

ACTNOW! NEWSLETTER



September

9/30 NBA Math Hoops Training

October

10/7 Community Schools in Illinois: An Effective Strategy to Address Equity, Health, and Academics in Our Schools

10/8 Virtual Quality Standards Training 101

10/13 Illinois Quality Program Self-Assessment Tool (IL-QPSA) Webinar for *New Users*

10/14 Suburbs Community Schools Convening

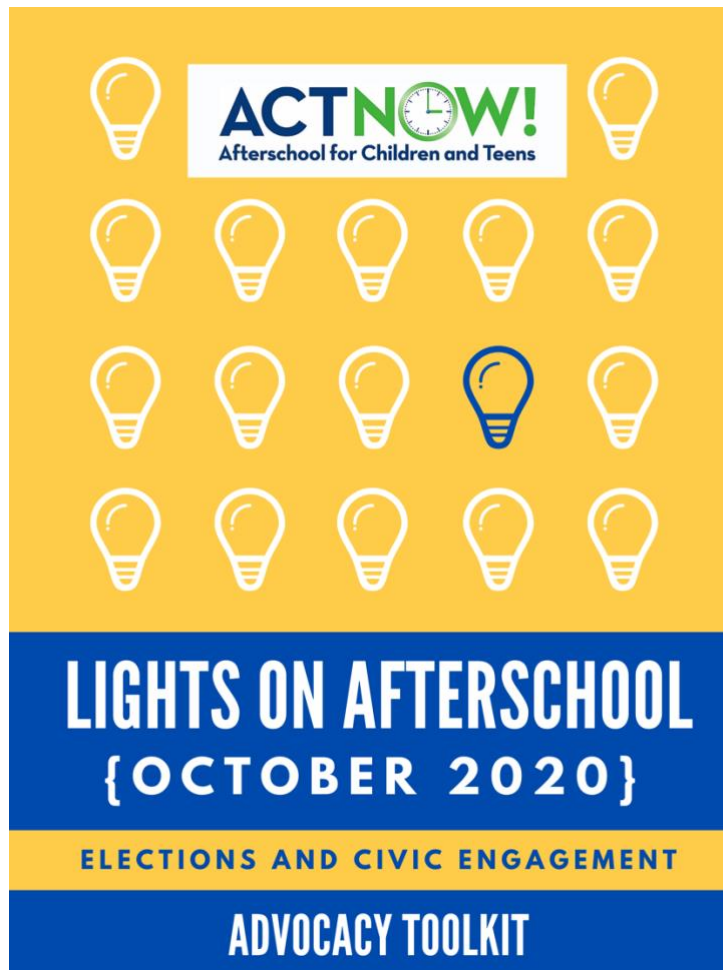
10/15 Chicago Community Schools Convening

Lights On Afterschool 2020 Toolkit

Lights On Afterschool is the only nationwide event celebrating afterschool programs and their important role in the lives of children, families, and communities. We know that Out-Of-School Time (OST) providers have been integral in responding to the diverse needs of young people and their communities as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and continue to offer holistic supports as we approach the fall.

Join us by celebrating afterschool on **October 22nd!**

Use our toolkit in order to advocate for the field, host an event (virtual or in-person), and share what afterschool means to you! To access the toolkit, click [here](#).



Call for Phenomenal Staff and OST Programming!

Calling all OST programs interested in elevating the amazing staff as they continue to support our youth, families, and communities across Illinois! To celebrate afterschool and extended learning providers, promote Lights On Afterschool, and to shine light on the integral role that program staff play in restoring Illinois, ACT Now is looking to showcase staff members and programs on our social media platforms and in our weekly newsletter.

If you are interested in participating, have photos to share out, or would like to nominate someone you know, please email Emma Spencer (ACT Now - Youth Development Associate) at Spencere@actnowillinois.org. Please attach a photo, the name of the staff member or name of the afterschool program, and caption for how this individual or program is working to support young people in the community.

Policy Updates

Federal Policy

CNN: Federal Court's Preliminary Injunction to Extend Census 2020 Deadline Rejected

Last week on **September 24, 2020**, U.S. District Judge Lucy Koh in the Northern District of California issued a preliminary injunction to respond to President Trump's last-minute changes to the Census 2020 schedule. [The preliminary injunction](#) required the Census Bureau to continue counting the country's residents through October 31, 2020, rather than the President's proposed date of September 30, 2020. However, **yesterday evening on September 28, 2020, Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross announced that he intends to conclude the Census on October 5, 2020.** To read more on the issue, click [here](#).

Afterschool Alliance: 21st Century Community Learning Centers Waiver Updates and FAQ

On **September 18, 2020**, State Education Agencies (SEAs), such as the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) received the template to apply for the U.S. Department of Education's 21st Century Community Learning Centers Waiver. This waiver allows 21st Century programs to operate during non-school hours. SEAs must put out notice for public comment before submitting a request to the U.S Department of Education. The Afterschool Alliance reports that at least six states, including Indiana, Kentucky, New York, Oklahoma, West Virginia, and Wyoming, are already accepting public comment. Grantees will need approval from their respective SEA to implement the waiver.

U.S. Department of Agriculture: Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Flexibility Announcement and Additional Funding

On **September 18, 2020**, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that it is waiving area eligibility for Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) at-risk sites. To read more on this announcement, click [here](#). You can also find more information on previous USDA meal flexibilities by clicking [here](#).

