This conference will take place in **Chicago, IL from April 23rd to 25th**. To learn more, [click here](#).

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

Youth Opportunities

Illinois Reads

Everyone is invited to attend the 2019 Illinois Reads Book Festival, a free event to promote the joy of reading and to celebrate Illinois authors and illustrators. Many authors will be present, so bring your books and have them signed at this event! This event will be held at **Waukegan High School on March 16th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** For more information, [click here](#).

For an archive of our previously listed Youth Opportunities, click [here](#)

Opportunities for Providers

UPDATE: Afterschool Development Working Group

The Chicago Afterschool Development Working Group is a self-organized group of afterschool, education, civic, and non-profit leaders and practitioners working together to strengthen the voice and impact of afterschool development in Chicago. This group meets every other month in downtown Chicago. The **January 30th meeting has been cancelled** and the next working group meeting will be held on **February 20th from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Loyola University Schreiber Center**. For more information, or to RSVP, contact David Cherry, dcherry@allstars.org, 312-994-3100.

Remake Learning Days

From **May 16th to 19th**, the Chicago Learning Exchange will turn our global city into an open and dynamic learning laboratory with more than 100 hands-on, learning opportunities in schools, museums, libraries, parks, and community centers across Chicago and neighboring Evanston. To learn more, click [here](#). If your organization would like to host an event at your site or in a neighborhood learning hub, please complete the interest form [here](#).

For an archive of our previously listed Opportunities for Providers, click [here](#).

Funding Opportunities

Booth Social Impact Grant

The University of Chicago Booth School of Business is excited to launch a funding opportunity of between \$4,000- \$10,000 for a nonprofit that focuses on increasing education opportunities and closing the opportunity and skills gap for individuals across Chicago. This includes organizations that provide access to early learning, college, STEM education, as well as workforce development. The deadline to apply is **February 1st at 5:00 p.m.** To learn more, [click here](#).

For an archive of our previously listed Funding Opportunities, click [here](#).

Resources for Providers

Youth Development, Programming, & Activities

Report: Children's Health Is Connected to Parent's Health

Parents' overall health can impact their ability to give their child the necessary care needed for optimal growth and development. This study's authors recommend that communities work to ensure better access to two-generation (parent and child) health care practices where the entire family can be treated for health issues (e.g. school-based health centers). To read more, [click here](#).

Family & Community Partnerships

How to Talk About Public Charge with Immigrant Families

This issue brief summarizes top-line Protecting Immigrant Families Campaign messages and talking points recommended when discussing public charge concerns with immigrant communities. To read more, [click here](#).

Call for Resources

Do you have valuable resources, stories, or best practices to share with the afterschool field? Please click [here](#) to share your resources with ACT Now and we will disseminate them (via our newsletter and website) to other providers across the state! If you have any questions, please contact Faith Knocke (ACT Now - Youth Development Associate) KnockeF@metrofamily.org

NOTE: We are now sorting our trainings and resources by the Core Areas in the Illinois Statewide Afterschool Quality Standards to promote better understanding and implementation of the Standards. Dark blue headings denote a Core Area. To learn more about the Quality Standards, click [here](#).