

ACT NOW!

Afterschool for Children and Teens

Trainings and Webinars

ACT Now Quality Standards Trainings

ACT Now is holding free trainings around the state on the [Quality Standards](#). The trainings will provide participants a general overview of the Standards and strategies for implementation. Credit for the trainings will be available through the Gateways to Opportunity system and participants can also earn CEUs. For more information on these trainings, click [here](#).

- To register for our Springfield training on **Friday, April 6, 2018**, click [here](#).
- To register for our Mt. Vernon training on **Wednesday, May 2, 2018**, click [here](#).
- To register for our Schaumburg training on **Thursday, May 17, 2018**, click [here](#).

National Mentoring Resource Center

The National Mentoring Resource Center's upcoming webinars explore the partnerships between youth mentoring programs and evaluators and provides strategies for improving evaluation efforts. The dates are as follow:

- [April 6, 2018: Planning Meaningful Evaluations and Research Projects in Youth Mentoring](#)
- [April 20, 2018: Key Methodological Considerations for Understanding Mentoring Relationships and Outcomes](#)

Coaching to Support the Conditions for a Well-Rounded Education

The American Institutes for Research (AIR) will be hosting a webinar on **Thursday, April 12, 2018**. In the session districts and schools will be introduced to tools to assist their school climate and social and emotional learning implementation efforts. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

How to Talk to Funders about the Quality Standards

ACT Now will be hosting a webinar on **Thursday, April 26, 2018** that will teach providers how to share the importance of the ACT Now Quality Standards with their program funders. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Promoting Screening Practices for Safety and Suitability of Mentors

MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership will be hosting a webinar on **Thursday, April 26, 2018** that will take participants through the youth mentoring screening process. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

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

Policy

ESSA Title IV Funding

The FY18 omnibus spending plan includes \$1.1 billion in aid for Title IV Part A Student Support Academic Enrichment (SSAE) grants. Districts can use the monies to fund a broad range of priorities that fall under a well-rounded education, including safety, counseling, and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). For more on how districts can utilize the SSAE grants, click [here](#).

ACT Now policy updates affecting the afterschool/youth development field, including information about Teen REACH and 21st Century, can be found [here](#).

Upcoming Event

Bullying: How Schools Can Respond

Northern Illinois University and the University Center of Lake County are hosting a conference on bullying behavior on **Wednesday, April 25, 2018**. For more details, click [here](#).

Youth Opportunities

#NewFaceOfTech Challenge

The #NewFaceOfTech campaign spotlights and financially supports the next generation of women in science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM) with five-\$2,000 awards. The submission deadline is **Thursday, April 5, 2018**. For more information,

click [here](#).

ChiTeen Lit Fest

The ChiTeen Lit Fest is a for-teens-by-teens gathering that provides Chicago youth an opportunity to express themselves through literary arts. The event will take place **April 13-14, 2018**. For more information, click [here](#).

YWCA TechGYRLS

The YWCA Chicago TechGYRLS program offers girls ages nine through 14 a safe and supportive environment for exploring science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM). For more information on the opportunities below, call 773-496-5645.

- Saturdays Year Round from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.
- Summer Tech Program **August 20 to August 31, 2018**

Project Pipeline Camp

Project Pipeline is a four-day summer camp that exposes sixth through eighth grade Chicagoland students to the architectural design industry. The camp will be held **August 1st through the 6th** at the Illinois Institute of Technology. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Latino Art Beat

Latino Art Beat offers an annual visual arts competition with a film component to aspiring young artists. The submission deadline is **Friday, May 18, 2018**. For more information, email Latino Art Beat at latinoartbeat@hotmail.com.

For archived youth opportunities, click [here](#).

Resources

Engaging Families in ESSA

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) encourages parental involvement in education. To view how ESSA assigns resources to engage families, click [here](#).

New STEM Magnet Schools

A \$15 million federal Magnet Schools Assistance program grant will allow three elementary schools on the South and West Sides of Chicago to offer innovative STEM programming. For more information on the transformation, click [here](#).

Illinois Test Guide for Parents

The GreatSchools' Illinois Test Guide is a free, online tool organized by grade and subject to help parents use their state test scores to support learning at home. To access the instrument, click [here](#).

Afterschool and Childhood Nutrition

The Food Research and Action Center's (FRAC) latest report identifies the vital role afterschool programs play and provides participation data on access to the federally funded afterschool nutrition initiative. The report can be found [here](#).

For a list of afterschool and youth development related resources collected by ACT Now, click [here](#).

Opportunity for Providers

One Million Degrees

One Million Degrees provides comprehensive supports to low-income, highly motivated community college students to help them succeed in school, in work, and in life. The deadline to apply is **Wednesday, May 16, 2018**. For more information, click [here](#).

For archived opportunities for providers, click [here](#).

Funding Opportunity

A Better Chicago

A Better Chicago is seeking opportunities to invest in scalable ideas and programs in pre-k through eighth grade that improve students' academic paths. For funding guidelines and eligibility requirements, click [here](#).

For a list of previously listed afterschool and youth development related grants, click [here](#).



Read more about the [ACT Now Coalition](#). Please send any information you would like included in the next newsletter to StantonS@metrofamily.org

Was this email forwarded to you? [Sign up for ACT Now Coalition updates!](#)

The ACT Now Coalition brings together afterschool and youth development stakeholders from across Illinois to work towards ensuring that all young people in Illinois have access to quality, affordable afterschool programs.

Please send this information to others who might be interested by forwarding this e-mail.

To stop all emails from the ACT Now Coalition: [Click here to unsubscribe.](#)