

ACT NOW!

NEWSLETTER

Policy Updates

State Policy

Illinois Department of Public Health: COVID-19 Vaccination Sites Ready to Administer Pfizer Vaccine to Youth 12 to 15 Years Old

On **May 12, 2021**, the [Illinois Department of Public Health](#) (IDPH) announced vaccination locations across the state are prepared to administer the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to young people ages 12 to 15 years old. IDPH announced that schools may partner with the local health department or pharmacy to set up vaccination clinics for students. To access information on vaccinations, click [here](#).

Illinois Department of Public Health: \$225 Million Investment to Expand COVID-19 Testing in Middle and High Schools Statewide

On **May 12, 2021**, the [Illinois Department of Public Health](#) (IDPH) stated that it will invest \$225 million to expand access to COVID-19 testing to middle and high schools at low to no cost across Illinois. To learn more, click [here](#).

Advance Illinois: Governor JB Pritzker Supports Evidence-Based Funding Formula for FY22

In early May, Governor JB Pritzker announced that he is in favor of appropriating \$350 million in general revenue funds for Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) for FY22. This appropriation will allow school districts across the state to invest in long-term supports and services for students. This announcement comes after Governor Pritzker excluded the EBF line in his FY22 budget proposal in February. To learn more, click [here](#).

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

Trainings, Events and Webinars

Annual Lobby Day to End Hunger

TODAY at 3:30 p.m., our friends at the [YMCA Metropolitan Chicago](#), [Greater Chicago Food Depository](#), [United Way of Metro Chicago](#), [Illinois Partners for Human Service](#), and the [Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago](#), are hosting their Annual Lobby Day to End Hunger! Special guests include Senator Dick Durbin and First Lady MK Pritzker. Panelists will discuss the importance of community-based organizations in providing meals and ending hunger for families and youth in the state. To register for this online event, click [here](#).

Discussion with Providers about Vaccine Eligibility and Distribution for Children and Youth

The [Illinois Collaboration for Youth](#) (ICOY) and the [Illinois Department of Public Health](#) (IDPH) are hosting a virtual discussion on **May 19, 2021, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.**, for afterschool providers and community-based organizations (CBOs) that serve young people across the state of Illinois. Participants will learn about vaccine eligibility and distribution for children and youth age 12-15. IDPH is interested in partnering with community providers, including summer camps and afterschool programs, to get as many children vaccinated as possible. As schools will soon be dismissing for the summer, IDPH is eager to work CBOs that may be serving this age group to spread the news and to set up vaccine clinics as appropriate. To register for the conversation, click [here](#).

Core Area	Organization	Name of Event/Training	Date	Registration Link
Administration	ACT Now	21st Century Town Hall Series	June 1, 2021 June 14, 2021 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Click here
	American Bar Association	Intersection of Identities: Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and the Asian American and Pacific Islander Experience	May 24, 2021, at 12:00 p.m.	Click here

Professional Development	National Summer Learning Association	Summer Youth Employment Best Practices	May 19, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.	Click here
	Illinois State Board of Education	ISBE Virtual Community Gathering with Rockford SD 205 and Harlem SD 122	May 19, 2021, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	
	Nevada Afterschool Network and Respectful Ways	How to Build Resilient Schools and Thriving Communities Through the Use of Trauma-Informed Practices and Programs	May 20, 2021, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Click here
	Institute for Educational Leadership	Slowing Learning Loss and Accelerating Learning Recovery: Parents as Essential Partners	June 3, 2021, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Click here
Youth Development	American Youth Policy Forum	Recovery for Young Adults - A Series of Virtual Seminars Part I	May 20, 2021, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.	Click here
	CASEL	Social Emotional Learning & Young Adult's Futures	June 18, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.	Click here
Family and Community Partnerships	Chalkbeat Chicago	How Schools can Re-Engage Chicago's Missing Families	TODAY at 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.	Click here
	National Summer Learning Association	Engaged: Using Summer to Connect to Students and Families	May 26, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	Click here

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

Resources for Providers

Administration

ShareMyLesson Resources: Reopening Schools and Programs

[ShareMyLesson](#) has collected resources and materials to support educators and afterschool providers make the transition to in-person instruction. There are also resources on hybrid programming and mental health and social-emotional learning curriculum. To access these resources, click [here](#).

