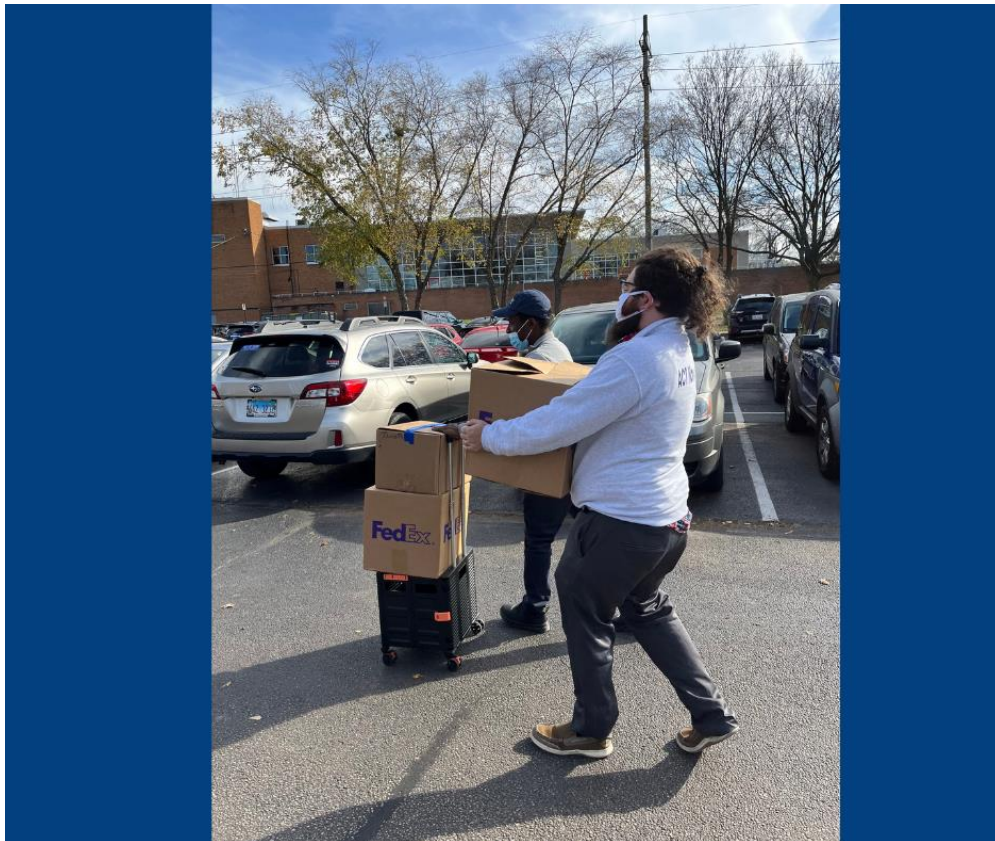


# ACT NOW!

## NEWSLETTER



### [ACT Now's New RPSA Blog!](#)

Introducing the new **ACT Now Reimagining Public Safety Act Youth Development Services (RPSA YDS) Blog!** Follow us on our website for a spotlight on: Successes from the field! Deep dives into key issues! Engaging stories from the communities we serve! And much more! There will be a new blog post every month.

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# Policy Updates

## State Updates

### Illinois State Board of Education November Board Meeting Recap

On **November 17, 2022**, the [Illinois State Board of Education \(ISBE\)](#) met for its monthly Board meeting. To access the recordings and meeting materials, click [here](#). The Board heard public comment and presentations regarding East St. Louis's and North Chicago's school district strategic plans. Prior to the November Board meeting, the agency disseminated a [document hosting information on the number of FY24 funding requests](#) per funding line. The following are some of the line items ACT Now is monitoring:

- **8 individuals** testified in support of the **After School Programs** grant
- **26 individuals** testified in support of the **Career and Technical Education** line
- **5 individuals** testified in support of **Community Schools** funding
- **41 individuals** testified in support of **Early Childhood Education** funding
- **57 individuals** testified in support of the **Evidence-Based Funding** line
- **3 individuals** testified in support of **Illinois Free Lunch and Breakfast** funding
- **2 individuals** testified in support of **Teach for America** funding

Due to extensive public comment, the board motioned to move the 2022 Illinois Report Card Overview and the FY24 Budget presentation to the December Board meeting. **The next ISBE Board meeting will take place on December 14, 2022.**

**Finally, State Superintendent of Education Dr. Carmen Ayala announced her plans to retire beginning February 1, 2023.** Dr. Ayala expressed her gratitude to the agency, Board members, and supporting staff.

