

ACT NOW!

NEWSLETTER

Policy Updates

Federal Policy

[President Joseph Biden: FY22 Discretionary Budget Finalized and Released](#)

On **May 28, 2021**, President Joseph Biden released the final FY22 Discretionary budget with heightened support of afterschool and summer learning providers across the country. Specific funding levels in the budget proposal that support afterschool and summer include:

- **\$1.30 billion for the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers line**, \$52 million above the 2021 enacted level of \$1.25 billion.
- **\$36.5 billion for Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies**, an increase of \$20 billion above the 2021 enacted level. **Schools are able to spend Title I funds on afterschool and summer learning programs.**
- **\$443 million for Title IV Full Service Community Schools**, an increase of \$413 million, to provide comprehensive services and expand evidence-based models that meet the holistic needs of children, families, and communities.
- **\$1.22 billion for Title IV Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants.** These funds are for providing students with a well-rounded education, ensure safe and supportive learning environments, and use technology to improve instruction. Allowable uses also include afterschool STEM activities.
- **\$138 million for Child Care Access Means Parents in School**, an increase of \$83 million above the 2021 enacted level.
- **\$1.36 billion for Career, Technical Education (CTE)**, an increase of \$20 million for the Perkins V CTE program.

Funding in support of afterschool and summer learning providers allocated to the Department of Health and Human Services and other agencies includes:

- **\$7.34 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)**, an increase of \$1.5 billion over the FY 2021 enacted level
- **\$1.12 billion for Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)**, which supports AmeriCorps and VISTA that are a key asset for hundreds of afterschool programs.
- **\$120 million for Youth Mentoring** to support mentoring programs including those provided through afterschool programs, an increase of \$20 million over FY 2021.

State Policy

Illinois General Assembly: FY22 Budget Agreed Upon and Passed

Yesterday, June 1, 2021, the Illinois General Assembly passed a \$42.3 billion state budget plan ([SB 2800](#)) for FY22. The state budget will include:

- **\$14.5 million for Teen REACH**
 - An **additional \$10 million** from the State Coronavirus Urgent Remediation Emergency Fund to the Department of Human Services for the Teen REACH program
- **\$20 million** for the Illinois State Board of Education's (ISBE) **After School Programs**
 - An **additional \$10 million** will be appropriated from the State Coronavirus Urgent Remediation Emergency Fund to the Illinois State Board of Education for costs associated with implementing after school programs
- **\$3.4 million for After School Matters**
- **\$350 million for the evidence-based funding** line for K-12 schools across the state, bringing the total to \$9.2 billion
- **\$3.4 billion for the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)**
- **\$125.8 million for Community Service Programs** for persons with mental illness, Child with mental illness, child and adolescent mental health programs, mental health transitions or state operated mental health facilities.
- **\$1.5 billion from the American Rescue Plan (ARPA)** is expected to be allocated for economic recovery programs, public health, affordable housing, and violence prevention programs including afterschool programming and summer youth employment opportunities

- **\$100 million of which will be specifically for violence prevention programs, afterschool programming and summer youth employment opportunities**
- **\$7.4 billion for human services**
- **\$1.9 billion for higher education**
- **\$230 million for Grants for Free Distribution of Food Supplies and for Grants for Nutrition Program Food Centers under the USDA Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program**

[Chicago Tribune Article: ISBE Board Meeting and Funding for Afterschool](#)

On **May 27, 2021**, the Chicago Tribune highlighted ACT Now's testimony at the Illinois State Board of Education Board meeting. Community schools, older youth, and collaboration between schools and community-based organizations were among some of the things Susan Stanton from ACT Now urged ISBE to invest in. Some of our partners that were also highlighted include Brighton Park Neighborhood Council and West Chicago Elementary School District 33.

[Illinois Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development: Restore Illinois Licensed Day Care Guidance & License Exempt School-Aged Guidance](#)

On **May 26, 2021**, the Illinois Governor's Office of Childhood Development released updated guidance for licensed day care providers and license exempt school-aged providers. The guidance reflects the Governor's announcement that effective May 17, 2021, the State of Illinois entered the Bridge Phase of Restore Illinois. Technical changes have been made to Paragraph E, PPE Face Coverings, and further changes to this Guidance were made.