Youth Development

Learning Policy Institute Brief: Summer Learning and Beyond - Opportunities for Creating Equity

[The Learning Policy Institute](#) has released a brief highlighting how summer is an excellent time for educators and program providers to develop social-emotional learning programming for youth and provides families with equitable access to support services. To read the brief, click [here](#).

National Summer Learning Association: National Summer Learning Week 2021 Resources

[The National Summer Learning Association](#) (NSLA) has compiled a variety of resources for afterschool and summer learning providers to utilize in celebration of National Summer Learning Week (July 12 - July 16). Materials include social media content, event ideas and activities, and toolkits for doing outreach to legislators, community members, and families. To access these resources, click [here](#).

Family and Community Partnerships

[The Federal Communications Commission](#) has established a temporary program to help families afford Internet service during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Emergency Broadband Benefit program provides a discount for eligible households and can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers. Eligible households can enroll through a [participating broadband provider](#) or directly with the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) using an [online or mail-in application](#). To learn more about the benefit, click [here](#). You can also call **833-511-0311**.

Safety, Health, and Nutrition

Illinois State Board of Education and Illinois Department of Public Health: Community COVID-19 Vaccine Communication Resources

[The Illinois State Board of Education](#) (ISBE) and the [Illinois Department of Public Health](#) (IDPH) have provided the following resources to support you in partnering with a community vaccine provider and communicating about the vaccine with students and families:

- **[Hosting a Vaccination Event](#)**: Contact information and instructions for reaching out to a community vaccine provider for your district to host a vaccination event at one or more schools
- **Letter to Parents** (in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)): Letter to send to parents and families on either IDPH and ISBE letterhead or district letterhead to communicate about options for eligible children to receive the COVID-19 vaccine if your district does not host a vaccination event
- **[Strategies to Build Vaccine Confidence](#)**
- **[How to Talk About the COVID-19 Vaccine](#)**

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

Opportunities for Providers

Administration

COVID-19 Relief Sign On Letter

Illinois is receiving a historical level of federal aid to support afterschool and summer learning providers. As a result, the Coalition has written a letter highlighting several recommendations for state agencies to consider when allocating and utilizing COVID-19 relief aid. To advocate alongside us and read the letter, click [here](#). To sign on, click [here](#). **The deadline to sign on is Friday, May 21, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.**

Complete the Survey!

We launched our annual spring Resource Survey!

Take the [Survey!](#)

The information you share will be critical in helping us continue to serve your needs as an afterschool professional and expand upon the services we already offer. We are also, for a limited time, sending resources to interested respondents. **People who complete the survey will be entered into a drawing to win a \$50 Target gift card or a \$50 Amazon gift card.**

Youth Development

NextWaveSTEM Professional Development: STEM & Emerging Technology Trainings

[NextWaveSTEM](#) is hosting a variety of professional development opportunities for educators and afterschool providers looking to facilitate STEM programming for youth. Trainings surround STEM curriculum on robotics, coding, and more, materials, and instructional strategies. Please Note: After completing each one-hour webinar, Illinois educators will receive one ISBE professional development hour - sent via email. To review these trainings, click [here](#).

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

Youth Development

My CHI. My Future. Chicago Park District and Chicago Parks Foundation: Youth Summer Kickback Request for Proposal Live

[My CHI. My Future.](#), the [Chicago Park District](#), and the [Chicago Parks Foundation](#) are soliciting applications from community-based organizations in the City of Chicago for its Youth Summer Kickback grant program. This grant opportunity aims to support organizations and out-of-school time (OST) programs in hiring teens and young adults during the summer. To learn more about eligibility based on

community and to apply for the grant program, click [here](#). **Applications close May 23, 2021, at 11:59 p.m.**

Illinois State Board of Education and Illinois Lottery: New STEAM Grant Program Open

In collaboration with the Illinois Lottery, the [Illinois State Board of Education](#) (ISBE) is launching the School STEAM Grant Program. The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is now available and the grant program aims to provide programming available to low-income students in disadvantaged neighborhoods. The grant places priority on programs that provide hands-on STEAM learning or that focus on encouraging young women to enter STEAM fields. To learn more about eligibility and apply, click [here](#). **Applications are due June 14, 2021.**

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!

[Unsubscribe](#)

FOLLOW US

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

One North Dearborn, Suite 1000, Chicago, IL 60602 | Tel: [312.877.0725](tel:312.877.0725)

ACT Now Coalition ♦ 2021 All rights reserved.

[Donate](#) | [Visit our website](#)

