



ACT NOW'S Weekly Newsletter

The only newsletter made for afterschool providers in Illinois!

June 13, 2023

In This Issue

- Summer Learning Toolkit
- Juneteenth Resources

ACT Now STEM Clubs!

We are seeking sites to participate in STEM Clubs for the 2023-24 school year. The curriculum is tailored to middle grades. **Applications are due July 12, 2023.** [Apply here!](#)

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New ACT Now Team Member!

We'd like to welcome Michael Guilmette who is joining **ACT Now** as a Policy and Communications Intern for the summer! He is a rising fourth year at the University of Chicago where he studies Anthropology.

Policy Updates

State Updates

21st CCLC Budget Update

ACT Now is continuing to reach out to elected officials to gain clarification on if the General Assembly allocated funds to 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) FY19 cohort. We were told that the \$9.11 million included in the FY24 budget, is the reappropriation from the original \$10 million CURE Fund member initiative. We will continue to update our [website](#) with the most up-to-date information on this topic.

Events

ACT Now Events

The 3Rs of Staffing Session #1: Reset

June 21, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

June Membership Exchange

June 27, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

External Events

Click2Engineering Summer Gathering

June 20, 2023, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Engage Every Student Webinar: School-Community Partnerships

June 22, 2023, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

My CHI. My Future. Partner Meeting June 2023

June 22, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

* In-person event at the Chicago Cultural Center

Resources for Providers

Administrators

[Overcoming Challenges in Family Engagement](#)

Use this tool from [You for Youth](#) to explore common family engagement challenges that afterschool programs face. This resource also explains possible underlying causes and potential solutions.

[Summer Learning Toolkit](#)

This Summer Learning Toolkit from the [Wallace Foundation](#) helps program providers plan effective summer programs. The toolkit includes planning and management tools, resources for planning professional development, and more!

Youth Development

[Juneteenth Resources!](#)

In this lesson from [PBS](#), students will explore and discuss the history and context around Juneteenth. Topics explored will include the history of racial injustice in the U.S., the Civil War, and the Emancipation Proclamation.

[LGBTQ+ in STEM](#)

This guide from [Los Alamos National Lab](#) highlights LGBTQ+ people, organizations, and history in the fields of STEM. The guide includes resources, articles, podcasts, and events!

[STEM in Spring!](#)

[Science Buddies](#) has compiled free science and engineering lessons, projects, and activities for enriching STEM that is related to spring weather, flowers, plants, and more!

[Story Time from Space](#)

The [Story Time from Space](#) website posts videos of astronauts on the International Space Station reading stories and conducting science experiments for youth. The stories

are best suited for youth in elementary or middle school.

Safety, Health, and Nutrition

[Social Media and Youth Mental Health](#)

This advisory from the **[U.S. Surgeon General](#)** describes the current evidence on the impacts of social media on the mental health of children.

Opportunities for Providers

Family and Community Partnerships

[Explore a Career in STEM!](#)

On **June 25th, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.**, the **[AeroSTEM Expo](#)**, will take place at the **[Illinois Institute of Technology](#)**. Participants will experience aviation and space activities, learn about industry careers, hear from colleges and universities regarding post-secondary programs, and meet and receive mentoring from professionals within the aviation and space industries.

Youth Opportunities

[Make a Cloud Mobile!](#)

In this activity from **[NASA](#)**, youth will learn about clouds while they make a mobile to hang outdoors. Their mobile will have four kinds of clouds: cumulonimbus, cirrus, cumulus, and nimbostratus clouds.

Funding Opportunities

For archived funding opportunities, click **[here](#)**.

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Click [Here](#) to Subscribe to the ACT Now Newsletter!

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. Headings denote a Core Area. To learn more about the Quality Standards, click [here](#).

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