



Afterschool Progress Report and Consumer Guide: Iowa

How Iowa is Helping to Keep the Lights on After School

Afterschool in Iowa

Iowa parents are overwhelmingly satisfied with the afterschool programs offered in their state, which makes it all the more disappointing that the state lags behind the national average in afterschool participation. With only 11 percent of K-12 youth able to participate in afterschool and more than 30 percent in self-care, Iowa needs more resources and policy maker attention to create additional afterschool opportunities for its youth.



Growth in Afterschool Participation

For more on afterschool availability in Iowa check out [Iowa After 3PM](#).

Iowa	2004	2009
Percentage of Kids in Afterschool Programs	11%	11%
Percentage of Kids in Self Care	29%	32%
Percentage of Parents Extremely/Somewhat Satisfied with Afterschool Program	85%	92%
Percentage of Kids Who Would Participate if an Afterschool Program were Available	25%	35%
Percentage of Kids in Summer Learning Programs	--	21%

Based on the FY2011 funding level and an average per student cost of \$1000, 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) can serve 5,995 students in Iowa. However, that is only a small fraction of the 153,091 kids in Iowa who are eligible to participate in a 21st CCLC program, if more funding were available.



Developments in State Afterschool Policy and Funding

For an explanation of specific policy activities in Iowa check out "State Policy and Funding" on the [Afterschool in Iowa webpage](#).

- State Offices Administering 21st Century Community Learning Center and Child Care Development Fund Federal Grants
- Current Law that Directly Supports Afterschool Programs
- State Level Councils, Studies, Pilots or Legislative Activity Intended to Advance Afterschool
- Current State Funding for Afterschool Programming
- An Initiative Promoting Quality Afterschool Programming

KEY



Much More Work to Be Done



More Effort Necessary Despite Some Progress



Making Progress Yet Considerable Work Still to Be Done



Despite Unmet Need, Showing Great Progress



Leading State for Afterschool with Room to Grow

"Working parents need a safe place for their children during the afterschool hours before they come home. School-based learning centers can provide safe, drug-free, supervised and cost-effective havens for students and families. We need to continue to support them."
- Tom Harkin, U.S. Senate



Advancements in Afterschool Leadership

To see more partners leading the fight for afterschool in Iowa check out [Afterschool for All](#).

- Governor Proclamation Supporting *Lights On Afterschool* in 2010
- Statewide Afterschool Network
- Governor's/State Agency Taskforce
- A Member of the U.S. House of Representatives in the House Afterschool Caucus
- A Member of the U.S. Senate in the Senate Afterschool Caucus

Afterschool Champions

- State Representative Kevin Koester

State Network



[Iowa Afterschool Alliance](#)
200 10th Street, 5th Floor
Des Moines, IA 50309
515-243-2000

Afterschool Caucus Member(s):

Rep. David Loeb sack



Consumer Guide: Iowa

For many adults in America, thinking about the hours after the school day ends conjures up memories of doing homework, playing pick-up basketball, taking guitar or dance lessons or going home to Mom and a snack. But for millions of children today, those images are nothing like their reality. In fact, each day in America, more than 15 million children—some as young as 5 years old—are without supervision at home or on the streets.

The Afterschool Alliance has a host of resources that can help ensure that your child can enjoy the safe environment and proven academic and social gains that afterschool programs can afford.

- The [How to Find an Afterschool Program Guide](#) offers tips to find the best afterschool options for your child.
- The Afterschool Alliance has resources that describe [what to look for in a quality afterschool program](#) with a list of quality characteristics for programs serving each age group.
- For the ambitious parent or community member, the Afterschool Alliance offers a guide on [How to Start an Afterschool Program](#) including links to various best practices, funding resources and child care guidelines.
- Iowa has a host of resources to support families, program staff and employers in their pursuit of quality afterschool programs

that are both available and affordable:

- [Iowa Department of Education - Before & Afterschool Programs](#)
- [Iowa Afterschool Alliance](#)
- [Iowa 4-H Afterschool](#)
- [Child Care Resource and Referral of Central Iowa](#)

What You Can Do to Support Afterschool in Your State:



Donate: The store's [pennies from heaven](#) campaign allows jcpenny shoppers to roundup their purchases to the nearest whole dollar, donating the difference to support afterschool efforts. In 2010, \$98,160 was donated through jcpenny's pennies from heaven campaign in Iowa.



Join the Afterschool Alliance's *Lights On Afterschool* celebration. More than 37 programs in Iowa participated in [Lights On Afterschool](#) in 2010. Check out *Lights On Afterschool* to find out how to become involved and see which programs are participating in your area.



Sign On: Currently, 56 people in Iowa have signed the Afterschool Alliance [petition to preserve funding for afterschool programs](#). Join them to promote [afterschool for all](#).



Write to your Members of Congress and [tell them why afterschool is a crucial resource](#) to the children in your community.

Methodology:

The 2011 State-by-State Progress Reports and Consumer Guides are sponsored by jcpenny. Scores for the Progress Reports were devised using a range of factors falling under three major categories: Growth in Afterschool Participation, Developments in State Afterschool Policy and Funding and Advancements in State Afterschool Leadership. Data from the America After 3PM survey, also sponsored by jcpenny, was used in assessing the afterschool participation portion of the Progress Reports. Between March and May 2009, 29,754 parents/guardians were surveyed for America After 3PM. The remainder of the Progress Reports and Consumer Guides were created utilizing up to date policy and leadership developments obtained from afterschool leaders in the states, most notably the forty statewide afterschool networks. The 2011 State-by-State Progress Reports and Consumer Guides reflect the data and resources available at the time of their release in October 2011.

For more information on the 2011 State-by-State Progress Reports and Consumer Guides visit: afterschoolalliance.org/Progress-Reports-Main.cfm.