

ACTNOW!

NEWSLETTER



presents

Quality Standards Training 102



NEW!

MAY 5

10AM TO 2PM

JOIN US!

Prerequisite:
QST 101 attendance required

Goals:
This training will dive deep into the top 3 Core Areas of need

ACT Now: Quality Standards Training 102

In response to provider feedback on the Quality Standards 101 Training, ACT Now has developed our Quality Standards 102 training! **Join us on May 5, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.,** as we dive deeper into crowdsourced and specific Core Areas! You will indicate the topics YOU want to focus on in this training at registration.

Register [HERE!](#)

*NOTE: Quality Standards 101 Training attendance is required prior to Quality Standards 102 Training registration. Please direct any questions or inquiries to Emma Vibber (Quality and Professional Development Specialist) at: vibbere@actnowillinois.org.

Policy Updates

Federal Policy

President Joseph Biden's Administration: Child Care Funding from American Rescue Plan Announced

On **April 15, 2021**, the Biden Administration announced the release of \$39 billion of American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds to states, territories, and tribes to address the child care crisis caused by COVID-19. To review the White House fact sheet on this funding, click here [here](#). To review the Department of Health and Human Services' document, which hosts allocations for ARP child care funds, click [here](#).

State Policy

Governor JB Pritzker's Office: \$1.6 Billion in Federal Aid Allocated for Early Childhood Education and Child Care

On **April 16, 2021**, Governor JB Pritzker announced that his administration will be allocating \$1.6 billion in federal COVID relief to expand access to early childhood education and child care opportunities across the state of Illinois. Child care providers are expected to receive \$140 million in direct grants in the next several weeks in order to support child care providers. The Governor also announced a network of statewide early childhood planning councils to ensure all communities have access to the early childhood services in particular. To read the full press release, click [here](#).

Illinois State Board of Education: Title I, Part A Fiscal Waiver Public Comment

On **April 13, 2021**, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) shared that U.S. Department of Education released an application for an ESEA fiscal waiver for Title I, Part A, among other Title programs, in spring 2020 due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. ISBE received approval for this and other waivers at that time and would like to continue to provide this flexibility for school districts during the 2021-22 school year. As a result, ISBE is submitting a waiver to continue to provide the following:

- The removal of the 15% carryover limitation that allows an LEA to carry over more than 15% of unused funds once every three years.

- An extension of the availability of SEA funds that would otherwise expire on September 30, 2021, through September 30, 2022.

ISBE must post the waiver application and collect public comment. Please submit any comments on the ESEA fiscal waiver application by **May 4, 2021**, to essa@isbe.net.

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

Trainings, Events and Webinars



ACTNOW!
Afterschool for Children and Teens

Presents Our Newest Webinar Series:

Afterschool as a Safe Space

Join Us!

Benefits

- Recommendations for virtual/in-person programming
- Best practices for sustainable professional development
- Resources & More on Health and Safety

Dates

- Part I: May 12 - 10AM - 11AM
- Part II: May 19 - 10AM - 11AM
- Part III: May 26 - 10AM - 11AM

Each webinar is \$10



ACT Now: NEW WEBINAR SERIES!

ACT Now is unveiling our newest webinar series called Afterschool as a Safe Space! This virtual training series will help programs identify the importance of a systematic approach to health and safety as well as tailor professional development assessments to meet unique programmatic needs. Join Us!

Part I: **May 12 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** - Register [HERE](#)
 Part II: **May 19, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** - Register [HERE](#)
 Part III: **May 26, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** - Register [HERE](#)

Each webinar is \$10.00. If you would like to register for the ENTIRE webinar series, click [here](#).

If you are interested in group pricing for 5 or more participants within the same organization, please contact Emma Vibber (Quality and Professional Development Specialist) at: vibbere@actnowillinois.org.

