

ACT NOW!



Afterschool for Children and Teens

Policy Updates

What the Midterm Results Mean for Afterschool

With the dust still settling from the 2018 midterm elections, and several House and Senate races remain too close to call, there are a few conclusions to be made amidst the remaining uncertainty. While afterschool and summer learning programs are largely funded by parent fees, the public funding at the local, state, and federal level is critical. Therefore, the 2018 election will have an impact on existing programs and the prospect of additional support for programs. [Click here](#) for a few first impressions on what the results may mean for afterschool.

For a list of previously listed policy updates, click [here](#).

Trainings and Events

Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

This training will help you understand, recognize, and prevent ACEs. You'll learn about risk and protective factors, outcomes associated with ACEs, and evidence-based strategies you can use to reduce or eliminate the impact of ACEs and stop them from occurring in the first place. This is an **ongoing training** that you may access at any time. To learn more, click [here](#).

Webinar: Measuring SEL in OST Programs

Social and Emotional Learning, or SEL, has become an increasingly important way to measure the effectiveness of afterschool and community programming. In this free webinar, you will learn about best practices for SEL with an expert in the field (Sally Munemitsu, COO of Algorhythm) and ways to pair SEL outcomes with participation data to further demonstrate program impact. This webinar will be held **November 14th at 11:30 AM**. To learn more, click [here](#).

Webinar: Behavioral Management is not a "One Size Fits All"

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Join the Illinois Afterschool Network (IAN) for an interactive webinar that will explore various aspects of behavior, examine developmentally appropriate practices in your programs, and discuss best practice strategic approaches designed to modifying behaviors. (The webinar is \$15 for IAN members and \$30 for non-members.) This webinar will be held **November 14th from 10 AM to 11:30 AM CDT**. To register, click [here](#).

Welcome to ACT Now (Webinar/E-Meeting)

ACT Now will be holding a webinar for new ACT Now members to learn more about the work of ACT Now and how to navigate the many free resources we offer to support afterschool programs. Additionally, program providers and staff will have a chance to share information about their programs. This webinar/e-meeting will be held on **November 27th from 10 AM to 11 AM**. To register, click [here](#).

Healthy Out-of-School Time

Join the Illinois Afterschool Network (IAN) as they explore ways your Healthy Out-of-School Time Program can begin fostering community connections, as well as strengthen the healthy eating and physical activity environment for the students you serve. This training will be held in **Bloomington, IL on December 4th from 6:45 PM to 8:45 PM** (This training is \$10 per person.) To register, click [here](#).

Webinar: Trauma-Informed Settings in Afterschool

During this webinar, the Illinois Afterschool Network (IAN) will discuss how to implement the five core principles of trauma-informed care in an afterschool setting. This webinar will be held **January 30th from 10 AM to 11:30 AM CDT**. (The webinar is \$15 for IAN members and \$30 for non-members.) To register, click [here](#).

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

Youth Opportunities

LGBTQ+ Teen Hang

Teen Hang is a social group for LGBTQ+ youth in Chicago between the ages of 13 and 18 years old. Many young LGBTQ people often have a difficult time meeting other queer youth in their age range, and Teen Hang offers a space where this can happen in a safe and affirming way! To learn more, click [here](#).

Resources for Providers

ACT Now STEM Guidebook

ACT Now has created an easy to navigate, comprehensive guide of affordable STEM resources for afterschool providers to utilize and incorporate into their own programs. Throughout ACT Now's STEM Guidebook, there are resources on how to fund your

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program, gain professional development opportunities, build a curriculum with activity recommendations, and ways in which you can advocate for policy change for STEM in afterschool. To access the STEM Guidebook, click [here](#).

Report: The State of Afterschool in Illinois 2018

ACT Now launched a statewide afterschool map and database to help better quantify and demonstrate the excellent work being done by these programs statewide. The vast array of data collected within the afterschool map and database has allowed us to start to quantify the landscape of afterschool in Illinois for the first time. Using this data, ACT Now developed a report that will allow us to appreciate the scope of work accomplished, the excellent examples of afterschool programs, and the gaps in resources in areas of high need in Illinois. To access the full report, click [here](#).

Call for Resources

Do you have valuable resources, stories, or best practices to share with the afterschool field? Please click [here](#) to share your resources with ACT Now and we will disseminate them (via our newsletter and website) to other providers across the state! If you have any questions, please contact Faith Knocke (ACT Now - Youth Development Associate) KnockeF@metrofamily.org

Contact Us

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and MANY MORE resources for you to continuously improve and advocate for quality, affordable afterschool programs!

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