

ACT NOW!

Afterschool for Children and Teens

Policy

Youth Budget Commission

HB5202 establishes the Youth Budget Coalition with the purpose of creating a yearly analysis of the State budget across the six developmental goals that all youth need to build exceptional lives. This Commission will use the scan to advise the administration on youth program policies and spending. It passed out of the House and is now in the Senate. The HB5202 fact sheet can be accessed [here](#). To contact Senate State Government Committee members to ask them to support this bill, click [here](#). Also, please consider filing a witness slip in support of HB5202. You can indicate your support for this bill without providing testimony by selecting, “Proponent” and “Record of Appearance Only.” The hearing is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, May 9th**. You can submit witness slips [here](#) up until that time.

CCDF Public Hearing

The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) will hold a public hearing for comment on the federal [Child Care Development Fund \(CCDF\) State Plan for FY 2019–2021](#) on **Tuesday, May 22, 2018** at INCCRRA in Bloomington, IL. IDHS is seeking input on how to finalize sections 3.1.7 Graduated Phase Out and 3.3.1 12-Month Eligibility. The public is invited to attend the hearing in person or participate by webinar. For more information, click [here](#).

Progressive Income Tax

On May 2, 2018, [HR1025](#), the resolution that calls for an amendment to the Illinois Constitution to allow for a fair and progressive income tax, passed out of the House Revenue and Finance Committee with a vote of seven to three. It is now headed to the full House for consideration.

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

Upcoming Events

Building Empathy: Understanding Complex Trauma-Exposed Children

The Garfield Park Behavioral Hospital is hosting an event on **Thursday, May 10, 2018** that will address the neurobiological consequences of environmental trauma. For more information, click [here](#).

Action Civics Showcase

Mikva Challenge will be hosting its 16th Annual Action Civics Showcase on **Tuesday, May 22, 2018**. The event will be held from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at the Bridgeport Art Center, located at 1200 West 35th St., Chicago. It will feature youth-led solutions to critical community issues from 90 youth teams from across the city. To tour the civic showcase or volunteer as a project judge, click [here](#).

Youth Opportunity

ThinkBIG Challenge

The ThinkBIG Challenge video contest is an opportunity for girls between the ages of eight to 14 to share their passion for STEM in a one to four minute video. The submission deadline is **Wednesday, August 15, 2018**. For more information, click [here](#).

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

Trainings and Webinars

Learning About Space: NASA and Beyond!

Join Click2Science on **May 9, 2018** at 1:00 p.m. for their upcoming Webinar Wednesday. In the workshop, afterschool professionals will learn to enable active STEM learning in their programs using resources from NASA. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Summer Learning Program Recruitment Best Practices

The National Summer Learning Association and the Afterschool Alliance are co-hosting a webinar on **Thursday, May 10, 2018**. During the session, attendees will go through the key steps for successful summer learning recruitment. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

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

Resources

Making the Most of Your Full Day Program

Developing a comprehensive plan for full-day out-of-school time (OST) programming provides OST leaders an opportunity to create innovative learning experiences. For tips and resources on how to keep youth engaged throughout the day, click [here](#).

Investing in Afterschool and Summer Learning

The National League of Cities recently released briefs outline how city leaders can leverage afterschool and summer learning programs as strategies to improve public safety, workforce development, and college and career readiness in their communities. Data from Chicago's Project Exploration and After School Matters programs helped to inform the two latter pieces. The briefs can be accessed [here](#).

Summer Reading and Math

MetaMetrics is offering free summer reading and math resources.

- [Find a Book](#): Matches reader's interest and reading level to generate a customized book list.
- [Summer Math Challenge](#): Six-week program that offers daily emails with fun activities and resources at the student's ability level.

Engaging Families in STEM

The STEM Next Opportunity Fund's latest initiative explores the importance of family engagement in STEM learning and provides resources for increasing involvement. To access the toolkit, click [here](#).

How Young People Learn

In a recent Forum for Thought, the American Youth Policy Forum's Executive Director Betsy Brand shares how out-of-school time programs are the ideal setting for youth to develop skills to be successful in college, a career, and life, regardless of income or background. Highlighted as an exemplar is Chicago's After School Matters. To access the post, click [here](#).

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

Provider Opportunities

Community Leadership Corps

The Obama Foundation's Community Leadership Corps program offers in-person and online programming to young leaders ages 18 to 25. The application deadline is **Friday, May 11, 2018**. For more information, click [here](#).

STEM Teacher Workshops

Northwestern University's Office of Community Education Partnerships is hosting free professional development workshops for high school STEM teachers. The upcoming sessions are below:

- **June 26-28, 2018:** [STEM Student Research Facilitation Course](#)
- **June 28-29, 2018:** [Integrating Climate Science into Your STEM Courses](#)

Engineer for the Week

Engineer for the Week is an afterschool program supported by Facebook engineers that is designed to engage young people in computer science. Only non-required, non-credit, afterschool programs are eligible to participate. For more information, click [here](#).

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

Funding Opportunities

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

Contact Us

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