

This is Afterschool in Florida



Florida parents value afterschool programs for keeping kids safe and providing them opportunities to learn, connect, and build foundational life skills. Programs also help parents keep their jobs, boost productivity, and reduce stress. But too many families are missing out. In Florida, nearly 1.5 million children whose parents want afterschool programs do not have access to them.

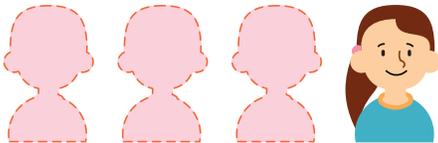
Demand for Afterschool Programs in Florida is Enormous

Parents of more than
2 million children
want afterschool programs

✓ **527,771**
children are in
afterschool programs

✗ **1,473,184**
children are **not** in programs, but
would be if a program were available

Approximately 3 in 4 Florida children are missing out.



Afterschool Programs Support Florida Children’s Learning and Development

Florida parents give programs high marks for quality and for supporting their child with:



Afterschool Works in Florida

In a 2024 U.S. Department of Education report on 21st CCLC programs nationally, Florida students attending afterschool programs saw both academic and behavioral improvements. Programs helped:

- ▲ **Boost academic performance:** 41% of students in grades 7 through 8 and 10 through 12 who had a GPA below 3.0 the previous year improved their GPA.
- ▲ **Reduce chronic absenteeism:** 65% of students who were chronically absent the previous school year improved their school-day attendance.
- ▲ **Improve engagement and behavior:** 68% of 1st through 5th grade students showed improved engagement in learning, and 69% of students in grades 1 through 12 experienced fewer in-school suspensions than the previous year.

Florida Parents Stand Behind Afterschool Programs

89%

Agree that all young people deserve access to quality afterschool and summer programs.



92%

Are in favor of public funding for afterschool programs. Support for public funding is also high across political affiliations.



Afterschool Programs Help Working Families and Strengthen the Economy

Florida parents report that their child's afterschool program:

92%

Helps them keep their job



92%

Leads to less stress



92%

Boosts productivity



Additionally, research spanning several states shows that **every \$1 invested** in afterschool programs **saves at least \$3** by:



Increasing kids' earning potential as adults



Improving kids' performance at school



Reducing crime and juvenile delinquency



If there were not an afterschool program available, what, if any impact would it have on your family?

"My child would have to stay at home with their older sibling after school and lose out on opportunities to enjoy themselves after school."

— FLORIDA DAD

21st Century Community Learning Centers

The 21st Century Community Learning Centers initiative (21st CCLC) is the only federal funding dedicated to afterschool and summer programs, enabling states to award funds to local programs that meet community needs. 21st CCLC programs engage students in hands-on learning activities aimed at supporting their academic growth, provide a variety of enrichment activities to complement school-day learning, and offer educational and support services to the families of participating children.

IN FLORIDA:

47,358

children are served by a 21st CCLC program

467

communities served

Demand for programming in Florida is so great that **1 out of every 3** applications were not funded during the most recent competition.

Citations

1. Afterschool Alliance. (2025). *Florida After 3PM*, fifth edition [Data set]. <https://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM/data/florida/demand>.
2. U.S. Department of Education. (2024). *21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) analytic support for evaluation and program monitoring: An overview of the 21st CCLC performance data: 2022-2023 (19th report)*. Washington, DC.
3. Afterschool Alliance estimate based on findings from state-level return on investment studies, including California, Georgia, Maryland, Oklahoma, and Vermont.
4. Florida Department of Education. (2024). [Number of children and communities served by FL 21st CCLCs, 2022-23] [Unpublished raw data].

About the Afterschool Alliance

The Afterschool Alliance is working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs. Learn more at: www.afterschoolalliance.org

