ACT Now & Sign On!

ACT Now: 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, ACT Now has written a letter highlighting several recommendations for state agencies to consider when allocating and utilizing COVID-19 relief aid. To advocate alongside ACT Now and read the letter, click here. To sign on, click here.

Policy Updates

Federal Policy

President Joseph Biden: American Family Plan Released

On April 28, 2021, President Joseph Biden revealed the American Family Plan, which aims to support families and invest in young people. Key aspects of the plan include:

- Investing in the country’s education system to provide universal, preschool, and two years of free community college for each American individual.
- Investing in the child care system
- Comprehensive paid family and medical leave for families
- Extending tax cuts

To read the White House’s fact sheet on the plan, click here. The plan will be sent to U.S. Congress for deliberation.
Trainings, Events and Webinars

Note to Members: Afterschool as a Safe Space Training CANCELED

ACT Now has canceled the Afterschool as a Safe Space webinar series. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to Emma Vibber (vibber@actnowillinois.org).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Area</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Name of Event/Training</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Registration Link</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td><strong>ACT Now</strong></td>
<td>21st Century Town Hall Series</td>
<td>May 17, 2021, June 1, 2021, June 14, 2021 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Click <strong>here</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago</strong></td>
<td>Brighter Prospects for Chicago’s Youth: Strengthening Summer Jobs and Beyond</td>
<td>May 5, 2021, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Click <strong>here</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Development</td>
<td><strong>Learning Policy Institute</strong></td>
<td>Accelerating Learning: Best Practices for Expanded Learning Time</td>
<td>May 4, 2021, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Click <strong>here</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Hunt Institute</strong></td>
<td>Race &amp; Education: Preparing the Next Generation of BIPOC STEM Leaders</td>
<td>May 5, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Click <strong>here</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ShareMyLesson</strong></td>
<td>Building Trusted Spaces and SEL Muscles: How Adults and Students can Heal and Thrive</td>
<td>May 12, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Click <strong>here</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Illinois AfterSchool Network</strong></td>
<td>Summer Health &amp; Safety Planning During COVID</td>
<td>May 19, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Click <strong>here</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Development</td>
<td><strong>National Summer</strong></td>
<td>Creating Healing-Centered Summer Programs</td>
<td>May 5, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Click <strong>here</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>
For an archive of our previously listed Trainings, Events and Webinars, click here.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Safety, Health, and Nutrition</th>
<th>Learning Association</th>
<th>For All Abilities: Mindfulness and Yoga with Grand Love</th>
<th>May 4, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.</th>
<th>Click here</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ShareMyLesson</td>
<td>Medication and Mindfulness Practices for the Busy Mind - Part II</td>
<td>May 5, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Click here</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ShareMyLesson</td>
<td>Practicing Mindfulness with the Holistic Life Foundation</td>
<td>May 6, 2021, at 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Click here</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ShareMyLesson</td>
<td>Virtual Zumba: An Exercise Party for Your Body - Part II</td>
<td>May 19, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Click here</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forefront</td>
<td>Balancing Act - Safety and Operations Plans During COVID</td>
<td>May 20, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Click here</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Resources for Providers

Administration

Illinois State Board of Education: Return to In-Person Instruction Guide

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has released a guide for school administrators, educators, and out-of-school time (OST) providers to utilize in preparation of returning to in-person instruction or programming. To read the guide, click here.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Updated Guidance for Operating Youth and Summer Camps during COVID-19

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have updated its guidance for providers facilitating youth development and summer learning programs amidst the pandemic. To review the document along with a variety of resources for planning for summer 2021 operations, click here.

eSchool News Article: How to Choose a STEM Platform for Hybrid Learning
eSchool News has written an article on how to elect a STEM learning platform for hybrid instruction in order to support program providers facilitate STEM in an ever-changing environment. To read the article, click here.

**Youth Development**

**ShareMyLesson Resources: Celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month**

ShareMyLesson has compiled a variety of resources on celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) heritage for afterschool providers to incorporate into programming. There are videos, lesson plans, and strategies for hosting deep conversations relating to historical racism in the United States. To access these resources, click here.

**eSchool News Article: 10 Learning Channels for Youth**

eSchool News has written an article for educators, families, and afterschool providers highlighting ten learning channels for children and youth to bolster learning while at-home. Topics include mathematics, earth science, and more. To review the article, click here.

**EducationWeek Article: How to Discuss the Trial of Derek Chauvin with Young People**

EducationWeek has compiled some strategies for educators and out-of-school time (OST) providers looking to discuss the trial of Derek Chauvin with students and young people in a constructive and supportive manner. To read the article, click here.

**Safety, Health, and Nutrition**

**National Federation of Families: Celebrate Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week**

This week is Children's Mental Health Awareness week. The National Federation of Families has created activities for families to help educate their children on mental health, including the mood crew. To access these resources, click here.

*For an archive of our previously listed Trainings, Events and Webinars, click here.*

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**Opportunities for Providers**

**Administration**
ACT Now & Complete the Survey!

**ACT Now** is launching its annual spring Resource Survey!  
**Take the Survey!**

The information you share with us will be critical in helping ACT Now 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. **The survey closes May 14, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. People who complete the survey will be entered into a drawing to win a $50 Target gift card or a $50 Amazon gift card.**

**Illinois State Board of Education: FY22 21st CCLC Program Grant Evaluators**

The Illinois State Board of Education's (ISBE) Wellness Department is seeking grant evaluator applications for the FY22 21st CCLC grant competition. To be considered for this opportunity, please complete the survey. After completing the survey, please send your resume or curriculum vitae describing your expertise and experience to jbaiter@isbe.net.

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

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**Youth Opportunities**

**Administration**

**City Colleges of Chicago: Advancing Chicago's Education Scholarship**

City Colleges of Chicago (CCC) are soliciting applications for the Advancing Chicago's Education (ACE) scholarship. This opportunity is open for 2020 Chicago Public Schools (CPS) graduates who are planning on becoming first-time college students. To learn more about the scholarship, eligibility, and to apply, click [here](#).

**Chicago Public Schools, City Colleges of Chicago, and Illinois State University: Teach Chicago Tomorrow Pathways Partnership Program**

Chicago Public Schools (CPS), City Colleges of Chicago (CCC), and Illinois State University (ISU) have partnered to provide young people with The Teach Chicago Tomorrow Pathways Partnership Program. This program is a structured pathway for aspiring teachers to meet like-minded students, complete college, earn their teaching credential, and start a CPS teaching career. To learn more about this program and to apply, click [here](#).
Youth Development

The Art Institute of Chicago: The Obama Portraits Teen Poetry Competition

The Art Institute of Chicago is hosting a competition for City of Chicago high school young adults interested in poetry, art, and spoken word. 9 winners receive a Visa gift card of either $250, $100, or $50! To learn more about eligibility, click here. All submissions are due May 23, 2021, at 11:59 p.m.

Illinois State Board of Education: 2021-22 Student Advisory Council Application Open

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is soliciting applications from young people for its 2021-22 ISBE Student Advisory Council (SAC). The deadline to submit an application is May 31, 2021. To learn more and to apply, click here. For questions, please contact Dr. Leslie Ward in the Student Care Department at lward@isbe.net.

For an archive of our previously listed Youth Opportunities, click here.

Funding Opportunities

For an archive of our previously listed Funding Opportunities, click here.

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