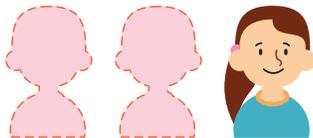


This is Afterschool in Minnesota



Minnesota 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 Minnesota, approximately 312,000 children whose parents want afterschool programs do not have access to them.

Demand for Afterschool Programs in Minnesota is Enormous



Afterschool Programs Support Minnesota Children's Learning and Development

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



Afterschool Works in Minnesota

A 2025 statewide evaluation of 21st CCLC programs by the Minnesota Department of Education found that programs helped:

- ▲ **Reduce chronic absenteeism:** 60% of students who were chronically absent the previous year improved their attendance.
- ▲ **Improve school engagement and behavior:** 80% of students with prior-year in-school suspensions showed a decrease in the number of suspensions; 86% of students in grades 1 through 5 improved their teacher-reported engagement in learning.
- ▲ **Boost academic performance:** Of participating 4th through 8th graders, 44% demonstrated reading growth, and 37% demonstrated math growth on statewide assessments. Additionally, 42% of 7th through 8th and 10th through 12th grade students with a GPA below 3.0 the previous year improved their GPA.

Minnesota Parents Stand Behind Afterschool Programs

87%

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



87%

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

Minnesota parents report that their child's afterschool program:

89%

Helps them keep their job



91%

Leads to less stress



84%

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 son] would be spending a lot more time on screens, which would not be good. So, I'm very grateful there are programs for him to get involved with."

— MINNESOTA 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 MINNESOTA:

19,536
children are served by
a 21st CCLC program

82
communities
served

Demand for programming in Minnesota is so great that more than **2 out of every 3** applications were not funded during the most recent competition.

Citations

1. Afterschool Alliance. (2025). *Minnesota After 3PM*, fifth edition [Data set]. <https://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM/data/minnesota/demand>.
2. Minnesota Department of Education. (2025). *21st Century Community Learning Centers Minnesota performance report 2023-24*.
3. Afterschool Alliance estimate based on findings from state-level return on investment studies, including California, Georgia, Maryland, Oklahoma, and Vermont.
4. Minnesota Department of Education. (2025). [Number of children and communities served by MN 21st 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

