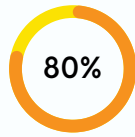
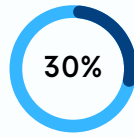


Help Save Afterschool For 27,000 Students In Illinois

27,000 students in Illinois will lose access to afterschool programming in Illinois next school year.



of students are people of color



of whom are Black youth



of whom are Latinx youth

These students all attend high-poverty, low-performing schools. 66% of participants overall are qualified for free and reduced lunch.

This will also mean that roughly 1,238 afterschool program providers will also lose their jobs.



Over 80% of these employees are women



and roughly 50% are people of color

Due to internal errors, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) will not have enough money to adequately fund 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) programs past this fiscal year.



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21st CCLC programs are funded by the U.S. Department of Education and then administered by ISBE

- Illinois currently receives about \$56 million annually in funding for this program.
- 21st CCLC grants are awarded via competitions that establish various cohorts.
- Traditionally, ISBE has provided a continuation after the end of a cohort's grant cycle. After the one-time continuation, programs must reapply.



ISBE has overspent its 21st CCLC funds beyond the funding that the federal government provides. This means ISBE is not able to cover all of its current contracts.

There is a cohort that is expiring on 6/30/23 that serves almost 12,000 youth (funded at \$11,859,536) that will completely lose funding.

There is no other state, federal, or private funding source that is large enough to fill this hole.

To learn more about the 21st CCLC situation and access a list of programs sites affected, visit <https://actnowillinois.org/take-action-3/>

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NEED

Youth academic and mental health needs are greater than ever since the pandemic, and these gaps are worse for youth of color and youth living in low-income communities.

 27.4% of third graders in Illinois met or exceeded state standards in reading, down from 36.4% in 2019.

 23.1% of Illinois eighth graders scored proficient in math, down from 32.6% in 2019.

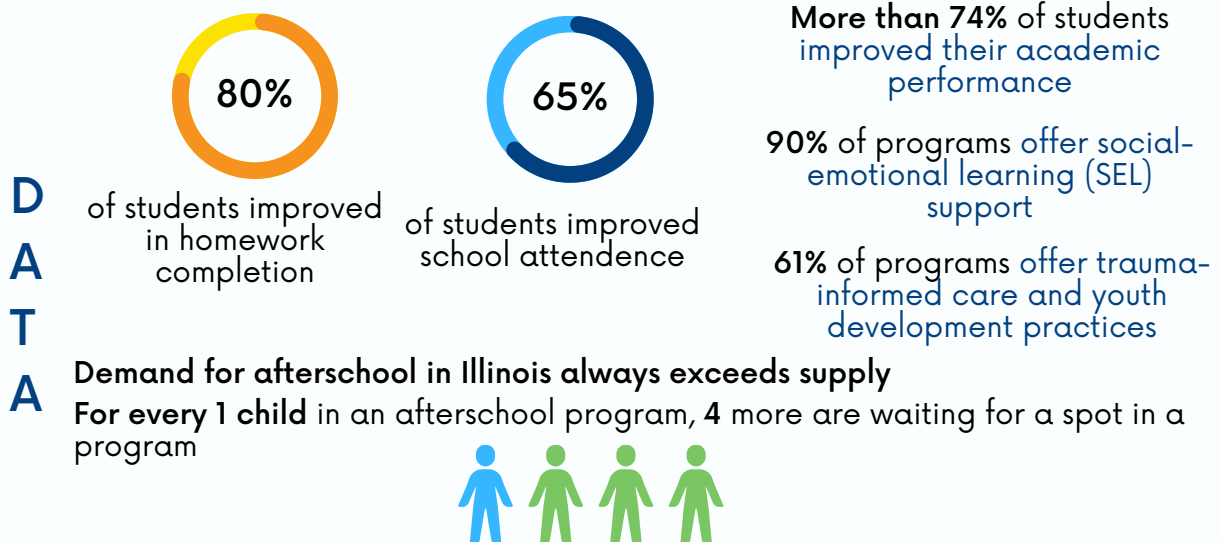
Since the pandemic, 44% of youth nationwide reported depressive symptoms that lasted for at least two weeks, and 20% of youth experienced suicidal ideation.

SOLUTION

Youth and families need legislators to step in and help solve this problem through a legislative fix.

- \$27 million in funding to keep programs going next year
- Accountability measures at ISBE to prevent this from happening again

A large body of research shows that 21st CCLC programs can support students in the areas where they need it post-pandemic.



Demand for afterschool in Illinois always exceeds supply

For every 1 child in an afterschool program, 4 more are waiting for a spot in a program



When program need is higher than ever,
now is not the time to reduce access to afterschool.

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