



Afterschool Progress Report and Consumer Guide: Tennessee

How Tennessee is Helping to Keep the Lights on After School

Afterschool in Tennessee

Tennessee trails the rest of the nation in afterschool program participation, with just 13 percent of its K-12 youth in an afterschool program. Additionally, 29 percent of Tennessee's children are responsible for taking care of themselves after the school day ends. With no state afterschool network, the state lacks organized leadership on this issue. Fortunately, state funding is available through state lottery funds, but a focus on quality and availability by policy makers across the state could greatly benefit children and youth during the after school hours.



Growth in Afterschool Participation

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

Tennessee	2004	2009
Percentage of Kids in Afterschool Programs	10%	13%
Percentage of Kids in Self Care	23%	29%
Percentage of Parents Extremely/Somewhat Satisfied with Afterschool Program	92%	90%
Percentage of Kids Who Would Participate if an Afterschool Program were Available	26%	36%
Percentage of Kids in Summer Learning Programs	--	19%

Based on the FY2011 funding level and an average per student cost of \$1000, 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) can serve 21,081 students in Tennessee. However, that is only a small fraction of the 435,370 kids in Tennessee 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 Tennessee check out "State Policy and Funding" on the [Afterschool in Tennessee 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

"A student only spends about 20 percent of their time in the classroom. We need to make sure there are consistent afterschool programs available, specifically for our middle school students in our most high-need schools."

- Mayor Karl Dean, City of Nashville



Advancements in Afterschool Leadership

To see more partners leading the fight for afterschool in Tennessee 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

- Ronnie Steine, State Councilmember-At-Large, Metro Government of Nashville and Davidson County
- Mayor Karl Dean, City of Nashville
- Mayor Ron Littlefield, City of Chattanooga

Afterschool Caucus Member(s):

Rep. Jim Cooper



Consumer Guide: Tennessee

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.
- Tennessee 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:
 - [Tennessee Child Care Resource & Referral Network](#)
 - [Tennessee 4-H Afterschool](#)
 - [Tennessee Lottery for Education: Afterschool Programs](#)

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, \$133,467 was donated through jcpenny's pennies from heaven campaign in Tennessee.



Join the Afterschool Alliance's *Lights On Afterschool* celebration. More than 73 programs in Tennessee 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, 775 people in Tennessee 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.