

ACT NOW!

NEWSLETTER

Policy Updates

State Updates

Illinois State Board of Education January Board Meeting Recap

On **January 19, 2022**, [the Illinois State Board of Education \(ISBE\)](#) met for its monthly board meeting. To access the recording and meeting materials, click [here](#). ISBE heard public comment and hosted a hearing on the state agency's vaccination mandate for school personnel. To read more about the hearing, click [here](#). Others highlighted the importance of early childhood literacy education. ISBE then heard a presentation from the Student Advisory Council on the following topics: ISBE's Strategic Goals, legislative meetings, mental health support services for students, resource compilation and development for students and families of color, and recommendations for closing the workforce shortage. ISBE Board Members discussed its equity initiative as well as targeted strategies for: supporting educators and substitute teachers in Illinois, providing incentives for educators to remain in the field, and encouraging people of color to work in the education sector. **The Board discussed the release the FY23 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Request of Proposals (RFP). The Board will vote to release this RFP next month.** The next ISBE board meeting is scheduled for **February 17, 2022**.

Reimagine Public Safety Act Eligible Locations Announced

On **December 31, 2021**, the Illinois Department of Human Service's (IDHS) Office of Firearm Violence Prevention (OFVP) released its lists of eligible 22 communities in Chicago, and 15 cities across the state, for the Reimagine Public Safety Act funding. The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) has not been released for communities in Chicago nor for the cities in Illinois. However, the NOFOs are expected to be released in **early March**. **ACT Now** has [updated our one-pager](#) to reflect this announcement and continues to partner with the Illinois Collaboration on Youth (ICOY) to provide capacity building technical assistance.

Illinois Legislative Redistricting Maps Finalized

At the end of December 2021, a federal appellate panel upheld state legislative redistricting maps, ([SB927, Public Act 102-663](#)) and rejected three Plaintiff proposals. Individuals can view the newly approved legislative districts here: [Senate](#) and [House](#). Individuals can also check if their elected official(s) will change [here](#). Enacted Congressional, State Senate, and State Representative districts will be those used in the **November 8, 2022** elections. To learn more, click [here](#).

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

Trainings, Events and Webinars

Core Area	Organization	Name of Event/Training	Date	Registration Link
Administration	Illinois Student Assistance Commission	Public Service Loan Forgiveness Trainings	TONIGHT , at 5:00 p.m. January 26, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. January 27, 2022, at 12:00 p.m. January 29, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.	REGISTER
Youth Development	Coalition for Community Schools	Proposed Priorities for 2022 Full-Service Community Schools Grant Competition	TODAY , from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	REGISTER
Professional Development	Illinois AfterSchool Network	Supporting Relationships with Parents/Caregivers in COVID	February 2, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	REGISTER
	City of Chicago and Cook County	Readiness Summit	February 4, 2022, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	REGISTER
	ACT Now	Community Schools DOWNSTATE Training: Advisory Boards	February 16, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	REGISTER
	Illinois AfterSchool Network	Restorative Justice and DEI: Threading Restorative Practices for Day-to-Day Operations: To Prevent Harm and Enhance and Elevate	February 16, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	\$25 REGISTER

		Positive Work Environments (Part I)		
	Illinois Resource Center	2022 ESSA/Multilingual Illinois Conference *ACT Now will be presenting on Family Engagement	February 22, 2022, to February 25, 2022	REGISTER
	ACT Now	Community Schools CHICAGO Training: Creating a Culture of Support and Supporting Staff	February 23, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	REGISTER
	Illinois AfterSchool Network	Restorative Justice and DEI: Threading Restorative Practices for Day-to-Day Operations: To Prevent Harm and Enhance and Elevate Positive Work Environments (Part II)	February 23, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	\$25 REGISTER
	ACT Now	Community Schools SUBURBS Training: Creating a Culture of Support and Supporting Staff	March 16, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	REGISTER

For an archive of our previously listed Trainings, Events and Webinars, click [here](#).

Resources for Providers

Administration

[Understanding "Comprehensive Afterschool" in Federal Aid Opportunities](#)

[The Afterschool Alliance](#) has published a brief one-pager on funding opportunities for community-based organizations. These funding opportunities come from the American Rescue Plan (ARPA). The one-pager can help define and highlight the specific traits of comprehensive afterschool programs and can be used in conversations with school districts and local elected officials.

