



Policy Updates

State Updates

[Gov. J.B. Pritzker Promises Free College and Preschool for All in Second Term](#)

In his inauguration speech, Governor J.B. Pritzker promised to expand preschool to all Illinois families and make college tuition free for working-class people by the end of his second term. In early February, Governor J.B. Pritzker is expected to release a budget proposal for Fiscal Year (FY) 24.

[Education Bills Passed During the Lam-Duck Legislative Session](#)

[Chalkbeat](#) published an article highlighting education bills that were passed during the lame-duck legislative session. One of the bills highlighted in the article was Senator Karina Villa's bill, D-West Chicago, [HB 1688](#), which will provide an initial training and annual refresher course for drivers providing transportation to students in vehicles that can carry 10 or fewer students.

[Paid Leave for All Workers Act](#)

On **January 10, 2023**, the Illinois legislature passed the [Paid Leave for All Workers \(PLFAW\) Act](#). The new legislation will require private employers to provide earned paid leave to employees to be used for any reason. Governor Pritzker has announced he will sign the legislation. The PLFAW Act will take effect on **January 1, 2024**, and will provide nearly all Illinois workers with a minimum of 40 hours of paid leave during a designated twelve-month period.

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

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!

ACT Now Events:

- **ACT Now STEM Club Training #2:** January 25, 2023, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- **STEM Webinar: Creating Collaboration:** January 31, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- **RPSA YDS Quarterly Meeting #3:** February 8, 2023, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.
- **ACT Now SEL Webinar: Youth and Youth:** February 15, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

External Events:

- **Brookings Institute: Understanding and addressing gender, class, and racial disparities in college enrollment:** January 23, 2023, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- **Illinois AfterSchool Network: How to Realize and Recognize the Impact of Community Violence on Program Participants and Staff:** January 24, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **Illinois Partners for Human Service: Strategies for Workforce Retention through a Racial Equity Lens:** January 30, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.
- **EducationWeek: Tutoring Done Right: How to Get the Highest Impact for Learning Recovery:** February 2, 2023, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **Illinois Partners for Human Service: Virtual Advocacy Event:** February 10, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Resources for Providers

Administration

America After 3PM for Native American Families

The new [Afterschool Alliance's](#) America After 3PM survey provides a look at the afterschool experiences of Native American youth. The new brief, "America After 3PM for Native American Families," explores unmet demand and availability of afterschool and summer programs, how programs support Native students and families, potential areas



of growth for the afterschool field to reach more Native American young people, and more.

Youth Development

[River Lab: A Virtual Water Science Field Trip](#)

[River Lab](#) is a free STEM curriculum for high school students. High school students will dive into this water-focused virtual field trip where they will be introduced to water quality parameters, discover the Chicago River, and explore real science data. Students will reflect on how they are personally connected to water, how they can make a positive impact on local waterways, and be introduced to careers in water science.

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

Opportunities for Providers

Administration

[CPL College & Career Fair](#)

[Chicago Public Library](#) (CPL) is looking for colleges, universities, trade schools, organizations, and community supports provide information to youth between the ages of 14 and 22 who are looking for opportunities to further their education and training in specific fields at the college & career fair. Six fairs will be happening throughout this year on six different topics.

[Out-of-School Time Educator Program at the Museum of Science and Industry](#)

The [Museum of Science and Industry's](#) (MSI) Out-of-School-Time (OST) Educator Program aims to support the development of inclusive and equitable learning in out-of-school-time settings for young people primarily in grades 3-8. **The deadline to apply is February 3, 2023.**



[Health and Human Services Coalition upcoming Advocacy Event!](#)

Join the [Health and Human Service Coalition of Illinois](#) for a Virtual Advocacy Event. During the event, participants will hear from providers, advocates, and legislators on plans to support the human service sector workforce this legislative session, and share ways to get involved. **This event will take place February 10, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.**

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

Youth Opportunities

Youth Development

[Chicago Scholars Application!](#)

[Chicago Scholars](#) is a program that invests in Chicago youth and amplifies their leadership. Chicago Scholars receive support and guidance through the college application process, and also have access to exclusive scholarship opportunities, mentorship, and additional guidance. Applicants must be juniors in high school who will graduate in 2024. **Apply by February 28, 2023.**

[Chicago Y.O.U.T.H. 3 vs. 3 Basketball Tournament](#)

The [Chicago Y.O.U.T.H. Council](#) will be hosting a 3 vs. 3 basketball tournament to foster community building, register young people to vote, and promote civics education as well as inform community members about the roles and responsibilities of elected officials. The event will take place on **January 29, 2023 from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** at [Michele Clark High School](#).

[Join the Green Star Youth Panel!](#)

[Green Star Youth Panel](#) is looking for 13-18 year old teens who love art and want to give back to Chicago communities to become a part of their paid Youth Panel. The Youth Panel will promote a city-wide contest which will award one community with a mosaic



wall mural, and help select design winner and install the mural during the span of the year.

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

Funding Opportunities

[2023 EPP/MSI Undergraduate Scholarship](#)

The [Educational Partnership Program with Minority Serving Institutions \(EPP/MSI\) Undergraduate Scholarship](#) provides funds for two years of undergraduate study to rising junior undergraduate students majoring in STEM fields. Students attending Minority Serving Institutions as defined by the US Department of Education are eligible to apply for the program. Selected students receive awards valued at up to \$45,000 in total support during their junior and senior years. **Applications are due January 31, 2023.**

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

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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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