For the second year in a row, the Administration’s budget proposal includes total elimination of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers initiative—a dedicated funding stream supporting local afterschool and summer learning programs. Without federal support, 1.7 million students will lose their local afterschool and summer programs and the impact will be devastating to local communities. We respectfully request the following of Congress:

1. Increase funding for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) initiative to $1.3 billion—an increase of approximately $100 million over current level.

   To ensure continued support for 1.7 million children currently in 21st CCLC programs and to help meet demand by providing programming that would allow an additional 100,000 students across all 50 states to enroll in quality afterschool, before-school, and summer learning opportunities.

2. Funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) equal to the amount envisioned by the bipartisan budget agreement for fiscal year 2019.

   Roughly forty percent of children served through the Child Care and Development Fund are school-aged and participate in afterschool and summer learning programs.

   Visit afterschoolalliance.org to learn more.

3. Advocate for an updated reauthorization of the Perkins Career and Technical Education law, such as HR 2353, which passed the House of Representatives, and similar legislation in the Senate to strengthen and improve student pathways from school and afterschool into careers.

   This bipartisan legislation allows funding of school-community partnerships to help middle school and high school students gain the knowledge and skills they need for in-demand jobs, including those in the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields.

4. Join the Afterschool Caucus.

   Stand with the 100+ Members of Congress who have committed to support the 30 million students who are enrolled or waiting for afterschool, before-school, and summer learning program opportunities.

   For more information or to join the Senate Afterschool Caucus, contact Brenna Barber in Senator Smith’s office or Karen McCarthy in Senator Murkowski’s office. For the House Afterschool Caucus, contact Dana Miller with Representative Lowey’s office or Kevin O’Keefe in Representative Barletta’s office.