

# ACTNOW!

## Afterschool for Children and Teens

### Policy Update

#### 21st CCLC Funding

The 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) initiative is the only federally funded afterschool program. It serves 52,496 students in 456 communities in Illinois. Be advised of the following funding updates and opportunities to take action:

- The FY17 federal omnibus spending bill includes a \$25 million increase for 21st CCLC. The U.S. House and Senate have until 11:59 p.m. Friday, May 5th to approve the bill in order to avert a government shutdown. For more information, click [here](#).
- The FY18 budget proposal eliminates 21st CCLC. To call on Congress to protect funding for afterschool and summer learning programs in FY18, click [here](#).
- ISBE is documenting how proposed cuts in federal funding for FY18 will affect Illinois schools and communities. Current 21st CCLC grantees are encouraged to share their programs' impact stories, data, and talking points for letters of support with their district superintendents.

#### Stopgap Budget Update

On April 6, 2017 the Illinois House passed [HB109, HAM1](#), which amends/ repeals appropriations to the stopgap budget covering the first six months of FY17. The total appropriated for After School Youth Support Programs for the second half of FY17 is \$17,917,400. It is unclear at this time if the Senate will be moving forward with this bill.

#### Teen REACH Not Funded in FY18 Proposal

The Governor's FY18 Budget Proposal did not include Teen REACH. To take action and tell the General Assembly to fund Teen REACH, click [here](#). Additional advocacy opportunities/options, including using social and print media, can be found in our [Teen REACH Advocacy Toolkit](#). To access the Teen REACH fact sheet, click [here](#).

#### Tell Policymakers to Release the 21st CCLC RFP

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is in the process of finalizing the next 21st Century RFP. **We need you to tell your policymakers that the RFP needs to be**

**released NOW in order to limit gaps in funding as much as possible.** Click on this [link](#) to share this message with legislators asking them to tell ISBE to release the RFP. You can also use this [form letter](#) to send a message to ISBE.

### **Social Services Contract Notice**

The Social Services Contract Notice Act, [HB3110](#), passed out of the House and is now in the Senate. This bill was written in response to the Good Friday social services cut that took place in April 2015. The bill would require the state of Illinois to provide the General Assembly and social service providers advance notice prior to reducing, eliminating, or suspending services. The HB3110 fact sheet can be accessed [here](#). To identify your legislator as well as retrieve contact information to ask them to support this bill, click [here](#). Also, please consider filing a witness slip in support of HB3110. You can indicate your support for this bill without providing testimony by selecting, “Proponent” and “Record of Appearance Only.” The hearing is scheduled for 3:45 p.m. on **Tuesday, May 2nd**. You can submit witness slips [here](#) up until that time.

### **Thriving Youth Fund**

The Thriving Youth Fund bill, [SB2046/HB3217](#), is on its second reading in the Senate. It establishes the thriving youth income tax check box that allows taxpayers to fund non-Medicaid eligible community-based youth programs. The SB2046/HB3217 fact sheet can be accessed [here](#). To identify your legislators as well as retrieve contact information to ask them to support this bill, click [here](#).

### **Lottery After-School Rescue**

The Lottery After-School Rescue bill, [HB0273](#), creates an “After-School Rescue” scratch-off game where the net revenue goes to the making of grants to at-risk schools for the promotion of extracurricular and after-school programs. To identify your legislator as well as retrieve contact information to ask them to support this bill, click [here](#).

### **Illinois Criminal Justice Information Act**

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Act, [HB3166](#), calls for the development of new methods and uses of criminal justice information for the improvement of the criminal justice system and the reduction of crime. The bill supports afterschool programs and youth jobs as violence prevention measures, particularly in communities that have been greatly impacted. To identify your legislator as well as retrieve contact information to ask them to support this bill, click [here](#).

### **Trauma-Informed Care for Children and Families Act**

The federal Trauma-Informed Care for Children and Families Act of 2017, [S.774/H.R.1757](#), addresses the impact of toxic stress and trauma on childhood development. The legislation

would equip adults serving youth with resources to provide evidence-based treatments and interventions. To access the section-by-section overview, click [here](#).

## Upcoming Events

### 7th Annual STEAM Conference

Northeastern Illinois University and Columbia College Chicago's 7th annual STEAM Conference will take place on **Saturday, May 20, 2017**. This free event will be held on the campus of Northeastern Illinois University, located at 5500 North St. Louis Avenue in Chicago. The conference will provide middle school and high school students, educators, and parents an opportunity to explore activities focused in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts/Architecture/Agriculture, and Mathematics (STEAM), through student-led, project-based, and career-oriented workshops. Click [here](#) for more information or to register.

### At-Risk After-School Meals Summit

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) At-Risk Afterschool Meals Component provides funding to afterschool programs that serve a meal and/or snacks to children and teens in low-income areas. An At-Risk After-School Meals Summit will be held in Chicago on **Thursday, May 25, 2017** at the YMCA of Metro Chicago, located at 1030 West Van Buren Street. The event will bring Cook County sponsors together with organizations and resources that can help enhance meal programs. For more information or to register, contact Sonianne Lozada at [slozada@gcfd.org](mailto:slozada@gcfd.org) or at 773-843-5492.

