

# This is Afterschool in Louisiana



Louisiana 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 Louisiana, approximately 363,000 children whose parents want afterschool programs do not have access to them.

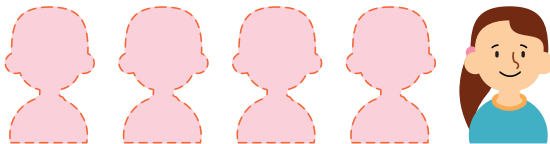
## Demand for Afterschool Programs in Louisiana is Enormous

Parents of  
**447,639** children  
want afterschool programs

✓ **84,419**  
children are in  
afterschool programs

✗ **363,220**  
children are **not** in programs, but  
would be if a program were available

Approximately 4 in 5 Louisiana children are missing out.



## Afterschool Programs Support Louisiana Children's Learning and Development

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

**90%** A safe environment 

**82%** Excitement about learning 

**84%** Teamwork + critical thinking skills 

**92%** Time with peers + building social skills 

 **4.08**  
Quality Rating

 **81%**  
Excellent or Very Good

### Afterschool Works in Louisiana

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

- ▲ **Boost academic performance:** Participants in 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade made gains on their state reading/language arts (56%) and math assessments (50%). Additionally, 57% of 7<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who had a prior-year GPA below 3.0 improved their GPA.
- ▲ **Reduce chronic absenteeism:** 83% of chronically absent students improved their school-day attendance.
- ▲ **Improve engagement and behavior:** 81% of participants in grades 1 through 5 improved their teacher-reported engagement in learning, and 60% of 1<sup>st</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students decreased their in-school suspensions compared to the previous year.

# Louisiana Parents Stand Behind Afterschool Programs

85%

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



88%

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

Louisiana parents report that their child's afterschool program:

74%

Helps them keep their job



90%

Leads to less stress



90%

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?

"Without an afterschool program, I'd struggle to balance work and taking care of my child. I'd constantly worry about their safety and what they're doing alone at home."

— LOUISIANA DAD

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers

The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers initiative (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC) is the only federal funding dedicated to afterschool and summer programs, enabling states to award funds to local programs that meet community needs. 21<sup>st</sup> 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 LOUISIANA:

**24,799**  
children are served by  
a 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC program

**96**  
communities  
served

Demand for programming in Louisiana is so great that nearly **2 out of every 5** applications were not funded during the most recent competition.

### Citations

1. Afterschool Alliance. (2025). *Louisiana After 3PM*, fifth edition [Data set]. <https://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM/data/louisiana/demand>.
2. U.S. Department of Education. (2024). *21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC) analytic support for evaluation and program monitoring: An overview of the 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC performance data: 2022-2023 (19<sup>th</sup> 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. Louisiana Department of Education. (2025). [Number of children and communities served by LA 21<sup>st</sup> CCLCs, 2024-2025] [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](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org)

