

# ACTNOW! NEWSLETTER

## ***The Afterschool Archive*** **An Out-of-School Time Blog**

### **Engineering Company Partners with Community Science Center to Offer Workforce Development Opportunities**

Out-of-school programs are a key strategy to ensure young people are gaining the 21st century skills necessary to succeed in the global economy. These programs provide a space for young people to explore career interests, build critical skills and gain access and information about postsecondary opportunities. That's why, in 2017, [Homewood Science Center](#) and [Schneider Electric](#)™ partnered to develop a [project-based engineering internship](#) for high school students in the community. To read all about it, [click here](#).

*To access all blog posts in the Afterschool Archive, [click here](#).*

## **Policy Updates**

### **Federal Updates**

#### **Final Public Charge Rule Published**

The Department of Homeland Security's [final public charge rule](#) has been posted to the Federal Register for inspection, with official publication scheduled for Wednesday, August 14th. If litigation does not prevent the rule from taking effect, the policy will become effective in 60 days on October 15th. The rule sets new standards for obtaining permanent residency and U.S. citizenship in order to limit immigration from those who might participate in taxpayer-funded benefits. For more information, please see the following stories from [The New York Times](#), [The Washington Post](#), and [Politico](#).

### **State Updates**

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## Gov. Pritzker Expanding Apprenticeship Programs

On August 2, 2019, Governor Pritzker signed a bill into law that offers a tax credit to businesses that bring in qualified apprentices. The measure would allow companies to apply for tax credits on up to \$3,500 spent on books, tuition and lab fees per apprentice. This measure follows Pritzker's signing of an executive order in January 2019 to strengthen the state's commitment to job creation and workforce development, including expanding apprenticeship programs already in place and developing new ones. To learn more, [click here](#).

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

## Trainings and Events

### Youth Development, Programming, & Activities

#### NBA Math Hoops

The [NBA Math Hoops](#) program harnesses the competitive fun of a board game in the culturally relevant context of the NBA in order to both develop the cognitive skills of basic arithmetic, decision-making, and visual analysis while simultaneously developing students' intrinsic interest in the real world application of math. [ACT Now](#) will be holding a workshop to teach program providers how they can implement NBA Math Hoops into their own programs. This workshop will be held on **October 3rd from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the ACT Now offices in Chicago**. To register, [click here](#).

#### Webinar: Using NASA Solar System Treks

This hour long webinar will introduce [NASA's Solar System Treks](#) (SST), a free resource that contributes to STEM learning. The SST portals enable students to study the surfaces of the Moon, Mars, Vesta, Ceres, Titan, and Icy Moons. Participants will hear directly from outreach specialists from [NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory](#) and [Ames Research Center](#), and have the opportunity to ask questions about the visualization tools. This webinar will be held on **October 8th from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.** To register, [click here](#).

#### Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Webinars

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP) National Training and Technical Assistance Center (NTTAC) is pleased to

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announce upcoming webinars in order to offer the latest information on topics of importance to the field and provide opportunities to learn how to access OJJDP's training and technical assistance (TTA) resources and services. See opportunities below, or for a full list [click here](#).

- **August 15, 2019:** [Fighting Toxic Relationships with Healthy Ones: Mentoring Youth who Experience Commercial/Sexual Exploitation](#)
- **August 22, 2019:** [Equity and Inclusion. What Is It and How do We Build It? Part 2](#)
- **September 24, 2019:** [Trauma and Brain Science: Why Can't I Think My Way Out of This?](#)
- **December 5, 2019:** [Chaplains and CACs: Effective Collaborations to Address the Spiritual Impact of Abuse](#)

*To view ACT Now's calendar of events, click [here](#).*

## Youth Opportunities

### United States Senate Youth Program

The [United States Senate Youth Program](#) (USSYP) is a scholarship program for high school juniors and seniors. The scholarship sends two eligible students from each state for an all-expenses-paid week in Washington, D.C., (March 7-14, 2020). While in Washington, they hear policy addresses, meet with senators, Cabinet members, and officials of the Departments of State and Defense. Delegates also traditionally participate in a meeting with a justice of the U.S. Supreme Court and the president of the United States. Upon successful completion of Washington Week, finalists are provided a \$10,000 scholarship. The deadline to apply is **October 1st**.

### Lesbians Who Tech Scholarships

[Lesbians Who Tech](#) is committed to convening queer women and non-binary people in technology (and allies) in a vibrant and inclusive community. They promote the visibility and inclusion of women, LGBTQIA+ people, and people from other backgrounds underrepresented in technology. Lesbians Who Tech is offering [coding scholarships](#) that cover up to 50% of tuition and connect students to networks of mentors that will support them during their studies.

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

## Opportunities for Providers

### Start a FREE Girls Who Code Club

Join students and educators across the country by partnering with Girls Who Code to bring computer science opportunities to elementary, middle, and high school girls in your community! [Girls Who Code Clubs](#) are **FREE** after-school programs for 3rd-5th or 6th-12th grade girls to join a sisterhood of supportive peers and role models and use computer science to change the world. Learn more by checking out the [Clubs Overview](#) or by joining an upcoming Girls Who Code [webinar](#).

*Ready to join the movement? Complete a Clubs application [here](#)! As a Girls Who Code Community Partner, any Clubs in the network are eligible to receive additional partnership benefits by indicating **ACT Now Coalition** on the Clubs Application!*

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

## Funding Opportunities

### Hidden Leaf Funding

[Hidden Leaf](#) provides funds to groups across the progressive spectrum addressing issues such as racial equity, climate justice, immigrants rights, health care reform, workers rights, and reproductive justice. The awareness practices currently used by grant recipients include contemplative meditation, deep listening and other interpersonal communication tools, work that helps align values and actions, personal ecology and improved wellness, and organizational sustainability practices. The deadline to apply is **September 1st**.

### Amgen Foundation Grants

The [Amgen Foundation](#) seeks to advance excellence in science education to inspire the next generation of innovators. The Foundation awards grants to local, regional, and international nonprofit organizations that are replicable, scalable and designed to have a lasting and meaningful effect in their

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communities. Amgen Foundation grants range from \$10,000 to multi-million dollar commitments. The deadline to apply is **ongoing**.

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

## Job Opportunities

### Carole Robertson Center for Learning

The [Carole Robertson Center for Learning](#) (CRCL) is seeking applicants for several job openings beginning in the fall. Positions include [Afterschool Lead Mentor](#) and [Teen REACH Coordinator](#). For any questions, please contact [Kenny Riley](#) (Director of Out-of-School Time Programs, CRCL)

## Resources for Providers

### Youth Development, Programming, & Activities

#### How To Start Your Afterschool Program Off Right

Hosting more events at the beginning of the year instead of the end can help you start the year off fresh. Check out [this guide](#) for a ton of fun ideas and some key planning tips sure to make your events a success.

#### Media Literacy for Youth

Since social media and the algorithms filtering content can make it challenging to access unbiased, factual information, we must equip youth to be critical as they access news sources for a variety of purposes. This [recorded webinar](#) gives an overview of the phenomenon of fake news going viral and tools providers can use to help youth develop media literacy skills.

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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 Faith Knocke (ACT Now - Youth Development Associate) [KnockeF@metrofamily.org](mailto:KnockeF@metrofamily.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](#).**

*Do you find the ACT Now newsletter to be a quality resource for your program? If so, please consider making a contribution to ACT Now so that we may continue to provide free resources to afterschool program providers, and, in turn, create a brighter future for the state of afterschool programs in Illinois!*

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