

ACT NOW! NEWSLETTER

Policy Updates

ISBE Board Meeting Recap

The Illinois State Board of Education met for its monthly meeting on January 15, 2020. You can find the Board packet [here](#). At the meeting, ACT Now and the Illinois State Alliance of YMCAs provided [public comment about the ISBE Budget](#). Specifically, these groups touched on the fact that ISBE left out funding for community schools and that the After School Programs funding is going to the Healthy Communities Investment Grant program and very little of that funding actually goes to the afterschool programs. Board members expressed concern about the After School Programs line and asked that this be investigated. However, ISBE did vote to approve their budget. The Board also heard presentations from the Student Advisory Council and on early childhood educations. The Board's [next meeting is February 18, 2020](#).

Afterschool in the 2020 Census

Afterschool providers are in an excellent position to help with the 2020 Census. All federal funding for 21st CCLC, Childcare, Title I and other supports essential to the children and families we serve are determined by the census. In order to help federally funded afterschool programs engage their community in a conversation about the 2020 Census, check out the Afterschool Alliance's [2020 Census Toolkit](#) for more information about how to become involved.

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

Upcoming Community School Training and Networking Events

Don't forget to join us for our upcoming Community School Networking and Training Events! Each meeting provides an opportunity to hear policy updates from ACT Now, hear from a speaker on topics voted on by the group, and time to workshop ideas with your peers. See details below.

Downstate—January 28, 2020 10:00 a.m. to noon

- **Topic:** Building Partnerships
- **Speakers:** Joie Frankovich, WeGo Together for Kids of West Chicago
- **Location:** Wanless Building, 2120 E Reservoir St., Springfield, IL
- Register [here](#)

Suburbs—February 7, 2020 10:00 a.m. to noon

- **Topic:** Effective Messaging
- **Speakers:** Susan Stanton, ACT Now
- **Location:** Skokie District Office, 5050 Madison St., Skokie, IL
- Register [here](#)

Chicago—February 20, 2020 10:00 a.m. to noon

- **Topic:** Trauma Informed Care
- **Speakers:** Illinois Collaboration on Youth
- **Location:** National Museum of Mexican Art, 1852 W 19th St., Chicago, IL
- Register [here](#)

Trainings, Events and Webinars

Professional Development and Qualifications

ACT Now 2020 Winter/Spring Quality Standards Trainings

ACT Now is providing **FREE** in-person trainings on the Illinois Statewide Afterschool Quality Standards in order to help afterschool providers and staff continuously improve the quality of their programs. The trainings will: provide participants with a background in the Standards; assist providers in creating a plan for implementing Standards; and help to develop strategies for overcoming obstacles in implementing quality initiatives. The trainings dates for 2020 are listed below.

Homewood – February 12, 2020

- **Location:** Homewood Science Center, 18022 Dixie Hwy, Homewood IL 60430
- **Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Register [here](#)

Springfield – March 19, 2020

- **Location:** Capital Area Career Center, Toronto Rd, Springfield IL 62712
- **Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Register [here](#)

Chicago – April 23, 2020

- **Location:** YMCA Learning Institute, 1030 W. Van Buren St., Chicago IL 60607
- **Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Register [here](#)

Youth Development, Programming, & Activities

ACT Now STEM Webinar: Developing STEM Projects

ACT Now is hosting another series of 4 STEM PD webinars for program providers to have an opportunity to strengthen their ability to navigate and implement STEM resources and activities. Our next webinar is focused on **Developing STEM Projects** and will occur on **February 5, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** You can register for the webinar [here](#). Our final webinar of the year will be on **STEM and the Workforce** on **April 8, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

ACT Now SEL Webinar on Social Awareness

Join ACT Now for our upcoming Social Emotional Learning (SEL) webinar series! The second webinar will cover **social awareness**. This webinar will be held on **January 22nd from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** with guest speakers Susan Stanton (ACT Now), Bryan Kelly (Skokie District 69), Sarah Rankin (Skokie District 69), Susan Castrogiovani (DREAM West Chicago), and Enrique Alvarez (Central States SER). In addition to the webinar, ACT Now will be sharing our *Social Emotional Learning in Afterschool* guidebook! Register [here](#).

