

ACTNOW! NEWSLETTER

Full-Service Community Schools RFP!

Today, the [U.S. Department of Education](#) announced \$68 million in grants to support students through Full-Service Community Schools. **The Notice Inviting Applications will be posted tomorrow (Wednesday, July 13, 2022) in the [Federal Register](#).** You can review the [most updated grant timeline here](#). The Coalition for Community Schools is hosting several webinars to help interested applicants learn key ways to successfully access this funding! Learn more about the [ongoing weekly webinar series](#), and [register for the upcoming training on grant planning](#) on **Thursday, July 14, 2022, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Policy Updates

Federal Updates

[Congress Supports Afterschool STEM Learning Opportunities in Legislation](#)

In **May**, Congress began negotiating a bill to address the nation's competitiveness as it relates to STEM learning and technology and trade occupations. 107 members of Congress (26 Senators and 71 House members) were "charged with reconciling differences between the House's [COMPETES](#) Act and the Senate's [USICA](#) legislation." [The Afterschool Alliance](#) reports that Afterschool STEM opportunities were included in both pieces of legislation and there is hope that they will remain a part of the final bill.

State Updates

[Illinois Plan to Support Families Is In Effect!](#)

On **July 1, 2022**, Governor JB Pritzker announced that the Illinois Family Relief Plan went into effect. This plan totals \$1.83 billion and aims to "provide relief on the grocery tax, gas tax, and property taxes" for individuals and families across the state. Within this plan:

- **Groceries:** The state's 1% sales tax on groceries will be suspended July 1 through June 30, 2023, saving consumers \$400 million.
- **Gas:** The state's normally scheduled increase in the motor fuel tax will be delayed from July 1 to January 2023, saving consumers \$70 million.
- **School supplies:** Sales taxes for qualified clothing and school-related items will be reduced from 6.25% to 1.25% for a 10-day window from August 5 to 14, saving consumers \$50 million.

[Chicago Public Schools 2022-2023 Budget Passed](#)

On **June 23, 2022**, Chicago Public Schools' (CPS) Board of Education approved the district's \$9.4 billion budget for the 2022-23 school year. This is about \$200 million more than the previous school year's budget and aims to cover operational costs, improvements to infrastructure, and the school district's debts. CPS leadership also announced that almost half of the district's budget will go directly to schools' budgets and encouraged local school administrators to manage resources as COVID-19 relief is set to expire in 2024. According to [Chalkbeat Chicago](#), "parents and union leaders argue that schools are still not getting what they need to address academic and mental health fallout from the pandemic."

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

Trainings, Events and Webinars

Core Area	Organization	Name of Event/Training	Date	Registration Link
Professional Development	ACT Now	Teen REACH OST Summer Learning Series - Day 1: Program Handbook Development Workshop	July 26, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	For Teen REACH Providers REGISTER
	ACT Now and IDHS	Teen REACH OST Summer Learning Series - Day 2: eCornerstone & Business Objects	July 27, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	For Teen REACH Providers REGISTER

	ISBE	Active Recruitment of Special Populations into CTE Programs and Nontraditional Careers - Educator Panel	July 28, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.	REGISTER
	ACT Now and ICOY	Teen REACH OST Summer Learning Series - Day 3: CBAT-O	July 28, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	For Teen REACH Providers REGISTER
	ACT Now	Teen REACH OST Summer Learning Series - Day 4: Core Service Breakouts	July 29, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	For Teen REACH Providers REGISTER
	ACT Now	Peace Circle Train the Trainer Webinar	August 2, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	REGISTER
	ACT Now	August Membership Exchange: Introducing the ACT Now Academy: An Online Learning and Training Platform for Illinois OST Providers	August 3, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	REGISTER

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

Resources for Providers

Administration

ISBE COVID-19 Relief Program Highlight

[The Illinois State Board of Education \(ISBE\)](#) is inviting school districts and local community-based organizations to [share](#) how you are investing federal relief funds to help students recover. "That's one of the many reasons why Marquardt School District 15 launched a first-of-

its-kind Saturday learning opportunity called Exploration University, which provides engaging, problem-based learning opportunities outside of the traditional school week. K-8 students were invited to apply their knowledge in hands-on, STEM-related activities while further developing their collaboration, problem-solving, critical-thinking, and creativity skills."

[Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Dashboard](#)

[The Illinois State Board of Education \(ISBE\)](#) has created a dashboard for individuals interested in learning how their local school district is spending the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds provided by the federal government. This dashboard represents the most up-to-date financial picture pertaining to the use of ESSER funds in Illinois.

[21st Century Community Learning Centers 2022 Summer Symposium](#)

Between July 19, 2022, and July 21, 2022, the [U.S. Department of Education's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education \(OESE\)](#) is hosting the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) 2022 Summer Symposium. This virtual event features methods to implement the use of 21st CCLC programming!

[Wallace Summer Learning Toolkit](#)

[The Wallace Foundation](#) has arranged a free toolkit with more than 50, evidence-based tools and resources to help educators deliver programs that make a real difference.

