

ACT NOW! NEWSLETTER

Call for Excellent Summer Programming!

Calling all summer program and OST providers interested in sharing the wonderful work you have been doing to support youth, families, and communities in Illinois! To celebrate summer learning opportunities and to highlight the integral role that afterschool programs play in restoring Illinois, ACT Now is looking to showcase programs on our social media platforms during the month of July.

If you are interested in participating and have photos to share out, please email Emma Spencer (ACT Now - Youth Development Associate) at Spencere@actnowillinois with a photo, the name of your program, and caption for what type of programming the photo captures. This can be a screen-shot of virtual programming, a picture of in-person work, or youth and families picking up materials!

Policy Updates

State Policy Updates

Governor Pritzker's Office: Announces All Regions of State May Move to Phase IV of Restore Illinois Plan

On **June 25, 2020**, Governor Pritzker announced that all regions of the state have met health metrics and may move to Phase IV of the **Restore Illinois Plan**. To read the Governor's full statement on this transition and the data behind the decision, click [here](#).

Illinois Department of Child and Family Services: Update Restore Illinois Day Care Guidance and Emergency Rule

On **June 24, 2020**, in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Office of Early Childhood Development, the Illinois Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) issued update guidance for Day Care providers. This guidance aligns with Governor Pritzker's Restore Illinois Plan. To review the guidance, click [here](#). Additionally, DCFS filed an emergency rule making on 407, which went into effect on June 24, 2020, and extends for a maximum of 150 days. To read the emergency rule, click [here](#). **Additions to the rules include the following:**

- Centers may choose to staff classrooms with a qualified early childhood assistant for up to 3 hours of their program day and should document such in the program's Enhanced Staffing Plan.
- Staff qualified to work as Early Childhood Teachers in an Emergency Day Care (EDC) and who served in the role from March-May 2020 can continue to work as an Early Childhood Teacher through July 31, 2020, at the same program which has since reverted to their normal day care license.

Afterschool Alliance: FY21 Appropriations Call to Action

This week, House and Senate representatives will begin the process of deciding how afterschool and summer learning programs will be funded at the federal level for the Fiscal Year 2021. With the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on communities across the country, we know tough decisions lie ahead for everyone. Funding out-of-school time experiences and summer learning programs, like 21st Century Community Learning Centers, should not be one of them. Now more than ever, our Congressional members need to hear how #AfterschoolWorks in our communities. To send a direct message to your legislators in support of afterschool, click [here](#).

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

Trainings, Events and Webinars

Administration

ACT Now: 21st CCLC Virtual Town Hall Recordings

Click [here](#) to access ACT Now's 21st Century Town Hall page and find our archived Town Halls, including our most recent event on **June 24, 2020**, and resources relating to the entire virtual series.

The U.S. Department of Education: 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant Program Summer Symposium

Between July 14, 2020 and July 16, 2020, the U.S Department of Education (ED) will be hosting the Nita M. Lowey 21st CCLC Grant Program 2020 Summer Symposium. The 21st CCLC Summer Symposium is a three-day event focused on providing State Education Agencies (SEAs) and their grantees with relevant plenary sessions and workshops that familiarize grant recipients with successful strategies in implementing and managing all components of the program. To learn more about the symposium, click [here](#). To register for the event, click [here](#).

Youth Development

Illinois State Board of Education Webinar: STEM Curricula for Elementary Educators and Providers

On **July 7, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) will be hosting a webinar to familiarize educators and afterschool providers with its free STEM curricula, developed in collaboration with the International Technology and Engineering Education Association. To register for the event, click [here](#). For more information, contact Steve Parrott at sparrott@isbe.net

Illinois Afterschool Network Webinar Series: Examining Implicit Bias

On **July 22, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**, the Illinois Afterschool Network (IAN) is hosting the first webinar in its series that focuses on implicit bias and its impacts. During Part I, attendees will participate in activities that promote self-awareness and self-reflection, guided by an IAN trainer. To register for the event, click [here](#). On **July 24, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**, IAN will be hosting the second webinar training in this series to help OST providers understand the inequities and implicit biases present in programming and formulate plans to combat them. To register for this webinar, click [here](#).

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

Resources for Providers

Administration

Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation: Payment Protection Program Webinar Recordings Available

On **June 23, 2020**, the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) released two webinar recordings to the public in order to help businesses and lenders understand the federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan Forgiveness Application process. The first webinar focused on businesses and the steps they need to take to complete their loan forgiveness applications. To watch it, click [here](#). The second webinar, for lenders, detailed the process in how those loan forgiveness applications should be reviewed. To access it, click [here](#). To review the entire press release, click [here](#).

Youth Development

The Summer Activity Guide: Unit 3 Released!

The newest unit of the Summer Activity Guide, titled "Passion & Purpose," has been released and promotes self reflection, individuality, and service-learning competencies in youth of all ages through a variety of dynamic and thought-provoking activities and challenges. Click [here](#) to access the guides and the corresponding supporting materials.

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

Opportunities for Providers

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

Youth Opportunities

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

Funding Opportunities

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

[Unsubscribe](#)