### [New Laws in Effect in the New Year](#)

In their Weekly Message this week, [Illinois State Board of Education](#) included a list of new laws that were passed by the general assembly that will go into effect on **January 1, 2023.**

*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!

### **ACT Now Events:**

- **STEM Resource Fair:** **TODAY**, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **Statewide Community School Convening: Family and Community Partnerships:** **TODAY**, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **Quality Standards 102 Training:** December 7, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **Fostering A Systematic Approach to Family Engagement:** December 8, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- **December Membership Exchange:** December 13, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- **School Partnerships Series: Curricula and Activities:** January 17, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

### **External Events:**

- **Possip: Campus Safety Case Studies:** December 8, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.
- **EducationWeek: Social-Emotional Learning: Making It Meaningful:** December 8, 2022, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **Brookings Institution: School Finance and Educational Equity:** December 15, 2022, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- **Crisis Prevention Institute: Trauma-Informed Schools 101: Best Practices & Key Benefits:** January 20, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

## **Resources for Providers**

### **Administration**

#### **Toolbox for Afterschool Programs!**

The [Afterschool Alliance](#) developed a toolkit that is designed to provide guidance to new, existing, and growing programs. The toolkit features guides, tools, case studies, and best practices from experts!

## [Recruit STEM Experts as Volunteers](#)

[Million Girls Moonshot \(MGM\)](#) has partnered with [VolunteerMatch](#) to connect STEM experts with out- of- school-time programs! Create a VolunteerMatch account and post volunteer opportunities to work with youth in your program today!

## Safety, Health, Nutrition

### [Voices of Child Health in Chicago Report](#)

The latest report from [Voices of Child Health in Chicago](#) provides insight into gun violence exposure as well as connections to mental health among Chicago's youth.

## Youth Development

### [Nurturing Girls to Become Leaders](#)

[eSchool News](#) published a blog that discusses strategies teachers and program providers can take to encourage girls to become powerful leaders. Educators are in a position where they can instill confidence and other traits into young girls that will make a lasting impact on their lives.

### [Inclusivity During the Holidays](#)

Navigating the holiday season can be tricky for educators who are deciding whether or not to celebrate the holidays in the classroom. [Middle School Cafe](#) published an article to help educators find a solution that is inclusive and respectful of everyone's beliefs

### [Chicago Public Schools Application Deadline](#)

The deadline to apply to [Chicago Public Schools](#) was moved to **December 8, 2022** (previously December 2, 2022). [Chalkbeat](#) published an article to help provide clarity to students who are going through the application process.

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

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# Opportunities for Providers

## Administration

### [STEM Landscape Survey](#)

The [Chicago STEM Pathways Cooperative](#) is administering a survey that will be used to identify the STEM opportunities currently available to students and existing gaps in opportunities and resources. From there, the results will be used as they continue to work on new initiatives that reach the students who need them most.

## Youth Development

### [Submit Your Programs and Events for Winter Break!](#)

[My. CHI. My. Future.](#) is accepting submissions for their winter break campaign, Make '23 Yours. They are accepting submissions for programs that will be taking place from **December 23, 2022, to January 8, 2023**. **The deadline for program submissions will be December 21, 2022.**

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

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# Youth Opportunities

## Youth Development

### [Teen Programs at Hyde Park Arts Center \(HPAC\)](#)

Registration is now open for the [Teen Programs at the Hyde Park Arts Center](#) which will run from **January 9, 2023, to March 17, 2023**. They offer free after-school programs in visual art to prepare high schoolers with the skills and preparation needed for success in the arts and at any post-secondary institution. Students enrolled in HPAC Teen Program courses receive free art instruction, free art supplies, free Ventra transportation, access to Art Center studios, and free adult classes.

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

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## Funding Opportunities

### [Youth Intervention Pathways RFP](#)

The [City of Chicago's Department of Family and Support Services \(DFSS\)](#) Youth Services Division has announced the DFSS Youth Intervention Pathways RFP (RFQ # 9153). This Request for Proposals (RFP) requires coordination between community-based organizations and the Chicago Police Department in order to prevent youth aged 10-17 years old who have contact with law enforcement from entering or becoming more deeply involved in the criminal justice system by connecting them to resources and coordinated community services. The Youth Intervention Pathways RFP (RFQ # 9153) **applications are due on January 6, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.** A pre-proposal [webinar](#) will be held on **December 9, 2022, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

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

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## *Were you forwarded this email?*

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

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