

Afterschool Works for Students, Families, and the Economy

June 2017

Afterschool keeps kids safe, boosts student success, and helps parents keep their jobs. The demand for afterschool and summer learning opportunities far exceeds the supply and too many young people are being left out.

Across America, more than 11,500 communities and 1.6 million kids benefit from 21st Century Community Learning Centers. This initiative is the only federal funding source dedicated exclusively to afterschool and summer programs that keep young people engaged and on track for high school graduation, college, and careers.



Afterschool works for students

Students participating in quality afterschool programs attend school more often, do better in school, and are more likely to graduate.

- ▶ Students improve their grades and test scores and make gains that help narrow the achievement gap between students from high- and low-income families.
- ▶ National studies of students who regularly attend 21st Century Community Learning Centers found:
 - ✓ 48% improve their on-grade math performance
 - ✓ 49% improve their reading grade level performance
 - ✓ 65% improve their class participation and homework completion
 - ✓ 57% improve their classroom behavior

21st Century Community Learning Centers offer:

- ▶ mathematics, science, and career and technical programs
- ▶ internships and apprenticeships
- ▶ services to help students meet state academic standards
- ▶ technology education programs
- ▶ nutrition and health education
- ▶ drug and violence prevention programs
- ▶ arts, music, and fitness programs
- ▶ financial literacy programs



Afterschool
Alliance

afterschoolalliance.org

Afterschool works for families

Families rely on afterschool programs to keep their kids safe and productively engaged in enriching opportunities after the school day ends.

- ▶ Afterschool gives working parents peace of mind: more than **8 in 10** parents, including a majority of Republicans, Democrats, and Independents, say afterschool programs help them keep their jobs.
- ▶ A study found that Boys & Girls Clubs in California enable parents to keep their jobs and generate **\$1.84 billion** in annual earnings.
- ▶ Juvenile crime and victimization peaks from 3 to 6 p.m. Afterschool provides a safe haven where kids connect with positive role models, develop social skills, and learn how to make better decisions and avoid risky situations.
- ▶ More than **7 in 10** parents believe afterschool helps reduce the likelihood that kids will commit a crime, use drugs, or become a teen parent.

Afterschool works for the economy

Afterschool programs save businesses money and help address America's skills gap.

- ▶ On-the-job productivity drops when parents are worried about their kids in the after school hours. This costs U.S. businesses up to \$300 billion per year.
- ▶ STEM jobs are among the fastest-growing and highest-paying jobs in America. Among students in afterschool STEM, 86% reported their STEM career knowledge increased and 72% reported gains in perseverance and critical thinking skills.
- ▶ Research conducted in states spanning the country (from Maryland to Oklahoma to California) shows that every \$1 invested in afterschool programs saves at least \$3 by:
 - ✓ Increasing kids' earning potential
 - ✓ Improving kids' performance at school
 - ✓ Reducing crime and juvenile delinquency

21st Century Community Learning Centers

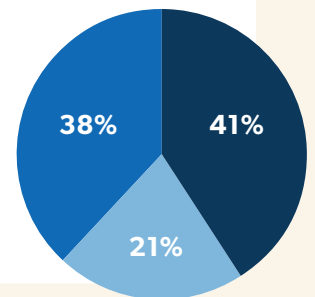
bring together diverse partners to meet the needs of the communities they serve.

Partners of each grantee contribute an average of \$67,000 to support programs. Between 2006 and 2010, partner contributions totaled more than \$1 billion.

Children attend Community Learning Center programs in:

- ▶ Public school districts: 9,446
- ▶ Community based organizations: 1,125
- ▶ Charter schools: 463
- ▶ Faith-based organizations: 160

- Rural communities
- Suburbs
- Cities



Afterschool works, but not all kids can benefit

Over the last 10 years, the unmet demand for afterschool has grown by 20%, while funding has remained flat.

On average, **2 out of every 3** applications for 21st Century Community Learning Centers cannot be funded each year, leaving tens of thousands of communities without the supports they need for children and youth in the hours after school and during the summer.

Students enrolled in 21st Century Community Learning Center programs:

1.6 million

Students eligible for 21st Century Community Learning Center programs:

22 million

Afterschool works for America.

Public funding for these programs is a smart investment in our economy, our families, our kids, and their futures—and Americans know it. Nationally, **84%** of parents, including strong majorities of all parties, support public funding for afterschool programs.

The Afterschool Alliance is a nonprofit public awareness and advocacy organization working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs.

www.afterschoolalliance.org