



Afterschool Alliance

Policy Supports for Afterschool and Summer Programs during the Pandemic

APRIL 21, 2020

Agenda

- The CARES Act: accessing education funding
- Other federal education funding: 21st CCLC – guidance, RFP timing, renewability
- CCDBG in the CARES Act: how it will work
- Making the Case for afterschool/summer in new CARES Act funding
- Tools and Resources
- Q and A

Background & Timeline: Federal Policy Response

- **1st bill: Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act**
 - \$8.3 billion for HHS; CDC; health depts.; int'l assistance - Signed into law March 6th
- **2nd bill: H.R. 6201, Families First Coronavirus Response Act**
 - Testing; Paid Sick Leave; child nutrition; emergency UI, more Signed into law March 18
- **3rd bill: Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (The CARES Act)**
 - Individual payments, corporate & small business/nonprofit relief, Education & more
 - Signed into law March 27
- **4rd bill: CARES 2.0?**
 - Additional nonprofit and small business funds; testing; hospitals - Senate Vote today?

Federal Policy Response to COVID-19: Education

Within the Elementary and Secondary School Relief Fund:

- \$13.5 billion of this amount is set aside for K-12 education allocated to states
- Application from ED for states to apply to be available by 4/27
- State Education Agencies must distribute at least 90% of funds to school districts based on Title I formula
- Local educational agencies (LEAs) can work with partner organizations to address community needs
- Use of funds includes anything already in ESSA, IDEA, Perkins-CTE, McKinney Vento Homeless Youth Act
- Specific activities for this funding called out to address the pandemic include:
 - **Planning and implementing activities during the summer and afterschool**
 - Planning and coordinating meals
 - Online learning and other educational services incl. purchasing technology
 - Mental health support
- LEAs/school districts shall to the greatest extent practicable, continue to pay their employees and contractors
- States must continue maintenance of effort, waiver available

Federal Policy Response to COVID-19: Education

Accessing the CARES K-12 Education Funding:

- **School districts will receive funding directly from the state in an estimated 45 to 90 days**
- **Community organizations/non-school providers need to make the case to school districts around working as partners to provide programs this summer/fall**

Federal Policy Response to COVID-19: Education

Governors Fund

- ED posted application for Governors to apply on 4/14
- Governors have 30 days to apply (May 14)
- Secretary has to approve within those 30 days
- The Governors **DO NEED** to apply within 30 days! But they do not need to subgrant it all out within 30 days

Federal Policy Response to COVID-19: Education

Accessing the CARES Governor's Education Funding:

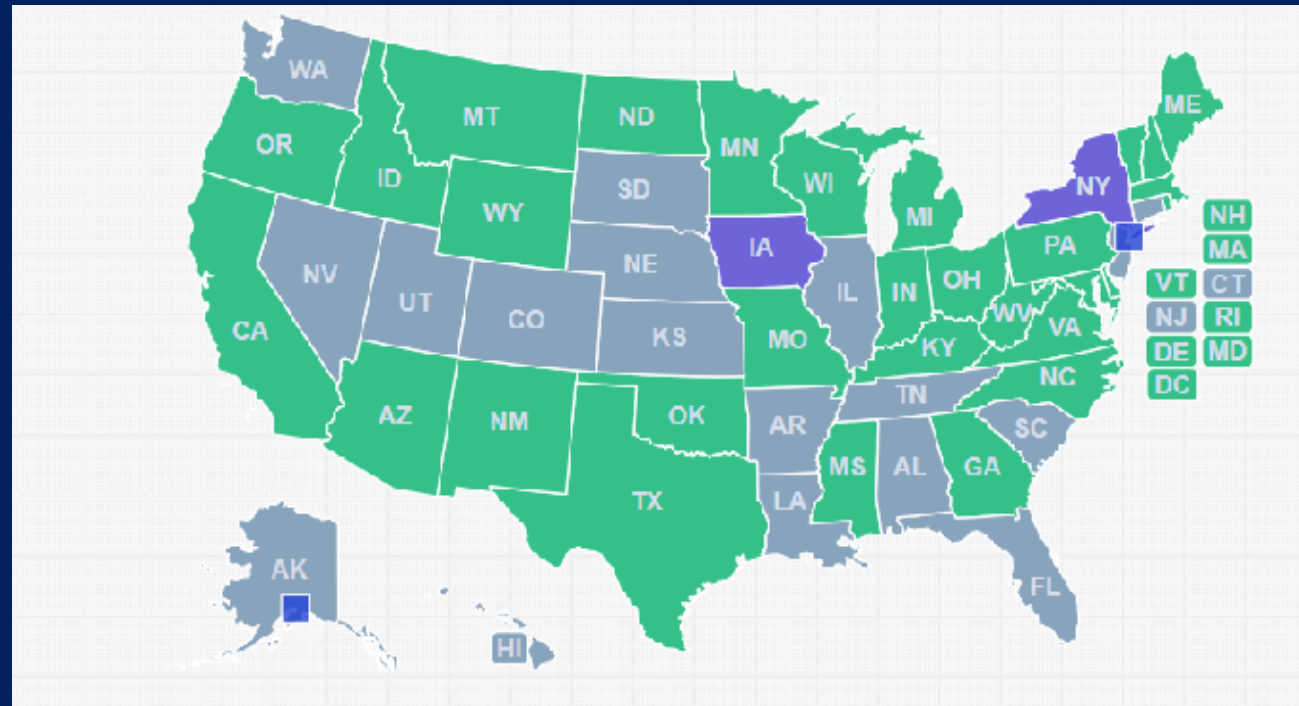
- Fund should flow to state Governors in late May/June**
- SEAs to weigh in with Governors on communities most impacted by COVID-19**
- State level afterschool/summer advocates need to make the case to SEAs around the need to support summer/afterschool learning supports for students this summer/fall**