Active Schools SEL Webinar

Active Schools will be holding the seventh and final webinar in its Active Classrooms Series titled “**Exploring Social-Emotional Learning Through Movement: A Win-Win**” on **February 11, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.** Learn about the connections between CASEL’s Core SEL Competencies and the National Standards for Physical Education. Explore how dance, yoga, breathing and mindful movement help students achieve SEL outcomes. Register [here](#).

2020 College Changes Everything Conference® (CCE)

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) is holding the 10th annual College Changes Everything Conference® (CCE) on college access, success in higher education, and career readiness on **July 9, 2020**. The Planning Committee is asking for session proposal submissions for the event. Click [here](#) for the online session proposal form. **The deadline for submissions is Friday, February 28, 2020.** For more information about the conference, click [here](#).

Upcoming Events at Fermilab

Fermilab is America’s premier particle physics and accelerator laboratory and the accelerator-based neutrino research capital of the world. Fermilab is committed to supporting education and public outreach. Fermilab invites you to explore their ever-growing and evolving science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education programs and outreach. Their programs will get students interested and engaged in science and will support teachers in meeting the goals of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). The follow are some of Fermilab's upcoming events:

For Families

- February 9, 2020 – [Fermilab Family Open House](#)
- April 19, 2020 – [Wonders of Science](#)

For High School Students

- April 7, 2020 – [Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics High School Career Expo](#)

For Teachers

- February 16, 2020 (Deadline) – [Teacher Research Associates Program at Fermilab](#)

- February 28, 2020 – Area-Wide [Institute Day: Connecting Science Learning to STEM Careers](#)
- March 15, 2020 (Deadline) – FFSE [Scholarship Application Site](#)
- Register for all summer teacher workshops here: ed.fnal.gov/workshop-cat/

For an archive of our previously listed Trainings, Events and Webinars, click [here](#).

Opportunities for Providers

For an archive of our previously listed Opportunities for Providers, click [here](#).

Funding Opportunities

City of Chicago's FY2020 Call for RFPs

Under the leadership of Mayor Lori Lightfoot, the City of Chicago is calling for non-profit organizations to submit up to two Requests for Proposals (RFPs) worth a total of \$7.5 million for community-based violence prevention programming and trauma support services. The **RFP for \$6 million** will go to a non-profit agency to allow for outreach by organizations trained in violence interruption (Solicitation No 7213). The **RFP for \$1.5 million** will be allocated for trauma-informed support programming for victims in communities impacted by violence (Solicitation No 7212). Collaboration with City services and law enforcement entities is integral. **Applications are open now** and the **deadline** for RFPs is **February 20, 2020**. For more information, click [here](#).

NOAA-21st Century Community Learning Centers Watershed STEM Education Partnership Grants Now Open

NOAA is excited to be working with the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) to offer a grant opportunity to bring together two great programs: NOAA B-WET and the U.S. Department of

Education 21st Century Learning Centers (21st CCLC). These grants will enable experienced environmental education providers to work with 21st CCLC sites to deliver authentic STEM experiences emphasizing the unique assets and expertise of NOAA. Applications are due **February 6, 2020**. See the [NAAEE website](#) for the full Request for Proposals and application. Please address questions about this offering to: T’Noya Thompson at tnoya@naaee.org.

For an archive of our previously listed Funding Opportunities, [click here](#).

Resources for Providers

For an archive of our previously listed Resources for Providers, [click here](#).

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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 **Emma Spencer (ACT Now - Youth Development Associate)** at Spencere@actnowillinois.org

NOTE: We are now sorting our trainings and resources by the Core Areas in the Illinois Statewide Afterschool Quality Standards to promote better understanding and implementation of the Standards. Dark blue headings denote a Core Area. To learn more about the Quality Standards, click [here](#).

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