Core Area	Organization	Name of Event/Training	Date	Registration Link
Administration	ACT Now	Afterschool Town Hall - COVID, Summer Programming, and Planning for Vaccinations		To access the recording, click here
	ACT Now	Summer Learning Programs Addressing Learning Loss in 2021 - A Conversation with Statewide Leaders		To access the recording, click here
	ACT Now	21st Century Town Hall Series	May 3, 2021 May 17, 2021 June 1, 2021 June 14, 2021 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Click here
	ACT Now	Q4 Community Schools Training for Suburban Providers: Evaluation and Needs Assessment		To access the recording, click here
	ACT Now	Q4 Community Schools Training for Chicago Providers: Advisory Boards	April 22, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Click here

	Illinois Partners for Human Services	Conversation with conversation with State Comptroller Susana Mendoza	April 23, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.	Click here
	Illinois State Board of Education	School Nutrition Programs Back to School Conference Webinar: ISBE Update	July 19, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Click here
	Illinois State Board of Education	School Nutrition Programs Back to School Conference Webinar: Menu Planning	July 19, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	Click here
	Illinois State Board of Education	School Nutrition Programs Back to School Conference Webinar: USDA Foods	July 20, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Click here
	Illinois State Board of Education	School Nutrition Programs Back to School Conference Webinar: Financial Management	July 20, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Click here
	Illinois State Board of Education	School Nutrition Programs Back to School Conference Webinar: Monitoring	July 21, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Click here
	Illinois State Board of Education	School Nutrition Programs Back to School Conference Webinar: Wrap-Up Game	July 21, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Click here
Professional Development	ACT Now	Narrative 4: The Power Of Story Exchange	April 27, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	Click here
	Learning Policy Institute	Accelerating Learning Webinar: High-Quality Tutoring Strategies	Today, April 2021, from 11:00 a.m.	Click here

			to 12:00 p.m.	
	CASEL	Learning from Student Perspectives	April 23, 2021, at 12:00 p.m.	Click here
	CASEL	American Rescue Plan Act: Funding Social and Emotional Learning	May 21, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.	Click here
	National Summer Learning Association	Designing a Successful Hybrid Summer Program Model: Lessons from Aim High @ Home	April 21, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Click here
	National Summer Learning Association	Cultural Crossroads: Exploring the important intersection of summer program training & design with the critical need to address race, equity, and inclusion	April 28, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Click here
Youth Development	ACT Now	FY21 STEM Webinar #4: Connecting STEM to Everyday Life & Career Exploration		To access the recording, click here
	Million Girls Moonshot	Webinar: Incorporating STEM Role Models into Afterschool	April 27, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.	Click here

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

Resources for Providers

Administration

Afterschool Alliance: New Website for Providers Looking to Access American Rescue Plan Dollars Live

Last week, the [Afterschool Alliance](#) launched a new website called Help Kids Recover in order to serve as a resource for local and state education agencies, as well as out-of-school time (OST) providers looking to access funding from the American Rescue Plan (ARP). To access a variety of materials and

information regarding partnerships for afterschool and summer learning, click [here](#). To read the blog post on the website, click [here](#).

Youth Development

EducationWeek Resources: Talking to Students about Racism and Police Killings

[EducationWeek](#) has compiled 16 resources for educators and afterschool providers looking to host conversations with young people on racism and police violence. Materials include lesson plans, articles and essays, videos, and more. To access these resources, click [here](#).

eSchool NewsArticle: Five Tools to Amplify Youth Voice

[eSchool News](#) has published an article highlighting five tools for engaging youth in virtual and hybrid programming, while simultaneously fostering youth voice. These tools include free and easy-to-use applications. To review the tools, click [here](#).

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

Opportunities for Providers

Administration

Million Girls Moonshot: National Afterschool STEM Program Survey

[The Million Girls Moonshot](#) is an afterschool equity initiative that seeks to re-imagine who can engineer, who can build, who can make. This survey will help your statewide afterschool network to better understand how we can best support afterschool and summer programs statewide. We appreciate that COVID has affected afterschool and summer programs' ability to operate, and appreciate your honest responses about your programming. It should take 5-10 minutes to complete. Everyone who completes the survey will be invited to an exclusive webinar on hands-on engineering activities kids can do at home. Plus, 10 respondents will receive a \$100 gift card! To complete the survey, click [here](#).

