Afterschool NASA Event

On Thursday, October 20, 2022, NASA and Million Girls Moonshot will host a virtual event featuring a pre-recorded International Space Station interaction. During the event, NASA will host a live Q&A with scientists and engineers to answer participant's questions.

Policy Updates

State Updates

Illinois Department of Public Health Endorses Bivalent COVID-19 Booster Recommendation for Children 5 and Older

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is recommending parents and guardians get children vaccinated with the new Bivalent COVID-19 booster. This push from the IDPH comes after CDC released data showing that 16 counties in Illinois are rated at Medium Community Level for COVID-19.

Governor JB Pritzker Recognizes Lights On Afterschool
Governor J.B. Pritzker has proclaimed **October 20, 2022**, as Lights On Afterschool Day! In the proclamation, Governor JB Pritzker spoke to the importance of afterschool programs their role in helping students in their social and emotional development. We are thrilled to have support from the Governor and appreciate his recognition of the out-of-school time (OST) field in Illinois!

*For an archive of previously listed policy updates, click [here](#).*

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**Trainings, Events and Webinars**

To register for all upcoming **ACT Now** trainings, please sign up for the **ACT Now Center for Afterschool Learning (ANCAL)**. ANCAL is an online learning and training platform that is FREE for all Illinois afterschool and OST professionals. Within this new online learning system, you will be able to access a full list of all of our professional development opportunities!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Area</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Name of Event/Training</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Registration Link</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Safety, Health, and Nutrition</td>
<td>ACT Now</td>
<td>SEL Webinar #1: Youth and Self</td>
<td>October 26, 2022, from 10:00 a.m to 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td><a href="#">REGISTER</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Food Research &amp; Action Center</td>
<td>Opportunities to Connect Eligible Immigrant Families to SNAP: Reflections from USDA and Community Partners</td>
<td>October 20, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td><a href="#">REGISTER</a></td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>ACT Now</td>
<td>ACT Now Quality Standards 101 Training</td>
<td>November 2, 2022, from 10:00 a.m to 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td><a href="#">REGISTER</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Development</td>
<td>ACT Now</td>
<td>21st CCLC Town Hall</td>
<td>November 17, 2022, from 10:00 a.m to 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td><a href="#">REGISTER</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Learning Policy Institute</td>
<td>Whole Child Policy: Putting the Science of Learning and Development into Practice</td>
<td>October 26, 2022, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td><a href="#">REGISTER</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gender Summit</td>
<td>Gender Summit 2022</td>
<td>October 31, 2022</td>
<td><a href="#">REGISTER</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>National Girls Collaborative Project</td>
<td>STEM Stories: Women’s Experiences Advocating for Equity</td>
<td>November 1, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td><a href="#">REGISTER</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Resources for Providers

**Administration**

**Update: ACT Now Advisory Council Meeting**

ACT Now has made the decision to cancel the 21st CCLC Advisory Council meeting for Wednesday, **October 19, 2022**, to ensure that there is representation from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). The meeting has been canceled and will be rescheduled in the next few days. So please keep an eye out for further communication. For questions or concerns, please contact Nikki Gillani (Afterschool Resources and Support Specialist – School Partnerships) at gillanin@actnowillinois.org.

**Safety, Health, Nutrition**

**Vaccine Equity**

The Vaccine Equity Cooperative developed a set of recommendations to ensure all children receive equitable access to the COVID-19 vaccine.

**Youth Development**

**YOU Belong in STEM Initiative**
The U.S. Department of Education launched the "YOU Belong in STEM" Initiative on October 12, 2022. The goal of this initiative is to help school districts and their programmatic partners redesign systems and learning spaces to make sure students receive a well-rounded STEM education.

For an archive of our previously listed Resources for Providers, click here.

Opportunities for Providers

Administration

Fall Field Trip Planning

The Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum released a Fall Field Trip Planning Guide. The guide is designed to help prepare students for their field trip experience and contains tips to make the most out of a visit to the Nature Museum. To schedule field trip at the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, click here.

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

Youth Opportunities

Youth Development

Teen Innovators Club

Teen Innovators is a program for students ages 11 to 16 practice creative thinking through mentoring and leadership classes that are led by teens, for teens. Youth in 4th -to 8th grades are able to join Teen Innovators clubs this fall to take part in building practical life (and leadership) skills and advocating for climate change awareness.

TechGirls Opportunity

TechGirls is an interactive technology and computer camp and cultural immersion opportunity for girls ages 15 to 17. Girls participate in skill-development workshops with tech professionals, engage in job shadow experiences in various cities, and visit sites in Washington D.C.

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

Administrators

CLARIFICATION: After School Programs Grant

The Illinois State Board of Education has released the After School Programs Grant. The purpose of this funding opportunity is to establish and sustain high-quality after-school programs for students across the state of Illinois. This Request for Proposals (RPF) is specifically for community-based organizations (CBOs) and totals $3 million. Proposals must be submitted no later than November 14, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.

Safety, Health, Nutrition

Expanded Mental Health Services Grant

On October 3, 2022, the U.S Department of Education released two grants centered around mental health. School-Based Mental Health Services (SBMH) provides funding to schools to increase the number of credentialed school-based mental health professionals. The second program, the Mental Health Service Professional Demonstration (MHSP) grants, support districts in hiring additional school-based mental health service providers in high-need districts by boosting the mental health profession pipeline. There is a technical assistance webinar TODAY on October 18, 2022. The deadline for submitting applications is November 3, 2022.

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

Were you forwarded this email?

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Call for Resources

If you have any questions, please contact Emma Spencer (Policy and Communications Manager) at Spencere@actnowillinois.org
**NOTE:** We sort our trainings and resources by the Core Areas in the Illinois Statewide Afterschool Quality Standards to promote better understanding and implementation of the Standards. **Blue headings denote a Core Area.** To learn more about the Quality Standards, click [here](#).

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