

This is Afterschool in Ohio



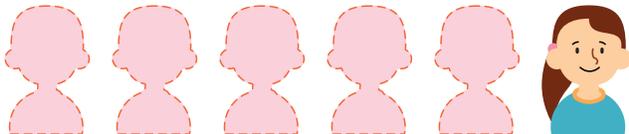
Ohio parents value afterschool programs for keeping kids safe and providing them opportunities to learn, connect, and build foundational life skills. Programs also help parents keep their jobs, boost productivity, and reduce stress. But too many families are missing out. In Ohio, approximately 820,000 children whose parents want afterschool programs do not have access to them.

Demand for Afterschool Programs in Ohio is Enormous

Parents of
957,805 children
want afterschool programs



More than 5 in 6 Ohio children are missing out.



Afterschool Programs Support Ohio Children’s Learning and Development

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



Afterschool Works in Ohio

A 2025 evaluation of Ohio’s 21st CCLC programs found that regularly participating students experienced academic and behavioral progress, including:

- ▲ **Academic gains:** Nearly 3 in 4 students demonstrated growth on statewide literacy (73%) and math assessments (73%).
- ▲ **Reduced chronic absenteeism:** A majority (56%) of students who were chronically absent the previous school year improved their school-day attendance.
- ▲ **Graduating on-time:** 92% of high school participants successfully graduated. Additionally, students reported that they were more aware of the career they might want (69%) and career next steps (64%) because of their program.

The evaluation also found that students attending more regularly saw greater gains in their academic performance and school-day attendance than their non-participating peers.

Ohio Parents Stand Behind Afterschool Programs

87%

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



91%

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

Ohio parents report that their child's afterschool program:

75%

Helps them keep their job



94%

Leads to less stress



81%

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 make my family have to change a lot of things. I wouldn't be able to work as much, and I wouldn't have peace of mind knowing my child was safe and taken care of while I was working."

— OHIO DAD

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 OHIO:

27,266

children are served by a 21st CCLC program

285

communities served

Demand for programming in Ohio is so great that more than **5 out of every 6** applications were not funded during the most recent competition.

Citations

1. Afterschool Alliance. (2025). *Ohio After 3PM*, fifth edition [Data set]. <https://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM/data/ohio/demand>.
2. UC Evaluation Services Center. (2025). *Ohio's 21st Century Community Learning Centers 2023-24 annual report*.
3. Afterschool Alliance estimate based on findings from state-level return on investment studies, including California, Georgia, Maryland, Oklahoma, and Vermont.
4. Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. (2025). [Number of children and communities served by OH 21st CCLCs, 2023-2024] [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

