Afterschool in Texas

Programs in Demand, But Out of Reach for Many

Texas After 3PM

OCTOBER 2025

Demand for programs is enormous.

In Texas, the demand for afterschool programs is incredibly high. But just a fraction of Texas families who want afterschool programs have them.

Parents value the benefits afterschool programs provide for young people—keeping them safe, helping them build life skills, and getting them excited about learning—and say afterschool programs help parents keep their jobs and provide peace of mind.

Parents of more than

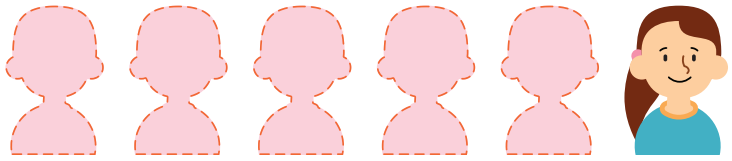
3.3 million children

want afterschool programs

✓ **581,120** children are in afterschool programs

✗ **2,730,408** children are **not** in programs, but would be if a program were available

Approximately 5 in 6 Texas children are missing out.



Behind the demand: Parents see afterschool programs addressing their top-of-mind concerns.

An overwhelming majority of parents agree that afterschool programs benefit kids and parents.

BENEFITS TO KIDS

- **76%** Keeps them safe
- **87%** Builds social skills and responsible decision making
- **85%** Boosts teamwork, critical thinking, and leadership skills
- **80%** Supports well-being
- **79%** Excites them about learning and improves school attendance
- **85%** Encourages fun and learning, decreasing screen time

BENEFITS TO PARENTS:*

- **76%** Helps them keep their job or work more hours
- **91%** Leads to less stress because they know their child is safe
- **84%** Boosts productivity at work
- **86%** Positively impacts overall well-being

**Among parents with a child in an afterschool program*

4.15
Quality Rating

76%
Excellent or Very Good

Texas parents give their children's afterschool programs high marks.

With a quality score of 4.15 out of 5, 76% of parents rate their child's afterschool program as "excellent" or "very good."

With many Texas families facing barriers to afterschool participation, there is strong support for public funding.

PROGRAM AFFORDABILITY, ACCESSIBILITY, AND AVAILABILITY LIMIT PARTICIPATION.

Texas parents cite barriers to enrolling their children in afterschool programs:

65%
Programs are too expensive

45%
Programs are unavailable in my community

53%
Inconvenient locations

58%
Lack of a safe way to and from programs

TEXAS PARENTS SUPPORT ACCESS AND FUNDING.

Approximately 9 in 10 Texas parents (89%) agree that all young people deserve access to quality afterschool and summer programs and nearly 9 in 10 (88%) are in favor of public funding for afterschool opportunities. Across political affiliations, support for public funding is high.

- **90%** Democrats
- **91%** Independents
- **87%** Republicans

Afterschool by the numbers in Texas

581,120
Number of children in an afterschool program

3.6
Average days per week

5
Average hours per week

$108.10*
Average cost per week

81%
Parents reporting that their child's afterschool program is located in a public school building

**Among parents who pay for afterschool programs*

What You Can Do

Learn more and see recommendations for action at **aa3pm.co**

About the Survey

America After 3PM is a national online survey of parents or guardians of school-aged children, with supplemental interviews conducted by telephone. Data were collected by Edge Research on behalf of the Afterschool Alliance. In Texas, 2,123 households and 3,467 children were screened for this study. Child-level statewide projections are based on total school enrollment numbers for the 2021-2022 school year from the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.

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America After 3PM Afterschool Alliance