

ACT NOW! NEWSLETTER

Policy Updates

Federal Level

Federal Government Confirms Implementation of New Public Charge Rule in Illinois Effective February 24, 2020

The federal government has confirmed that they will begin implementing the new public charge rule in Illinois as of February 24, 2020. This proclamation comes after the U.S. Supreme Court decided to lift the public charge injunction in Illinois on February 21, 2020. To read this decision, click [here](#). If you have questions regarding the public charge rule, email: pifillinois@povertylaw.org. For more information, visit the Protecting Immigrant Families Illinois (PIF-Illinois) website [here](#).

State Level

Governor Pritzker Delivers his Annual Budget Address for Fiscal Year 2021

On February 19, 2020, Governor Pritzker gave his annual budget address, emphasizing the goals of making college more affordable, the importance of child care, and applying for federal funds to expand mental health services in schools. The Governor's budget includes the following funding:

- \$20 million for Illinois State Board of Education's (ISBE) After School Programs (Note: This funding has historically been spent on the Healthy Communities Investment Grant program and not just for afterschool programming)
- \$14.5 million for Teen REACH
- \$3.44 million for After School Matters
- \$100 million increase in state and federal funding for the Child Care Assistance Program

- \$2 million for Community Partnerships for Student Health and Well-Being

The Governor's full budget depends on the passage of the graduate income tax in November and holds some funding in reserve until that time. This includes \$150 million for the evidence-based funding formula to fund schools.

You can find a link to the entire budget proposal [here](#).

Also on February 19, 2020, the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) held a budget briefing. At the hearing, Secretary Hou mentioned the expansion of early childhood services and increasing child care provider rates. You can find the slides from this briefing [here](#).

It's up to all of us to encourage Illinois policymakers to fully fund afterschool programming so that young people and their families in the state receive the quality services they need to succeed! Click [here](#) to send an email to legislators, calling them to action!

Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Budget Recap: 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) NOFO

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) met on February 18, 2020. The Board heard public comment about the Seal of Biliteracy, restraint and seclusion policies, arts programming, and the P-2 ESSA indicator. The Board heard presentations on ESSA accountability indicators and their draft strategic plan. **The Board also discussed and approved a new 21st Century Community Learning Centers Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).** This NOFO will be released in the next few weeks. In this discussion, Board members mentioned concerns about the delay in getting grants out this year. ISBE staff mentioned concerns about getting information back from grantees and also better supporting grantees in the future. Further, the Board approved the Perkins V Plan. You can find the Board packet [here](#). You can find a recording of the meeting and information about future meetings [here](#).

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

Upcoming Community School Training and Networking Events

Don't forget to join us for our upcoming Community School Networking and Training Events! Each meeting provides an opportunity to hear policy updates from ACT Now, hear from a speaker on topics voted on by the group, and time to workshop ideas with your peers. See details below.

Skokie (Rescheduled)—February 27, 2020 10:00 a.m. to noon

- **Topic:** Effective Messaging
- **Speakers:** Susan Stanton, ACT Now Network Lead
- **Location:** Thomas Edison Elementary School, 8200 Gross Point Rd., Morton Grove, IL 60053
- Register [here](#)

Trainings, Events and Webinars

Professional Development and Qualifications

ACT Now 2020 Winter/Spring Quality Standards Trainings

ACT Now is providing **FREE** in-person trainings on the Illinois Statewide Afterschool Quality Standards in order to help afterschool providers and staff continuously improve the quality of their programs. The trainings will: provide participants with a background in the Standards; assist providers in creating a plan for implementing Standards; and help to develop strategies for overcoming obstacles in implementing quality initiatives. The trainings dates for 2020 are listed below.

Springfield—March 19, 2020

- **Location:** Capital Area Career Center, Toronto Rd, Springfield IL 62712
- **Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Register [here](#)

Chicago—April 23, 2020

- **Location:** YMCA Learning Institute, 1030 W. Van Buren St., Chicago IL 60607
- **Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

- Register [here](#)

IAN 2020 Spring Conference

The Illinois AfterSchool Network (IAN) is holding its 34th Annual Spring Conference on **Saturday, March 28, 2020** in Bloomington, Illinois. Speakers will present on topics including: SEL, Restorative Justice, Cosmetic STEM, Trauma-Informed Practices, and Physical/Nutrition Education. The pre-conference sessions start on **Friday, March 27, 2020**. Sessions are geared towards Teen Reach providers and First Time Supervisors. ACT Now will hold a call to action breakfast at the conference and a pre-conference session. For more information on the event, click [here](#). The **deadline for registering** is **Monday, March 9, 2020**. Click [here](#) to do so.

The Conference will also be giving awards to partner organizations. To submit award nominations, click [here](#). For PDF nomination forms, click [here](#) and [here](#).

Please note that the conference will take place at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Bloomington. For block room prices, please call (309) 664-6446.

ACT Now's Trivia Night: Bloomington

ACT Now is hosting our Trivia Night in Bloomington, IL on **Friday, March 27, 2020 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** Join us the **evening before the Illinois AfterSchool Network Conference** for a night of fun and friendly competition to benefit afterschool advocacy! Participate in this team-building event and network with other members of the field over trivia, raffle, prizes, and free Hors d'oeuvres. Tickets are \$20 per person. Cash Bar. To attend, please click [here](#) to buy your ticket!