## Youth Opportunities

### One Summer Chicago

One Summer Chicago brings together government institutions, community-based organizations, and companies to offer over 31,000 employment and internship opportunities to Chicago's youth and young adults ages 14 to 24. For additional information or to apply, click [here](#).

### 2017 Impact Youth Conference

The Peace Hub's 3rd annual conference designed specifically for youth and youth advocates, will be held on **May 5-6, 2017** at the Gary Comer Youth Center, located at 7200 South Ingleside in Chicago. For additional information or to register, click [here](#).

### Chicago Summer STEM Camp

Project SYNCERE in partnership with the Chicago Department of Family & Support Services is hosting a free six-week summer STEM camp. Students must be Chicago residents entering grades nine through 12 and in good academic standing. Applications are due by **Thursday, May 11, 2017**. For more information or to apply, click [here](#).

### **Cream of the Crop Photo Contest**

The Cream of the Crop Photo Contest, sponsored by Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs, invites youth ages eight through 18 to submit an innovative, scenic snapshot of agriculture in Illinois. All photographs must be the original work of the photographer and submitted in JPG format, 300 dpi, no larger than 5MB. The deadline to enter is **Tuesday, June 27, 2017**. Click [here](#) to view the contest rules or to submit your entry.

## **Trainings and Webinars**

### **Implementing ACT Now's Afterschool Quality Standards**

ACT Now will be hosting a webinar on **Wednesday, May 3, 2017** from 10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. where four providers will share the work they have done to implement the Standards. This is a wonderful opportunity to compare notes with other providers and hear best practices for program improvement. To register, click [here](#).

### **The President's Budget Eliminates Afterschool Funding. What Happens Now?**

The Afterschool Alliance will be hosting a webinar on **Thursday, May 4, 2017** to share the latest developments on 21st Century Community Learning Center funding. The session will begin at 12 noon. For additional information or to register, click [here](#).

### **Creating Fun and Engaging SUMMER Hands-On Science Experiences**

IAN will be hosting regional trainings to support afterschool professionals with creating fun, interactive, and inspiring summer hands-on science activities. For more information or to register for these trainings, click on the links below.

- [Harvard, IL on May 10, 2017](#)
- [Springfield, IL on May 11, 2017](#)

### **Rev Up Training Institute**

The Chicago Freedom School in partnership with the Youth Development Masters of Education Program at UIC are hosting a four-day training institute for youth organizers, youth workers, and educators who seek to incorporate social change practices into their work. The event will be held on **Thursday, May 18, 2017 through Sunday, May 21, 2017**, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. For additional details or to register, click [here](#).

## Resources

### Planning a Successful Site Visit

The Memorial Day recess is an excellent opportunity for afterschool programs to show elected officials how afterschool works. For tools and strategies for maximizing your site visit's impact, click [here](#).

### ESSA and Student Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning

The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) has released a brief that provides states and LEAs strategies that they can use to develop systems, programs, and policies that will support the social and emotional needs of all students. To access the document, click [here](#).

## Opportunity for Providers

### National Afterschool Matters Fellowship

The National Afterschool Matters Fellowship is a two-year leadership training program offered by the National Institute on Out-of-School Time at the Wellesley Centers for Women at Wellesley College and the National Writing Project. Mid-career out-of-school time (OST), education, or youth development professionals who demonstrate a commitment to the OST field are encouraged to apply. Applications are due by **Wednesday, May 31, 2017**. For more information, click [here](#).

## Employment

ACT Now is seeking a consultant to develop an engaging, interactive, and informative database and map of afterschool programs in Illinois. Submissions are due by **Thursday, May 18, 2017**. Click [here](#) to view the RFP guidelines and instructions on how to apply.

## Funding Opportunities

### Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities

The Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities will award grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000 to support activities led by Chicago residents in 17 communities that are designed to promote peace, build trust, and strengthen relationships. Fundable projects could include educational events, group or youth activities, resident leader stipends, recreational activities, festivals, performances, picnics, block-level activities and more. Applications must be submitted by **Thursday, May 4, 2017**. For more information, click

[here](#).

### **Opportunity Works**

The Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership in conjunction with the Office of the President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners announces the release of funding for Opportunity Works, an initiative that will introduce young adults, ages 16-24, from suburban Cook County to careers in high-growth, high-demand sectors. Governmental, not-for-profit, educational, or for-profit entities in business for at least three years may submit a proposal to be service providers. The proposal deadline is **Friday, May 5, 2017** at noon. For more information, click [here](#).

### **Best Buy Foundation Community Grants**

The Best Buy Foundation provides one-year grants up to \$10,000 to help afterschool and summer programs bring new technologies to teens who are underserved. Proposals are due by 4:00 p.m. on **Friday, May 19, 2017**. For funding guidelines or to apply, 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](mailto:StantonS@metrofamily.org)

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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.

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