



Afterschool Progress Report and Consumer Guide: Illinois

How Illinois is Helping to Keep the Lights on After School

Afterschool in Illinois

While Chicago is certainly one of the nation's leading cities for afterschool, the state of Illinois still has some work to do to match Chicago's work statewide. Parents in Illinois are extremely happy with the quality of afterschool programs throughout the state, but they are less encouraged by the state's above average self-care percentage (28 percent). While Illinois' afterschool participation rate (16 percent) is slightly higher than the national average (15 percent), by devoting even more resources to afterschool, the state could see a surge in the number of children gaining access to the state's high-quality offerings.



Growth in Afterschool Participation

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

Illinois	2004	2009
Percentage of Kids in Afterschool Programs	10%	16%
Percentage of Kids in Self Care	26%	28%
Percentage of Parents Extremely/Somewhat Satisfied with Afterschool Program	93%	74%
Percentage of Kids Who Would Participate if an Afterschool Program were Available	28%	44%
Percentage of Kids in Summer Learning Programs	--	24%

Based on the FY2011 funding level and an average per student cost of \$1000, 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) can serve 46,107 students in Illinois. However, that is only a small fraction of the 758,491 kids in Illinois 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 Illinois check out "State Policy and Funding" on the [Afterschool in Illinois 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

 1
Much More Work to Be Done

 2
More Effort Necessary Despite Some Progress

 3
Making Progress Yet Considerable Work Still to Be Done

 4
Despite Unmet Need, Showing Great Progress

 5
Leading State for Afterschool with Room to Grow

"Access to after-school programming is a win-win for our children: it is shown to both increase academic progress and reduce violence."

- Mayor Rahm Emanuel, City of Chicago



Advancements in Afterschool Leadership

To see more partners leading the fight for afterschool in Illinois 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 Senator Toi Hutchinson
- State Representative Jehan Gordon
- State Representative William Davis

State Network



[ACT NOW! Afterschool for Children and Teens](#)

30 W. Monroe, 18th Flr
Chicago, IL 60603
312-516-5572

Afterschool Caucus Member(s):

Rep. Bobby Rush



Rep. Janice Schakowsky



Sen. Richard Durbin



Consumer Guide: Illinois

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.

- Illinois 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:
 - [Illinois Network of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies](#)
 - [Chicago Out-of-School Time Project](#)
 - [Illinois After-School Partnership](#)
 - [Illinois Quality Counts](#)

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, \$267,589 was donated through jcpenny's pennies from heaven campaign in Illinois.



Join the Afterschool Alliance's *Lights On Afterschool* celebration. More than 202 programs in Illinois 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, 293 people in Illinois 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.