[Article on Tackling the Teacher Shortage](#)

[The Learning Policy Institute \(LPI\)](#) recently released an article on the teacher workforce shortage. The article highlights different strategies that state agencies, school districts, and community-based organizations are utilizing in order to encourage educators to facilitate classes and afterschool programming.

Youth Development

[Supporting LGBTQIA Youth Amidst the Pandemic](#)

[EducationWeek](#) has shared an article on several topics LGBTQIA students are worrying about during the pandemic. This article could help to focus support services to youth that are part of this diverse community throughout programming.

[Anti-Discrimination Resources for Program Providers](#)

[Nickelodeon](#) has developed anti-discrimination resources for program providers, families, and youth to encourage these populations to take action and combat racism and LGBTQIA discrimination. The guides allow for tough conversations and help individuals create a safe space for discussing these topics.

Professional Development

[Afterschool as a Teacher Pathway](#)

[The Afterschool Alliance](#) has written an article highlighting how afterschool programs can support the teacher pathway. The article shares insights from the educator pipeline in California, which leverages afterschool professionals and integrates out-of-school time providers into school districts.

For an archive of our previously listed Trainings, Events and Webinars, click [here](#).

Opportunities for Providers

Administration

[Chicago Public Schools Out-of-School Time Partners Office Hours](#)

[Chicago Public Schools \(CPS\)](#) is holding office hours with its out-of-school time (OST) partnerships office. **These office hours occur between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 during the weekday.**

Family and Community Partnerships

Nutrition Program Survey Feedback Needed from Families!

[The Illinois Commission to End Hunger](#) is working to improve nutrition programs for children and youth in Illinois. Participation in this one-hour survey will help to support families in your school district! Participants will receive a \$50 Visa gift card as reimbursement for their time. Please share this information with family members of school-age children. Contact Laura O'Carroll, public policy manager at the Greater Chicago Food Depository, at locarroll@gcfd.org or (773) 843-2846.

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

Youth Opportunities

Youth Development

Programming Opportunities for City of Chicago Youth

[The City of Chicago's Department of Family and Support Services \(DFSS\) Youth Services Division](#) has three programming opportunities for youth in the City of Chicago. DFSS has issued three Request for Proposals (RFPs), shown below, and provided a brief description of each opportunity.

- [Chicago Youth Service Corps](#): This is a year-round program that employs youth ages 16-24 as local leaders through the creation of paid, service-learning opportunities focused on local/civic engagement. Youth participants will earn money in a diverse service corps while also building transferable leadership skills for workforce development and 21st century skill-building. **Applications are due on February 23, 2022, at 12:00 p.m.**
- [Summer Youth Employment](#): This program provides youth employment to young people ages 16-24 who reside in Chicago with job placement or specialized training program during the summer. **Applications are due on February 24, 2022, at 12:00 p.m.**
- [Chicagobility](#): The Department of Family and Support Services (DFSS) Chicagobility provides youth ages 14-15 with the opportunity to building their self-discovery and self-awareness through project-based learning and skill-building experiences. This program is for six weeks. **Applications are due on February 24, 2022, at 12:00 p.m.**

If you have programmatic questions about any of the three RFPs' program models, please contact Lisa Davis at (312) 743-1287 or email Lisa.Davis@cityofchicago.org. If you have non-

programmatic questions about any of the three RFPs application process, please contact Julia Talbot at (312)-743-1679 or email Julia.Talbot@cityofchicago.org.

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

Funding Opportunities

Family and Community Partnerships

[Reimagine Public Safety Act Conveners for Chicago Opportunity](#)

[The Illinois Department of Human Services' \(IDHS\)](#) Office of Firearm Violence Prevention (OFVP) is soliciting applications for its Chicago Conveners grant opportunity, funded by the [Reimagine Public Safety Act](#). This grant will help to support the eligible community areas. OFVP intends to select one Reimagine Convener for each eligible community areas to serve as a liaison between the OFVP and the funded direct service providers and communities by facilitating meaningful collaborative action planning across various providers representing different disciplines of violence prevention, mental health, youth development, etc. that service that community area. **Applications are due February 23, 2022, at 12:00 p.m.**

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

Were you forwarded this email?

Click Here to Subscribe to the ACT Now Newsletter!

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 (Youth Development Associate) at Spencere@actnowillinois.org

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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