US Department of Education 21st CCLC

- Waiver Flexibility for 21st CCLC allows SEAs to roll funds over to next year
- No official 21st CCLC guidance/FAQs from U.S. Department of Education
- ED has provided direction that states can waive their own requirements and therefore can provide funds to a 21st CCLC grantee based on measures other than attendance, such as their pre-closure levels, based on enrollment

21st CCLC State Level Guidance

- 30 states and DC State Education Agencies have posted direction/FAQs on 21st CCLC
- Two states have addressed afterschool programs but not 21st CCLC directly



21st CCLC State Level Guidance

State-level direction on 21st CCLC varies. States issuing direction/guidance

- Ensure all employees can continue to be paid
- Define allowable work activities including some or all of the following:
 - Online/virtual programming
 - Virtual professional development
 - Staff meetings/curriculum and lesson plan design and development
 - Support of meal distribution or delivery
 - Providing student or parent social emotional and well-being supports
 - Family education and engagement, information on assistance



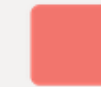
21st CCLC State Level Guidance

- Be aware of new/extended/revised 21st CCLC competitions
- RFP deadlines have been extended in some case and cancelled/delayed in others
 - About two thirds of state 21st CCLC offices had a competition planned
 - Some are moving ahead but with adaptations; some cancelling

State by State Resources

To find local resources, click on your state below.

