

This is Afterschool in West Virginia

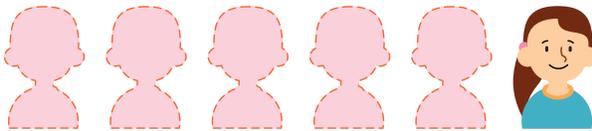


West Virginia parents value afterschool programs for keeping kids safe and providing them opportunities to learn, connect, and build foundational life skills. Programs also help parents keep their jobs, boost productivity, and reduce stress. But too many families are missing out. In West Virginia, more than 111,000 children whose parents want afterschool programs do not have access to them.

Demand for Afterschool Programs in West Virginia is Enormous



Nearly 5 in 6 West Virginia children are missing out.



Afterschool Programs Support West Virginia Children’s Learning and Development

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



Afterschool Works in West Virginia

A 2024 West Virginia Department of Education evaluation of the state’s 21st CCLC programs found that programs helped:

- ▲ **Boost academic performance:** Nearly half of 4th through 5th grade students made gains on their English language arts (ELA) and math summative assessments (49% and 45%, respectively). Among 6th through 8th grade participants, 40% improved their ELA scores, and 35% improved their math scores.
- ▲ **Improve engagement:** Students who regularly attended programs were more likely to improve their teacher-reported engagement in learning than those who attended fewer than 30 days.
- ▲ **Reduce disciplinary referrals:** Students who attended for 90+ days were less likely to receive a disciplinary referral than their peers who attended less frequently.

West Virginia Parents Stand Behind Afterschool Programs

86%

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

West Virginia parents report that their child's afterschool program:

78%

Helps them keep their job



96%

Leads to less stress



86%

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?

"It would have a negative impact because my daughter would be very disappointed and would not be able to do what she loves to do."

— WEST VIRGINIA MOM

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 WEST VIRGINIA:

8,480

children are served by a 21st CCLC program

154

communities served

Demand for programming in West Virginia is so great that more than **1 out of every 5** applications were not funded during the most recent competition.

Citations

1. Afterschool Alliance. (2025). *West Virginia After 3PM*, fifth edition [Data set]. <https://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM/data/west-virginia/demand>.
2. West Virginia Department of Education. (2024). *Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers 2022-2023 evaluation*.
3. Afterschool Alliance estimate based on findings from state-level return on investment studies, including California, Georgia, Maryland, Oklahoma, and Vermont.
4. West Virginia Department of Education. (2025). [Number of children and communities served by WV 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

