



This is Afterschool

Inspiring Learning, Providing Safety, Promoting Smart Choices, and Supporting Working Parents

Support for afterschool is overwhelming and demand is growing. Nationwide, 9 in 10 adults say afterschool programs are important to their community—and more than 19 million kids are waiting to get in. Decades of research prove afterschool helps kids attend school more often, get better grades, and build foundational skills, like communication, teamwork, and problem solving.

School-age kids spend 80 percent of their waking hours outside of school. Afterschool and summer learning programs provide transformative learning experiences in unique settings that help young people discover what they love to do and reach their full potential.

Students who regularly participate in quality afterschool programs:

- Develop strong social skills
- Are excited about learning
- Improve work habits and grades
- Improve school day attendance
- Have higher graduation rates
- Explore career paths and gain workforce skills

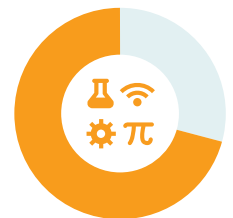
After going to afterschool programs:

68% of students improve their homework completion and class participation.

60% of students improve their behavior in class.

1 in 2 students improve their math and reading grades.

More than 70% of students in STEM afterschool programs express more interest in and knowledge about careers in science. They also build essential skills, such as perseverance and critical thinking.



America Needs More Afterschool

For every student in afterschool, **2 more would participate** if a program were available.



**STUDENTS ENROLLED:
10.2 MILLION**



**STUDENTS WAITING:
19.4 MILLION**

21st Century Community Learning Centers

21st Century Community Learning Center grants are the only federal funding source exclusively dedicated to support local communities' afterschool and summer learning programs, which are serving **1.7 million children in 9,592 communities**. Demand for programs is so great that **2 out of every 3 applications cannot be funded**.

Community Learning Centers bring together diverse partners to meet community needs. A typical program receives \$67,000 from partners to supplement its federal funding. Nationwide, partner contributions totaled more than \$1 billion between 2006 and 2010.

Nationally, children attend programs in:

- Public school districts: **7,892**
- Charter schools: **386**
- Community-based organizations: **959**
- Faith-based organizations: **115**

Across America, 1 in 5 kids are alone and unsupervised from 3 to 6 p.m. These are the hours when juvenile crime and victimization peak—and many parents are still at work. When kids have no place to go after school, they miss out on valuable learning opportunities, parents lose 8 days of work, and businesses lose up to \$300 billion a year.

Afterschool is changing that.

Afterschool programs give parents peace of mind because they know their kids are safe—online and offline—and engaged in fun learning opportunities.

For many parents, afterschool is a lifeline that helps them work without worry and balance their schedule.

- 8 in 10 parents say afterschool programs give them peace of mind and help them keep their jobs.
- Close to 3 in 4 parents believe afterschool reduces the likelihood that kids will engage in risky behaviors.
- 5 in 6 parents support public funding for afterschool programs.

Afterschool provides a solid return on investment. Research shows that every \$1 invested in afterschool programs saves at least \$3 by:



- 1 Increasing kids' earning potential
- 2 Improving kids' performance at school
- 3 Reducing crime and juvenile delinquency

I wouldn't be able to work without afterschool programs. It gives me peace of mind to know that my kids are getting picked up from school, getting a nutritious meal, getting homework help, and having fun while they're learning. It's a win-win because I know they're in a good, safe place and I can keep working. Not having these programs would be devastating to our kids, families, and community. We must have this funding.

Pamela Shope

Mother of two boys who attend afterschool programs



The Afterschool Alliance is working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs. Learn more at: www.afterschoolalliance.org

This is Afterschool

Helping students thrive.