

ACT NOW! NEWSLETTER

Policy Updates

State Policy Updates

Governor Pritzker's Office: Child Care Restoration Grant Program

On **June 10, 2020**, Governor Pritzker announced a \$270 million grant program has been established for Illinois child care providers. The Child Care Restoration grant program will allocate at least \$270 million of the state's Coronavirus Urgent Remediation Emergency (CURE) Fund to support the economic health of childcare providers. As part of CURE, the Business Interruption Grants (BIG) Program is designated to support businesses, including child care providers, that lost revenue as a result from the public health emergency. ***Child care providers that are license exempt are not eligible to receive assistance from the Child Care Restoration Grant program.*** More information regarding the grant is to be released in July 2020 and providers will receive their first installments later this summer. Click [here](#) to read the full press release.

The administering agencies of the grant program are asking child care providers to complete a survey to gather information on the diverse needs. Click [here](#) to take the "Intent to Apply" survey. The survey closes on **June 19, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**

For a list of previously listed policy updates, click [here](#).

Trainings, Events and Webinars

Administration

ACT Now: 21st CCLC Virtual Town Halls

Join ACT Now on **June 24, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.** for an engaging conversation with 21st Century Community Learning Center Programs in regard to responding to the COVID-19 health crisis. We will cover the latest policy updates, grant updates, resources, and highlight programs' diverse responses to the pandemic. Please **fill out our survey** beforehand and **register** for the Town Hall!

Click **here** to access ACT Now's 21ST Century Town Hall page and find our archived Town Halls and resources relating to the virtual series.

*For an archive of our previously listed Trainings, Events and Webinars, click **here**.*

Resources for Providers

Youth Development

The Summer Activity Guide: Unit 2 Released!

The newest unit of the Summer Activity Guide, titled "Healthy Life," has been released and promotes making healthy decisions by youth of all ages through a variety of creative and thought-provoking activities and challenges. Click **here** to access the guides and the corresponding supporting materials.

The Chicago Children's Museum: The Parenting Playbook

The Chicago Children's museum has developed a playbook for families and afterschool providers to use in order to engage youth over the summer. The playbook includes weekly activities to do at home with easily-accessible household materials, resources on how to talk to youth about racial violence and the black Lives Matter movement, and best practices and tips for making a creative learning environment indoors. Click **here** to access the playbook.

ACT Now: Resources on Anti-Racism and Equity for Providers

At **ACT Now**, our vision has always been for ALL Illinois youth and teens to be prepared for success in school, career, and life, fostered through access to high-quality afterschool and summer programs. Please see our note in the [June 2nd newsletter](#) on racial violence. We will continue to share resources related to this issue as listed below.

- [PBS Social: How to Converse with Kids about Anti-Racism Resources](#)
- [Project READY: Free Professional Development Curricula on Talking about Race with Youth](#)

If you would like to discuss your program's reaction to racial violence or share additional resources, ***please reach out to Susan Stanton at stantons@actnowillinois.org***.

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

Opportunities for Providers

Professional Development

STEM Teaching Tools: Resources for Teaching STEM in Afterschool

STEM Teaching Tools has tools to help out-of-school time providers integrate STEM curricula into programming. The website hosts professional development units, translated materials (Spanish), and offers tips on facilitating STEM programming. Click [here](#) to access these resources.

DO-IT Center: Computing Online Learning Strategies for Students with Disabilities

The DO-IT Center has compiled easy-to-digest resources on how to support students with disabilities as they make the transition to online courses and learning opportunities. The materials include personal experiences, recommendations for program providers on facilitation, and examples of technological platforms to engage youth. Click [here](#) to review the strategies.

Administration

The Chicago Housing Authority: Employment Opportunity

The Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) is seeking applicants for the position of manager of education to lead, design, implement and evaluate academic programs for CHA residents. Eligible applicants should have direct experience working with low-income students and a background in positive youth development approaches, postsecondary education pathways, summer melt prevention or the college readiness, access and persistence field. Click [here](#) to review the job description and to apply. Applications are due by **June 24, 2020**.

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

Youth Opportunities

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

Funding Opportunities

Safety, Health & Nutrition

Albertsons Companies Foundation: Nourishing Neighbors Summer Meals Grant Opportunities

Nourishing Neighbors is an initiative of the Albertsons Companies Foundation, and consists of a fund to help families impacted by the current public health crisis. Nourishing Neighbors specifically aims to increase participation in, and access to, the Summer Meals Programs this summer. Nonprofits, sponsors, and schools can apply. Programs eligible for funding can include (but are not limited to) those that: provide transportation, purchase food, engage membership for support, temporarily hire staff to cover volunteer openings, and provide technical assistance, equipment, PPE, etc. Click [here](#) to review the grant opportunity and to apply. Applications are due on **June 22, 2020 by 11:59 Pacific Time**.

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

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Call for Resources

Do you have valuable resources, stories, or best practices to share with the afterschool field? Please click [here](#) to share your resources with ACT Now and we will disseminate them (via our newsletter and website) to other providers across the state! If you have any questions, please contact **Emma Spencer (ACT Now - Youth Development Associate)** at Spencere@actnowillinois.org

NOTE: We are now sorting our trainings and resources by the Core Areas in the Illinois Statewide Afterschool Quality Standards to promote better understanding and implementation of the Standards. Dark blue headings denote a Core Area. To learn more about the Quality Standards, click [here](#).

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