

ACT NOW!

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, [H.R. 244](#), that includes a \$25 million increase for 21st CCLC was passed on May 5th.
- The President's 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.

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.

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](#).

Social Services Contract Notice

The Social Services Contract Notice Act, [HB3110](#), is on its second reading 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](#).

Thriving Youth Fund

The Thriving Youth Fund bill, [SB2046/HB3217](#), passed out of the Senate and is now in the House. 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](#).

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. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

National Summer Learning Day

Afterschool programs, educators, policymakers, businesses, schools, and families can all make this summer a season of learning by being a part of Summer Learning Day on **Thursday, July 13, 2017**. For more information and to access resources, click [here](#).

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](#).

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.

Anti-Defamation League Essay and Art Contest

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and Greenberg Traurig, LLP, in partnership with NIE Chicago Tribune and The Mash have announced the 2017 student essay and art contest on the First Amendment. Students in grades seven through 11 at the time of entry are invited to submit an essay or create a work of art that best addresses how one or more of the five freedoms in the First Amendment personally affects their daily life. First place winners in each grade category will receive \$3,500. All entries must be postmarked by **Friday, June 30, 2017**. The contest guidelines and entry form can be viewed [here](#).

Trainings and Webinars

Kickoff to Summer Learning Day 2017

The National Summer Learning Association will be hosting a National Summer Learning Day planning webinar on **Wednesday, May 17, 2017** at 2:00 p.m. For more information or

to register, click [here](#).

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

ACT Now Quality Standards Implementation Webinar

You can access the recording to ACT Now's webinar on how afterschool providers have used the Quality Standards to improve their programs by clicking [here](#).

Navigating SEL from the Inside Out

The Wallace Foundation's recently published report offers information about curricular content and programmatic features, which out-of-school-time practitioners can use to make informed choices about their social and emotional learning (SEL) programs. To access the guide, 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](#).

Illinois Teaching Policy Fellowship

The Teach Plus Illinois Teaching Policy Fellowship trains teachers to engage with state legislators and advocate for change at the state level. Applications are due **Friday, June 2, 2017**. For more information or to apply, 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 Opportunity

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

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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.

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

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