

ACTNOW! NEWSLETTER



- 9/9** 21st Century Program Planning and Grant Management Meeting
- 9/14** Reopening & Remote Learning Webinar
- 9/17** Illinois Quality Program Self-Assessment (IL-QPSA) Sneak Peek
- 9/23** Downstate Community Schools Convening
- 9/24** STEM Webinar #1: Teaching About the Public Health Crisis in OST
- 9/30** NBA Math Hoops Training



Policy Updates

Federal Policy Updates

U.S. Department of Agriculture: Federal Summer Meals Program Waivers Extension Announced

On **August 31, 2020**, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced that it is extending nationwide waivers for a variety of programs, including the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and the Seamless Summer Option (SSO), **until December 31, 2020**. This flexibility will allow afterschool and summer learning providers to:

- Continue serving meals at no cost to youth throughout the fall
- Permit meals to be served outside of traditionally-required group settings and meal times
- Waive meal pattern requirements
- Allow parents, families, and guardians to pick-up meals for children

To read the full press release, click [here](#).

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

Trainings, Events and Webinars

Administration

ACT Now Webinar: 21st Century Program Planning and Grant Management

ACT Now will be hosting a webinar for 21st Century Program providers to discuss challenges they are facing with reopening, planning for this school year, and constraints on programs' grants on **September 9, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** There will be opportunities for providers to share concerns and how people are adapting for an untraditional and unprecedented school year. To register for this training, please fill out the following form [here](#). **Note: After you fill out the form, you will receive a Zoom link within 1 business day. You must fill out all mandatory fields in order to register for the training.*

Please email Susan Stanton at: stantons@actnowillinois.org with any questions.

ACT Now Webinar: Reopening and Remote Learning

ACT Now will be holding a webinar for providers on Reopening and Remote Learning! **Join us on September 14, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** for a discussion on the diverse reopening plans in Illinois, share remote learning strategies and best practices for virtual programming with peers, hear from colleagues as they describe their successes and challenges regarding reopening, and receive resources. To register for this training, please fill out the following form [here](#). **Note: After you fill out the form, you will receive a GoToWebinar link within 24 hours. You must fill out all mandatory fields in order to register for the webinar.*

Please email Susan Stanton at: stantons@actnowillinois.org with any questions.

ACT Now Webinar: Illinois Quality Program Self-Assessment Tool (IL-QPSA) Sneak Peek

The Illinois Quality Program Self-Assessment (IL-QPSA) is an online strengths-based self-assessment tool that allows individual out-of-school time (OST) providers the opportunity to self-assess on their performance based on the Illinois Statewide Afterschool Quality Standards.

Join us for a sneak peek webinar to walk you through the tool, as well as the assessment process! This webinar will be hosted on **September 17, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. CT**. To register for the webinar, click [here](#).

ACT Now: Community Schools Convenings

ACT Now will continue to host training events for Community Schools (CS) providers throughout the state during FY21. Please note that more information regarding the regional convenings, is located on our Community Schools Corner page [here](#). Registration links will be developed for each meeting and based upon the corresponding regional group. You will also find the themes of the trainings on the website. **Note: The registration link for the first CS event for each regional group is live!*

The graphic features a blue background with a white rounded rectangle containing the title 'Upcoming FY21 Community Schools Trainings'. Below the title, three columns represent regional groups: 'Downstate' in red, 'Suburbs' in green, and 'Chicago' in blue. Each column lists dates for four events. An 'IMPORTANT!' callout box contains a note about registration links. At the bottom, there is a smartphone icon displaying the 'ACT NOW!' logo and a lightbulb icon.

Downstate	Suburbs	Chicago
SEPT. 23	OCT. 14	OCT. 15
NOV. 12	DEC. 17	OCT. 16
FEB. 12	FEB. 22	DEC. 8
MAR.25	APR. 14	DEC. 9
		FEB. 23
		APR. 22

IMPORTANT!
*Registration links will be developed for each meeting and based upon your regional group

For more information, head to the Community Schools Corner on our website!

ACT NOW!
Afterschool for Children and Teens

Beginning on **September 23, 2020, at 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**, **ACT Now** will be hosting the first Community Schools event for Downstate providers. We will be focusing on Trauma and Youth Development and the training will be facilitated by the Illinois Collaboration On Youth (ICOY). To register for the training, click [here](#).

Illinois Afterschool Network: Professional Development Round Table Discussion

The Illinois Afterschool Network (IAN) is hosting a Professional Development Round Table Discussion on **September 25, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** Join IAN and participating organizations, which include ACT Now, the Illinois Parks and Recreational Association, the Illinois Collaboration On Youth (ICOY), the Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (INCCRRA), and After School Matters, for a deep dive into the diverse professional development opportunities for providers being hosted in the fall. To register for the event, click [here](#).

Youth Development

ACT Now Training: NBA Math Hoops

The NBA Math Hoops program harnesses the competitive fun of a board game in the culturally relevant context of the NBA in order to both develop the cognitive skills of basic arithmetic, decision-making, and visual analysis while simultaneously developing students' intrinsic interest in the real world application of math. On **September 30, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., ACT Now** will be holding a workshop to teach afterschool providers how they can implement NBA Math Hoops in their own programs. Participants will receive free access to NBA Math Hoops materials. To register for this event, click [here](#).

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

Resources for Providers

Youth Development

ACT Now: STEM Curricula Matrix

During the spring, **ACT Now** surveyed Teen REACH programs to determine the STEM interests of their students and areas where they needed more curriculum resources. To respond to these requests, **ACT Now** has compiled a list of high-quality and free curricula based upon the identified STEM topics that youth are interested in learning about. To review the STEM Curricula Matrix, click [here](#).

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

Opportunities for Providers

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Youth Opportunities

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

Funding Opportunities

Youth Development

Chicago Board of Education: Request for Information - Remote Learning Supervision for Children of Essential Workers and High Hardship Index Students

The Chicago Board of Education has extended the deadline for its Request for Information (RFI) on Remote Learning Supervision for Children of Essential Workers and High Hardship Index Students. To review the full RFI, click [here](#). Requests are now due **September 4, 2020 at 2:00**

p.m. Instructions: Please make sure to click on the “Contracting Opportunities” tab at the left of the page. Then click on “Current Opportunities Open to the Public,” and select **Spec # 20-350032**. Click on the date to complete the form.

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](#).

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