to receive the Federal Policy Updates. To get more pricing and information, contact vibbere@actnowillinois.org.

To sign up or learn more, click here.

ATTEND AN UPCOMING WEBINAR ABOUT THE USE OF SEL (Social and Emotional Learning) in afterschool programs. Each webinar will feature a different topic and presenter. Curious about more specific opportunities? ACT Now can create and deliver personalized trainings fit for your organization's needs. Contact vibbere@actnowillinois.org for pricing and more information.

Just Getting Started?

Become a Member
The weekly newsletter provides the most up-to-date resources and information. Become a member by signing up to receive the newsletter.

Afterschool Map
The first statewide database for out-of-school time programs. Be sure to add your program to our map!

Startup Toolkit
A complete guide to starting your own afterschool program.

We developed statewide Quality Standards that capture practices that have been demonstrated, through research, to lead to quality programs and positive outcomes for children.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Grow and advance your program and workforce with our data and research driven Professional Development (PD) tools.

STEM
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) are part of the hottest growing segment of the workforce. In order to ensure economic growth, to innovate, and to improve, we need to create equitable STEM opportunities for all youth.

We work with stakeholders to develop and pursue a shared policy agenda to increase the quality and availability of afterschool programs. Use these resources to help us advocate!

Community Schools
Community Schools (CS) are public schools that partner with community-based organizations to offer a range of supports and access to children, youth, families, and communities. While each CS is unique, they all share four key tenets: (1) Extended Learning (2) Integrated Family Supports (3) Family and Community Engagement (4) Shared Leadership. We developed statewide Quality Standards that capture practices that have been demonstrated, through research, to lead to quality programs and positive outcomes for children.

Community Schools in Illinois Report
A multi-year report on the impact of Community Schools across the state. Click on the image to access the report and a recording of a virtual discussion between CS providers themselves.

Community Schools Corner
The CS Corner on our website features a variety of resources for CS providers, including past webinars.

Community Schools Regional Meetings
Interested in connecting with other CS stakeholders? Join us for one of our quarterly regional meetings! Each meeting will feature a different topic and presenter.

Quality Standards
We developed statewide Quality Standards that capture practices that have been demonstrated, through research, to lead to quality programs and positive outcomes for children.

Quality Standards Guide
Need help navigating the Quality Standards? Sign up for our Quality Standards SEL Training to personalize your path of instruction.

Quality Standards Resource Guide
Resources, tips, activities, and reflective questions for each of the 21 standards.

SEL Webinar Series
Afterschool STEM Guidebook
You do not have to have a STEM background or have access to an expensive lab. This guidebook includes resources on how to fund your program, gate PD opportunities, build a curriculum with activity recommendations, and ways in which you can advocate for policy changes.

STEM Curricula Matrix
A work guide that outlines engaging STEM curricula to incorporate into any afterschool or out-of-school time programming.

College and Career Experiences in OST
A toolkit to assist in the planning and implementation of Social and Emotional Learning in afterschool.

The Illinois Quality Program Self-Assessment
An easy-to-use tool that allows providers the opportunity to assess their program’s performance based on the Quality Standards. Providers can:
- Receive free one-on-one technical assistance
- Capture and analyze data
- Automate surveys across program sites

The State of Afterschool in Illinois 2018 Report
A detailed look at the data representing the vast landscape of afterschool across the state.