

ACTNOW!

Afterschool for Children and Teens

Policy

Federal Budget Update

The United States Congress passed a stop gap spending measure on December 7th. It allows the federal government to remain open and operating at last year's funding levels until December 22nd. Congress plans to use the additional weeks to strike a spending deal that will pave the way for a third temporary continuing resolution that will last into 2018. The House and Senate continue to negotiate a FY18 omnibus spending bill. The barriers to a deal at this time include defense and non-defense spending levels, funding for the border wall, and an agreement on DACA. Once a spending deal is reached, appropriators will negotiate individual funding levels for each government program, including 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC). To read more on the CR, click [here](#). To tell Congress to support 21st CCLC funding in 2018, click [here](#).

Children's Cabinet Update

On December 7, 2017, the Governor's Cabinet on Children and Youth met in Springfield. You can find details and materials from the meeting [here](#). The Cabinet discussed the data dashboard going live on their website to track the indicators they have identified. The Cabinet is working on data relevant to their projects and predicative data. There is no health data at the moment while the Governor's office works around HIPAA issues. The Cabinet also discussed possible new projects to pursue including projects related to building positive adult connections, children's mental health, and community systems. Members also highlighted the importance of incorporating youth voice in their work. The next Cabinet meeting will be held **Thursday, March 8, 2018**.

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

Upcoming Event

60 by 25 Network Conference

60 by 25's 2018 conference, Scaling for Impact, will be held **February 6th through 7th** at the Double Tree by Hilton in Bloomington, IL. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Trainings and Webinars

Summer Learning and ESSA

The National Summer Learning Association will be hosting a webinar entitled "Opportunities for Summer Learning in State ESSA Plans" on **Tuesday, December 12, 2017** at 1:00 p.m. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Leveraging ESSA, Perkins, and WIOA to Support a College and Career-Ready Workforce

The College & Career Readiness & Success (CCRS) Center at American Institutes for Research will be hosting a webinar on **Wednesday, December 13, 2017** at 12:00 p.m. The session will highlight the CCRS Center's analysis of ESSA, Perkins, and WIOA. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

The Growing Out-of-School Time Field: Part I

The Afterschool Alliance will be hosting the first of two webinars that explores the ways in which the out-of-school time field has grown and matured as a partner in helping children and youth reach their full potential. The session will be held on **Wednesday, December 13, 2017** at 1:00 p.m. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Using Science Tools - Supporting Science Practices

Join Click2Science on **December 13, 2017** at 1:00 p.m. for their upcoming Webinar Wednesday. The workshop will prepare afterschool professionals with exploring science concepts and using scientific tools. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

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

Resources

ICMHP Annual Report

The "Illinois Children's Mental Health Partnership's FY2017 Annual Report to the Governor" addresses the current mental health needs of Illinois' children. To access, click [here](#).

ESSA and STEM Equity

In the latest Education Week commentary, STEM advocates share how the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) can be utilized to address existing inequities in STEM education. You can access the commentary [here](#).

Principal Survey on SEL

CASEL's national survey of United States school principals indicates that they understand the importance of social and emotional learning (SEL), but need more guidance, training, and support to implement it school-wide. To access the report, click [here](#).

NASA Space Place

The December issue of the NASA Space Place Gazette supports young people learning more about the layers of the Earth and the Galaxy by creating hands-on projects using ordinary materials. To explore more, click the links below:

- [Earth Fan](#)
- [Galaxy Pinwheel](#)

Remake Learning: A Networked Approach to Education for the 21st Century

Remake Learning is a community approach to innovative learning that provides students engaging and relevant opportunities during unprecedented social and technological change. To learn more about its effectiveness in the Pittsburgh, PA area amidst the loss of the steel industry, click [here](#).

Developing a College- and Career-Ready Workforce: An Analysis of ESSA, Perkins, and WIOA

The College & Career Readiness & Success Center at American Institutes for Research has developed resources that supports states with aligning their labor market efforts with the education pipeline opportunities. The resource includes the following:

- [An Analysis of ESSA, Perkins, and WIOA Brief](#)
- [State and Local Planning Workbook](#)
- [Career-Ready Workforce Interactive Tool](#)

Analysis of State Use of Title IV-A Funds

The Bernstein Strategy Group, on behalf of the Title IV-A Coalition, has developed a resource indicating how state education departments intend to distribute their FY17 allocations. Detailed results on their research as well as a breakdown on distribution timing can be found [here](#).

SEL Interventions Under ESSA

The Wallace Foundation's latest report identifies provisions within the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) that can be used for social emotional learning (SEL) programming. You can access the report [here](#).

America's Next Great Workforce Begins with Afterschool

The National League of Cities convened a symposium of mayors and corporate leaders to discuss and share their perspective on the workforce skills gap and how afterschool and summer learning can be a strategy to address it. More information on the convening can be found [here](#).

Penguin Habitat Activity

In this month's National AfterSchool Association STEM Gem activity, participants will use pipe cleaners, baking soda, and rocks to explore animal habitats. To view the lesson plan, click [here](#).

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

Opportunity for Providers

Summer Learning Awards

The New York Life Excellence in Summer Learning Award and the Founder's Award recognize outstanding summer programs that demonstrate excellence in accelerating academic achievement and promoting healthy development for young people. Award winners receive a monetary prize of \$10,000. Applications are due **Thursday, December 21, 2017**. For more information, click [here](#).

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

Funding Opportunities

Marathon Kids Out-of-School Time Grant

The Marathon Kids Grant provides funding to implement the Marathon Kids Running Club model. The deadline to apply is **Friday, February 9, 2018**. For program and funding guidelines, click [here](#).

New York Life Foundation Aim High RFP

The New York Life Foundation's Aim High program assists afterschool and summer learning programs with helping middle school students make a successful transition from 8th to 9th grade. Click [here](#) to learn more about the grant program, funding guidelines, and how to apply.

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

Afterschool in the News

Akiira Wilson, a 14-year old Quincy High School student, attributes her participation in the Teen REACH afterschool program as the game changer that has changed her outlook and inspired her to give back. To read more of her story, click [here](#). For more information on how you can show your support for Teen REACH, 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](#).