

This is Afterschool in Kansas



Kansas parents value afterschool programs for keeping kids safe and providing them opportunities to learn, connect, and build foundational life skills. Programs also help parents keep their jobs, boost productivity, and reduce stress. But too many families are missing out. In Kansas, approximately 172,000 children whose parents want afterschool programs do not have access to them.

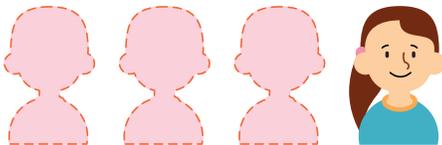
Demand for Afterschool Programs in Kansas is Enormous

Parents of
232,000 children
want afterschool programs

✓ **60,057**
children are in
afterschool programs

✗ **171,943**
children are **not** in programs, but
would be if a program were available

Approximately 3 in 4 Kansas children are missing out.



Afterschool Programs Support Kansas Children's Learning and Development

Kansas parents give programs high marks for quality and for supporting their child with:

90% A safe environment 

76% Excitement about learning 

80% Teamwork + critical thinking skills 

96% Time with peers + building social skills 

 **4.32**
Quality Rating

 **90%**
Excellent or Very Good

Afterschool Works in Kansas

In a 2024 report by the U.S. Department of Education on 21st CCLC programs nationally, Kansas students attending programs saw both academic and behavioral improvements. Programs helped:

- ▲ **Boost academic performance:** Approximately 2 in 5 students in grades 4 through 8 demonstrated growth on the state's reading/language arts (40%) and math assessments (37%); 39% of 7th through 8th and 10th through 12th graders who had a GPA below 3.0 the previous school year improved their GPA.
- ▲ **Reduce chronic absenteeism:** More than half (59%) of chronically absent students improved their school-day attendance.
- ▲ **Improve engagement and behavior:** 67% of students in grades 1 through 5 improved their teacher-reported engagement in learning, and 57% of 1st through 12th graders experienced a decrease in in-school suspensions compared to the previous year.

Kansas Parents Stand Behind Afterschool Programs

85%

Agree that all young people deserve access to quality afterschool and summer programs.



86%

Are in favor of public funding for afterschool programs. Support for public funding is also high across political affiliations.



Afterschool Programs Help Working Families and Strengthen the Economy

Kansas parents report that their child's afterschool program:

86%

Helps them keep their job



96%

Leads to less stress



90%

Boosts productivity



Additionally, research spanning several states shows that **every \$1 invested** in afterschool programs **saves at least \$3** by:



Increasing kids' earning potential as adults



Improving kids' performance at school



Reducing crime and juvenile delinquency



If there were not an afterschool program available, what, if any impact would it have on your family?

"It would impact all of us, but the biggest factor is that it would impact my son. [The program is] teaching him respect and to follow directions and listen to adults."

— KANSAS MOM

21st Century Community Learning Centers

The 21st Century Community Learning Centers initiative (21st CCLC) is the only federal funding dedicated to afterschool and summer programs, enabling states to award funds to local programs that meet community needs. 21st CCLC programs engage students in hands-on learning activities aimed at supporting their academic growth, provide a variety of enrichment activities to complement school-day learning, and offer educational and support services to the families of participating children.

IN KANSAS:

13,016
children are served by
a 21st CCLC program

102
communities
served

Demand for programming in Kansas is so great that nearly **3 out of every 4** applications were not funded during the most recent competition.

Citations

1. Afterschool Alliance. (2025). *Kansas After 3PM*, fifth edition [Data set]. <https://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM/data/kansas/demand>.
2. U.S. Department of Education. (2024). *21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) analytic support for evaluation and program monitoring: An overview of the 21st CCLC performance data: 2022-2023 (19th report)*. Washington, DC.
3. Afterschool Alliance estimate based on findings from state-level return on investment studies, including California, Georgia, Maryland, Oklahoma, and Vermont.
4. Kansas State Department of Education. (2025). [Number of children and communities served by KS 21st CCLCs, 2025] [Unpublished raw data].

About the Afterschool Alliance

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