Legend



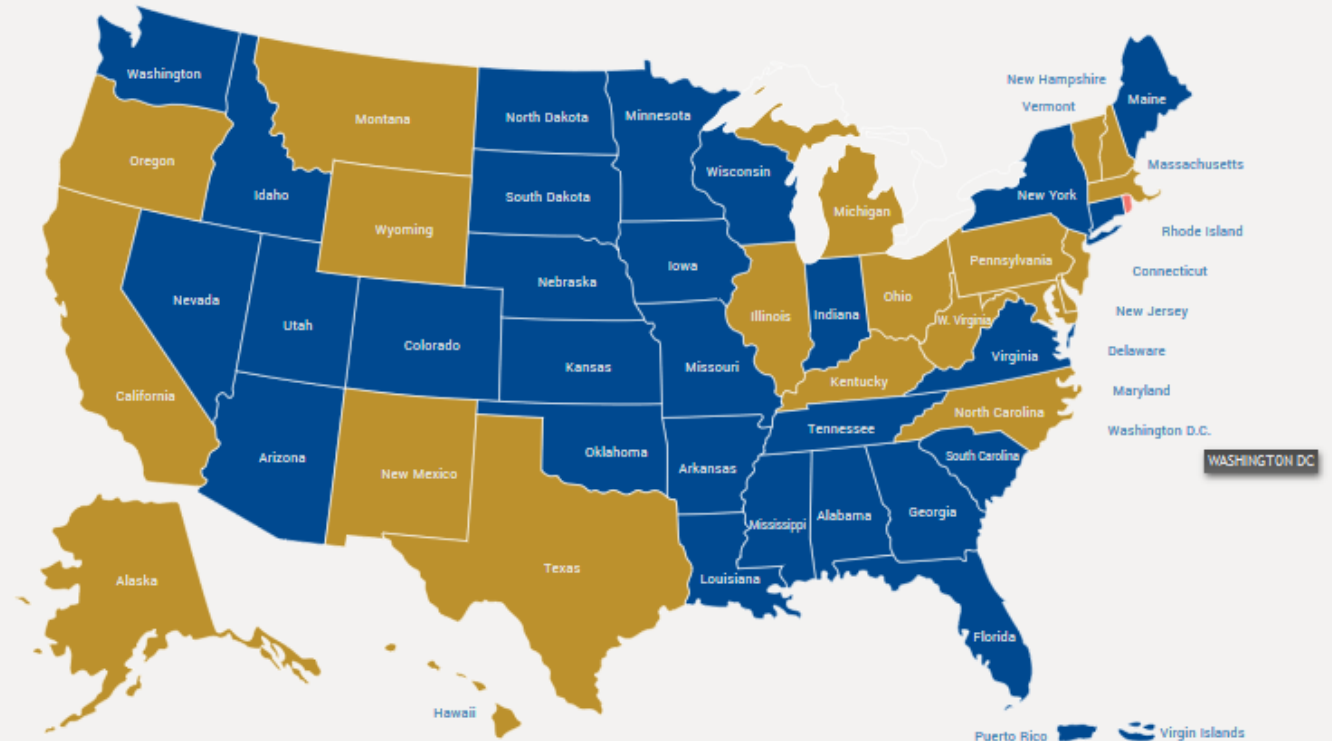
Child care programs closed altogether



Child care programs closed with exceptions for essential workers



Child care programs open. Click on states to see any changes in regulations.



Child Care

- **Gold** – Programs closed with exceptions for essential workers
- **Blue** – programs are open
- **Pink** – Child Care Centers are closed altogether

<https://www.childcareaware.org/resources/map/>

Child Care Development Block Grant

Federal Government - \$3.5 Billion (CARES)

Now through Sept 2022

Uses of funds

- Continued support child care providers during time of decreased enrollment or closures
- States encouraged to place conditions on payments to ensure providers continue to pay staff salaries
- Serve emergency care/essential workers (without income requirements)
- Cleaning and sanitation – and sustaining operations for any (including any eligible provider)



Child Care Development Block Grant

Conversations:

- Essential Worker Designation
- Hazard Pay
- Keeping programs ready to re-open
- Safety measures for programs
- Health protections for workers
- CDC Guidelines, state guidelines, county guidelines, school district guidelines



Child Care Development Block Grant

State Example: North Carolina

- Child Care Workers **are designated essential workers**
- All child care programs, whether they remain open or have closed, will receive **regular child care subsidy** payments based on typical attendance
- Full time teaching staff serving essential workers- **\$300 bonus per month**; non-teaching staff \$200; part-time staff –pro-rated
- Child Care and Referral agency **hotline** for essential workers to call for care
- **Guidance for operating** programs
- **Regulatory waivers** – ratios, inspections, trainings, foods, screen time limits for school age children to do school work, etc



State Support

State Legislative Responses (include State General Fund and Allocation of Federal Response Funds, etc):

- **AZ SB 1619** -\$50 Crisis and Contingency Safety Net fund that can go to small not profits
- **MN HB 4531**- Peacetime Emergency Child Care Grants(\$30 million) –licensed programs in good standing that prioritize children of essential workers can receive a monthly grant of \$4500
- **MN HB 4537** – adds to workers compensation “workers required to provide child care to first responders and health care workers”
- **CA SB 89**- \$1 billion in General Revenue to an emergency fund- Gov to use \$100 million for Child Care (\$50 million for new slots and \$50 million for cleaning and safety supplies. To meet guidelines.



Making the Case

Federal level advocacy

- Inform Congress & urge additional support in future COVID-19 relief and recovery packages

State level advocacy

- Reach out to Governors –May 14 deadline to apply
- Reach out to SEAs
 - 21st CCLC flexibilities
 - K-12 CARES funding – application available by 4/27
- Reach out to Child Care Agencies and state legislatures

Local level advocacy

- School district leaders – local plans for K-12 CARES funding

Making the Case – Key Messages

Afterschool is an essential part of our communities' response. Today programs are:

- Keeping kids safe and engaged in learning
- Helping essential personnel continue to do their jobs
- Providing food for families in need
- Staying connected with caregivers and parents

And, programs will continue to play a critical role throughout recovery

- Looking ahead to summer and next school year, afterschool and summer programs stand ready to help children catch up and keep up, by ensuring access to learning opportunities and the supports kids will need to emerge from this crisis strong, resilient, and hopeful.

Making the Case – Outreach Tools

Toolkit available - <http://afterschool.nptoolkit.org/>

- **Template letter to Governor**
- **Talking points**
- **Tools to help with local outreach**
- **Sample op-ed for media outreach**
- **More resources will be developed**
- **Let us know what would be helpful**

What You Can Do: COVID-19 Pandemic

- Action alert you can customize here and email to Congress:
<https://afterschoolalliance.rallycongress.net/ctas/contact-congress-covid-19-impact-on-afterschool>
- Discuss possible long-term impacts and needs
 - Reimbursements; staff leave/payment
 - Summer Needs/Plans
- Ongoing communication with your Reps./Senators – keep them posted
- Share the current situation in your state or community: school closures; programs closures
 - Are afterschool programs staying open to care for children of essential workers?
 - Is virtual programming being offered?
 - Are programs providing meals to students?



How can we help?

Reach out to us!



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[@afterschool4all](https://twitter.com/afterschool4all)



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