Last week, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a continuing resolution, which included a bipartisan agreement that allocates nearly \$8 billion for two nutrition provisions that connect kids and families to meals during the public health crisis. The legislation also ensured that:

- Pandemic EBT is funded and extended through the end of the current school year
- schools and community-based organizations have flexibility for how they serve meals during the pandemic through the end of the current school year

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

Trainings, Events and Webinars

Administration

ACT Now: Community Schools Convenings

ACT Now will continue to host training events for Community Schools (CS) providers throughout the state during FY21.

- On **October 14, 2020**, **ACT Now** is hosting the first meeting for Suburb of Chicago providers. To register for this training on Trauma and Youth Development, click [here](#).
- On **October 15, 2020, and October 16, 2020**, **ACT Now** will be hosting the first meeting for Chicago providers on Vicarious Trauma. To register for either of these days, click [here](#).

More information regarding the regional convenings, and the corresponding registration links, is located on our Community Schools Corner page [here](#).

Upcoming FY21 Community Schools Trainings

<i>Downstate</i>	<i>Suburbs</i>	<i>Chicago</i>
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 Event: Community Schools in Illinois - An Effective Strategy to Address Equity, Health, and Academics in Our Schools

ACT Now has collaborated with community schools to develop a report on their impact. **ACT Now** seeks to share our findings on these effective partners and holistic support systems with you. We will hear from community schools providers themselves as they describe the diverse actions they took to respond to their youths' and communities' needs relating to COVID-19 and racial injustice.

On **October 6, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**, join us for an engaging virtual discussion of our research. Featured speakers include Representative Theresa Mah and more! To register, click [here](#).



ACT Now Training: Illinois Quality Standards 101

ACT Now is providing free online training on the Illinois Statewide Quality Standards in order to help afterschool providers and staff continuously improve the quality of their programs. Join us on **October 8, 2020, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** to:

- dive deep into the background in the Standards
- discuss the benefits of the Standards and the research that link links quality programming to positive outcomes for youth
- explore how to align the Standards with other quality tools
- create a plan for implementing the Standards and developing strategies for overcoming obstacles in implementing quality initiatives
- discuss how to use the Standards in work

To register for the training, click [here](#).

Forefront Webinar: Communications Timeline and How-To for Giving Tuesday

On **October 6, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**, join Forefront for a webinar on building a comprehensive communications timeline for Giving Tuesday and learn about strategies to engage your audience and potential donors. Attendees will receive free tools for video editing and social media scheduling, and more. For more information and to register for the webinar, click [here](#).

Forefront and the Association of Consultants to Nonprofits Webinar: Ask a Consultant - Racial Equity and Social Justice Beyond the Walls of Your Institution

On **October 13, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**, join Forefront and the [Association of Consultants to Nonprofits](#) for a conversation on building racial equity within an organization. This webinar will focus on grounding public-facing work in racial equity and social justice practices. To register for the webinar, click [here](#).

Youth Development

ACT Now STEM Webinar Recording: Talking About the Public Health Crisis in STEM & OST

On **September 24, 2020, ACT Now** hosted the first webinar in our FY21 STEM series which focused on fostering conversations with youth about COVID-19 and the scientific implications and innovations the public health

crisis has pushed professionals in the STEM sectors to come up with. To access the webinar recording, click [here](#).

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

Administration

National Partnership for New Americans: Paycheck Protection Program Loan FAQ and Resources

The National Partnership for New Americans released a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan Forgiveness FAQ with guidelines specific to nonprofits. To access the FAQ, click [here](#). To watch the organization's webinar recording with more information for nonprofits, click [here](#).

Family and Community Partnerships

Forefront: Stimulus Checks Resource

There are still many Illinoisans that have not received stimulus checks provided by the federal government. In particular, those that do not earn enough to file taxes are still eligible for the Economic Impact Payments. If you missed the July 15, 2020 deadline to file 2019 taxes, you can still receive a stimulus check. However, you must take action **before October 15, 2020**. For more information, click [here](#).

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

Opportunities for Providers

Administration

My CHI. My Future: Remote Learning Supervision List

My CHI. My Future. has compiled a list of organizations that are providing supervision and care during the remote learning school day for children ages 3 through 14. Hours, fees, and availability should be confirmed directly with the organization and specific offerings have not been formally approved by the City of Chicago or Chicago Public Schools (CPS). To access this list, click [here](#).

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

Youth Opportunities

Youth Development

The Kimberly A. Lightford Saturday University: Free Youth Program

The Kimberly A. Lightford Saturday University, in collaboration with the Black Star Project, is offering a free, virtual, and comprehensive learning program designed to improve academic performance in youth on **Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** Students will be instructed on reading, writing, and STEM! This program will run until **December 20, 2020**. For more information, click [here](#). To register, click [here](#).

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

Funding Opportunities

Administration

Chicago Housing Authority: Request for Proposals for Academic Support and Career Services for Youth

The Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) is seeking proposals from nonprofit and community-based organizations to provide academic support and career services for youth ages 13-15 during the summer. This Request for Proposals (RFP) closes on **Monday, October 5, 2020**. All interested respondents must register at the CHA supplier portal. To learn more about the RFP and to access the portal, click [here](#).

The Illinois Department of Human Services and The Chicago Community Trust: Healing Illinois Project Request for Proposals

The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) and the Chicago Community Trust has launched the Healing Illinois Project in order to address and respond to systematic racial inequity present in our communities. The Request for Proposals (RFP) is for nonprofits and community-based organizations across the state to initiate this work. \$4.5 million in grants will be awarded to organizations conducting racial healing activities. For more information on the grant and RFP, as well as upcoming information sessions, click [here](#).

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

Were you forwarded this email?

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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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