Cleveland Avenue Foundation for Education: 1954 Project

On **April 28, 2021, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**, [The Cleveland Avenue Foundation for Education](#) (CAF) is hosting its inaugural 1954 Project Luminary Awards webinar to highlight the new

philanthropic initiative focused on embracing Black leadership to fulfill the promise of an excellent education for all. To learn more about this project, and to register for the webinar, click [here](#).

Youth Development

NASA: PLANETS Project

[NASA](#) is soliciting applications for its PLANETS project, which aims to connect youth with planetary science and engineering experiences. NASA is asking out-of-school (OST) providers to help to identify effective practices for emergent bilingual learners, Native American learners, and learners who are experiencing physical disabilities. Participants will dedicate 90 minutes of their time for a focus group and will receive a \$50 gift card. **Applications must be submitted by April 26, 2021.** Focus groups will begin in May. To learn more about this opportunity and to apply, click [here](#).

Earth Day Org: Earth Day 2021 Events

[Earth Day Org](#) is hosting three days of events in celebration of Earth Day 2021 (**April 21, 2021**). Hear from activists, educators, artists and climate leaders.

- **Today, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.,** the Hip Hop Caucus will be hosting the We Shall Breathe Summit. This summit will examine climate and environmental justice and its connections to pollution, poverty, police brutality and COVID19.
- On **April 21, 2021, from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.,** there will be a Global Education Summit for educators.
- On **April 22, 2021, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.,** Earth Day Org is hosting its second annual global digital mobilization with panel discussions and workshops.
- **From April 22, 2021, to April 23, 2021,** President Joseph Biden's Leaders Summit on Climate will occur. The event will include participation from 40 world leaders to discuss the critical strategies our world needs to embrace to combat the climate crisis. To gain access to the live stream link, click [here](#).

To register for all of these exciting events and access materials to celebrate Earth Day, click [here](#).

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

Youth Opportunities

Administration

STEAMville: Summer Employment Opportunity

[STEAMville](#) is soliciting applications from college students, ages 18 to 24, interested in mentoring youth in STEAM activities during Summer 2021. Successful applicants will participate in paid training between **May 17, 2021**, and **June 11, 2021**, before programming begins on **June 14, 2021** (depending on site). STEAMville is especially seeking to hire mentors who match the identities of youth we are serving in different communities, prioritizing students who identify as Black, Indigenous, or Latinx. **Applications are due April 22, 2021, at 11:59 p.m.** To learn more about this opportunity and to apply, click [here](#).

Youth Development

University of Illinois Chicago: Our Digital Scholars - Computer Science Virtual Summer Program

[The University of Illinois Chicago](#) (UIC) is facilitating a five-week virtual summer program on Computer Science starting on **June 28, 2021**. This opportunity affords high school sophomores, juniors, seniors and current UIC Students access to computer aided design projects. Participants will gain "hands-on" training and connect with computer science professional during in daily speaker series. To learn more about the application and participant eligibility, click [here](#).

National AfterSchool Association and STEMfinity: Opportunity to Win LEGO Education Kit

[The National AfterSchool Association](#) (NAA) and STEMfinity have collaborated to offer an April giveaway of a LEGO Education Afterschool or Summer Camp bundle and curriculum for one lucky NAA member. To learn more about how to enter this giveaway, click [here](#).

Earth Day Org: Earth Day 2021 Event for Youth

Earth Day Org is hosting a Youth Speaks 2021 Summit! **Today, from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.**, join youth activists from Earth Uprising, My Future My Voice and OneMillionOfUs will host panels, speeches and discussions on youth climate activism. Look out for a special message from Greta Thunberg! To register, click [here](#).

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

Funding Opportunities

Youth Development

Illinois State Board of Education: FY22 21st Century Community Learning Centers Request for Proposal Released

This past week, the [Illinois State Board of Education](#) (ISBE) has released its FY22 Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) grant program. **Proposals are due to ISBE by May 28, 2021.** To learn more about this RFP opportunity and to apply, click [here](#). *Please note that the documents relating to the FY22 RFP are located under the "Funding Tab."*

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

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