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

Trainings, Events and Webinars

Core Area	Organization	Name of Event/Training	Date	Registration Link
Administration	ACT Now	21st Century Town Hall Series	June 14, 2021, from	REGISTER

			11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	
	<u>Illinois Partners for Human Service</u>	Updates on the FY22 State Budget and Legislation Impacting Health and Human Services	June 7, 2021, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	<u>REGISTER</u>
	<u>National Summer Learning Association</u>	The Role of ESSER in Funding Summer Arts Opportunities	June 10, 2021, at 12:00 p.m.	<u>REGISTER</u>
Professional Development	<u>My CHI. My Future.</u>	Trauma-Informed and Mental Health Virtual Conference for Youth Developers	June 8, 2021 and June 9, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	<u>REGISTER</u>
Safety, Health, and Nurtrition	<u>Illinois Action for Children</u>	COVID-19 Vaccine Virtual Town Hall	June 11, 2021, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.	<u>REGISTER</u>

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

Resources for Providers

Youth Development

[ShareMyLesson: Resources for Celebrating Pride Month](#)

[ShareMyLesson](#) has organized and developed free lesson plans, activities, and resources for providers to utilize in supporting and celebrating LGBTQ students and inspire meaningful advocacy.

[eSchool News Article: 8 Awesome Podcasts for Youth, Families, and Teachers](#)

[eSchool News](#) has published an article featuring several podcasts for children, families, and teachers to utilize in order to process emotions, become curious, review situations of potential concern, and learn more about the science. These podcasts are great resources for afterschool programming and hybrid or virtual facilitation.

[eSchool News Article: 11 Resources to Avoid the Summer Slide](#)

[eSchool News](#) has compiled 11 resources for afterschool providers to use for summer programming to combat summer slide in learning outcomes for young people. These resources surround STEM and Social-Emotional Learning activities for a hybrid and in-person instruction.

Safety, Health, and Nutrition

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: New Guidance for Operating Youth Camps](#)

[The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) have released updated guidance for operating youth camps for summer 2021. Additional sections surround planning and preparing for camp, encouraging families to vaccinate eligible youth, outdoor mask use, and resources for staff and providers for supporting youth with serious health conditions.

[EducationWeek Article: Mental Health Problems Loom for the COVID Generation - Here is what Schools Can Do](#)

[EducationWeek](#) has written an article on how school districts, educators, and afterschool providers can help to provide services for youth as they begin to process the COVID-19 pandemic. There are strategies and insights into how schools and out-of-school time providers may collaborate to support young people.

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

Opportunities for Providers

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

Youth Opportunities

Youth Development

[Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership and Thrive Chicago: Youth Career Introduction Fair](#)

[The Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership](#) and [Thrive Chicago](#) are hosting a Youth Career Introduction Fair on **Thursday, June 3, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** This fair aims to highlight employment opportunities for young people. Young adults age 16 to 24 are invited to learn more about the skillsets they need to succeed and the experiences available to them right now!

[OneGoal: Summer Hub CHI](#)

[OneGoal Summer Hub CHI](#) is a free resource designed to connect all Chicago 2021 graduates to information, resources, and relationships that will help them prepare for their next big step. The website hosts materials for learning how to apply to higher education institutions, understanding the financial aspects of pursuing a degree, and more. While this website is geared towards youth in the City of Chicago, many of the compiled resources can be used to help guide college and career exploration opportunities for young people across the state of Illinois.

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

Funding Opportunities

Youth Development

[America's Promise Alliance: Power of Youth Challenge Mini Grants](#)

[America's Promise Alliance](#) is launching a new round of \$300 mini-grants through the Power of Youth Challenge, made possible through support from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. The Power of Youth Challenge provides funds, youth coaching, and a peer network for youth ages 13 to 19 across the U.S. leading service projects. Priority will be given to community-based organizations (CBOs) that apply by **June 15, 2021**.

[Funders for LGBTQ Issues: Illumination Grants for Black Trans Women in Visual Arts](#)

[The Funders for LGBTQ Issues](#) have developed the Illuminations Grant for Black Trans Women Visual Artists, a \$10,000 grant, in order to support visual artists who are self-identified Black trans women and trans femmes. There is no age requirement to apply for this grant opportunity. **Applications are due June 30, 2021.**

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

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