Safety, Health, and Nutrition

[Value Based commitments to support LGBTQ+ youth](#)

With the high levels of bullying in LGBTQ+ youth and the rise of anti-LGBTQ+ legislation, [The Afterschool Alliance](#) released a list of seven commitments for both formal and informal educators to use to support LGBTQ+ youth.

[Demystifying Systemic Social and Emotional Learning, monthly webinar](#)

This ten-part webinar series by [CASEL](#) addresses key aspects of high-quality systemic social-emotional learning. It provides insights on prioritizing academic, social, and emotional learning for all students across all school contexts. You can view them live or receive recordings of the entire series.

Youth Development

[Educating Future-Ready Students Webinar](#)

This webinar hosted by [CASEL](#) is thorough leadership discussion on social and emotional learning and workforce development for educators, policymakers, higher education leaders, and district leaders.

[NSTA Elementary STEM Showcase](#)

From July 21-23, 2022, [the National Science Teaching Association](#) is hosting a conference for science education with hosting a farmer's market style event to bring together educators, authors, researchers, and leaders in early childhood through fifth-grade STEM education

[Summer 2022 Learning Toolkit](#)

Happy National Summer Learning Week 2022 (July 11-15, 2022)! To help you celebrate, spread awareness of the out-of-school time (OST) field, and share more about your programming, one of our summer Policy and Communications Interns, [Anna Chen](#), has created our [Summer 2022 Learning Toolkit](#). Inside you will find:

- **Summer Learning Week 2022 Themes**
- **A brief on Summer Programs in 2022**
- [Summer 2022 ACTION ALERT](#)
- **Strategies for Interacting with policymakers!**
- **Social Media Content Samples and Images**
- **Resources for Summer 2022 Programming**

[ACCESS OUR TOOLKIT HERE!](#)

[Million Girls Moonshot STEM Resources for July](#)

It was exactly 53 years ago astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin made history when they became the first human beings to set foot on the moon. This month, the Million Girls Moonshot commemorates that "giant leap for mankind" as it remains one of humanity's greatest achievements. **For the full list of opportunities in July's asset package, click [here](#).**

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

Opportunities for Providers

Administration

[ACT Now Employment Opportunities!](#)

ACT Now is hiring for two full-time positions and looking to fill them immediately. While our offices are in Chicago, Illinois, we will explore applications from any part of the state to either work remotely or to establish a satellite office.

- Afterschool Resources and Support Specialist (RPSA)
- Policy, Communications, and Operations Associate

To learn more about these opportunities and eligibility, check out our [employment opportunities page](#). Applications will be considered on a rolling basis and interviews will take place accordingly.

Professional Development

[Nonprofit Capacity Building Program for Chicago-based Organizations!](#)

[The City of Chicago's Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection \(BACP\)](#) is soliciting applications from for-profit and non-profit organizations to design and implement technical assistance and capacity building services for disproportionately impacted nonprofit organizations. **The deadline to apply is July 29, 2022. The information session is TODAY (June 12, 2022), from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.** To register, click [here](#).

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

Youth Opportunities

Youth Development

[Kids STEM Studio Summer Camps](#)

[Kids STEM Studio](#) offers students going into grades 1 through 7 programming opportunities in various STEM fields. Locations offered in the West Loop and Lincoln Park for weekly full day, extended day, and early care programming through the end of the summer.

[Chicago Youth Service Corps](#)

[Chicago Youth Service Corps](#) has a year round program that provides paid opportunities for youth ages 16 to 24 years old to engage in community service, project-based learning, and leadership development.

[Danville College for Kids Programming](#)

With programming ranging from pottery to baking to music to STEM to acting, the College for Kids programming at [Danville Community College](#) offers on-campus activities for all-ages through the end of July

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

Funding Opportunities

Youth Development

[Full-Service Community Schools RFP!](#)

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[DFSS Enrichment School-Year Program Request for Proposal \(RFP\)](#)

[The City of Chicago's Department of Family and Support Services \(DFSS\)](#) is soliciting applications from organizations in order to fund implement safe, supportive, interactive, and engaging youth development activities, primarily for youth who are underrepresented. Enrichment School Year programs must operate at least 300 hours a year and align with the school year calendar, providing programming during winter and spring break. **Awards begin at \$48,000 and the deadline to apply is July 26, 2022.**

[FY23 Early Childhood Block Grant Awards](#)

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) will be using applications submitted for the FY21 Early Childhood Block Grant competition to identify awardable programs as determined in the Request for Proposals. ISBE will be prioritizing entities that

- propose to offer services to children who reside in Tier 1 or Tier II district boundaries
- can document that there is an insufficient number of classrooms to fully serve at least 80 percent of all children and families who potentially could be at risk. This would include communities with the highest need and least saturation.

In particular, the funding awarded will reflect the cost of operating a program for a minimum of 165 student attendance days per year; it is possible that applications may not be awarded for the full number of slots requested.

[Community Engagement Grant](#)

[ClassTag](#) is offering a \$10,000 grant for community engagement projects, supplies, and resources for the coming school year. Applications are due July 20, 2022.

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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