Family and Community Partnerships

ACT Now Training: Creating A Systematic Approach to Family Engagement

Based upon data collected from the Illinois Quality Program Self-Assessment and the Illinois Statewide Afterschool Quality Standards, ACT Now will be holding an immersive training to improve family engagement in out-of-school time. Participants will dive into the layers family engagement, develop a model of evaluation, and through peer-to-peer learning, craft a systematic strategy to foster high-quality and evidence-based family engagement. The

training will occur on **March 4, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** To register, click [here](#).

Youth Development, Programming, & Activities

ACT Now SEL Webinar 3: Developing Self Management in Afterschool

ACT Now is hosting its third and final webinar on Social Emotional Learning (SEL) on **March 10, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** In collaboration with host speakers, ACT Now will breakdown the [CASEL SEL competencies](#) and share concrete examples of how to implement SEL into your program. The webinar will also focus on self management. In addition to the webinar, ACT Now will be sharing our ***Social Emotional Learning in Afterschool*** guidebook! To register for the webinar, click [here](#).

Safety, Health, & Nutrition

Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE): Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) New Sponsor Workshop

The Illinois State Board of Education's (ISBE) Nutrition Department will present a Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) New Sponsor Workshop on **March 4, 2020 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Springfield, IL.** This workshop is for child care center providers who are interested in becoming new sponsors in the CACFP federal program. The main goal of this training is to learn how to bring healthy meals to the children you serve in your communities. For more information, click [here](#). To register for the workshop, click [here](#).

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Trainings: Become a Summer Meals Sponsor/Site

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is in need of additional sponsors and sites to help fill the gaps in access to healthy meals in your communities. School districts, local government entities, and nonprofits are eligible to become a summer sponsor and/or site to provide free, healthy meals, and snacks. This program is federally funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture and administered by ISBE. The first training will be held on **March 4, 2020 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Marion, IL.** To see the full list of trainings, click [here](#). To register for an event, click [here](#).

For an archive of our previously listed Trainings, Events and Webinars, click [here](#).

Youth Opportunities

Youth Development, Programming, & Activities

Army Educational Outreach Program (AEOP): Paid Summer Apprenticeships

The U.S. Army Educational Outreach Program (AEOP) is offering five paid apprenticeship opportunities for both high school students and undergraduate students. Participants will work with a mentor in universities and Army research labs across the country. All apprentices are paid a stipend. **Besides for the CQL Program, the deadline for applications is March 2, 2020.** To review the programs and see if you or your students are eligible, click [here](#).

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

Opportunities for Providers

Administration

Metropolitan Family Services: Community Schools Resource Coordinator Position

[Metropolitan Family Services](#) is looking to hire a **full-time Community Schools Resource Coordinator**. The Resource Coordinator will be working out of the Metropolitan Family Services North Center office *and* Reinberg Elementary School. Applicants must be fluent in Spanish, hold a B.A. in recreation, early childhood education, child development, social work, psychology, or related field. Applicants must also have, at minimum, five years of experience working with children in any educational activity or social service programs. **For the full job description, click [here](#).**

To attend a Hiring Event on **Thursday, February 27, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** and learn about other employment opportunities with Metropolitan Family Services North Center, click [here](#).

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

Funding Opportunities

Youth Development, Programming, & Activities

Youth Service America (YSA): Youth Service Zones Grants

Funded by the [Corporation for National and Community Service](#), Youth Service America's (YSA) Youth Service Zones Grant allows organizations and schools to collaborate with one another in order to increase the youth volunteer rates in their communities. Each Service Zone will receive a grant of \$15,000 (\$5,000 to each of the **3 collaborative entities**) to support program activities. The deadline for applications is **March 27, 2020 at 11:59 p.m.** For more information, click [here](#).

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

Resources for Providers

Administration

Afterschool Alliance Blog: Primary Season Is Here! Where Do Candidates Stand On Afterschool?

The 2020 presidential election is only 10 months away and Democratic candidates have been vocal on issues such as education, student loan forgiveness, increasing teacher pay, childcare, etc. Some candidates have also voiced their support of out-of-school and summer learning programs for youth across the country. On February 10, 2020, President Trump announced his Fiscal Year 2021 budget, with the intention of eliminating funding for 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) programs. As of February 2020, Afterschool Alliance has compiled data on the candidates of *both parties* in regard to where candidates stand on afterschool programming. **Note:** *the candidates that have not addressed afterschool programs are not included in this list.* To read, click [here](#).

Youth Development, Programming, & Activities

Science of Learning and Development (SoLD) Alliance: Afterschool Systems and Settings

The [Science of Learning and Development \(SoLD\) Alliance](#) strengthens systems that bolster whole-child efforts through research, policy, and practice. The [American Institutes for Research wrote a briefing paper on SoLD](#) in afterschool and other environments where young people learn, live, and play. The paper explores key findings from the SoLD Alliance's efforts such as: cultural competence, trauma and adversity, suggestions for supporting high-quality afterschool systems and settings, etc. To read the entire brief, click [here](#).

You For Youth (Y4Y) Blog: Break Out Of The Textbook For Fun With Civics

[You for Youth \(Y4Y\)](#) has published a blog post on how afterschool is the ideal environment to link civics concepts, like the three branches of the U.S. government, the Electoral College, and trade tariffs, to young people's everyday lives. To read the blog, which outlines some of their dynamic and creative civics resources, click [here](#).

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

Were you forwarded this email?

[Click Here](#) to Subscribe to the ACT Now Newsletter!

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 **Emma Spencer (ACT Now - Youth Development Associate)** at Spencere@actnowillinois.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](#).

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