



Afterschool Progress Report and Consumer Guide: West Virginia

How West Virginia is Helping to Keep the Lights on After School

Afterschool in West Virginia

West Virginia boasts the lowest rate of self-care in the nation (21 percent). While this is encouraging, there is certainly much more work to be done to ensure that children are spending their time after school learning and staying away from danger and out of trouble. West Virginia lags behind the national average in terms of children in afterschool programs with just 13 percent of children participating; however, nearly half of those children participating (47 percent) are from low-income families. As state leaders continue to come on board to support afterschool, more West Virginia children from all socioeconomic backgrounds should begin to enjoy access to quality afterschool opportunities.



Growth in Afterschool Participation

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

West Virginia	2004	2009
Percentage of Kids in Afterschool Programs	6%	13%
Percentage of Kids in Self Care	16%	21%
Percentage of Parents Extremely/Somewhat Satisfied with Afterschool Program	98%	81%
Percentage of Kids Who Would Participate if an Afterschool Program were Available	23%	30%
Percentage of Kids in Summer Learning Programs	--	16%

Based on the FY2011 funding level and an average per student cost of \$1000, 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) can serve 6,894 students in West Virginia. However, that is only a small fraction of the 117,793 kids in West Virginia 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 West Virginia check out "State Policy and Funding" on the [Afterschool in West Virginia 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

"Focusing on the health and wellness of our children is just common sense, and this [publicly-funded] center will offer activities that will keep youth engaged in positive after school programs. This investment is a great example of the ways that federal dollars can make a worthwhile impact."

- Nick Rahall, U.S. House of Representatives (3rd)



Advancements in Afterschool Leadership

To see more partners leading the fight for afterschool in West Virginia 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

- Ron Justice, Former Morgantown City Council Member

State Network



[West Virginia Statewide Afterschool Network](#)

4700 MacCorkle Avenue South East, Suite 1108
Charleston, WV 25304
304-720-9882

Afterschool Caucus Member(s):

Rep. Shelley Moore Capito



Consumer Guide: West Virginia

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.

- West Virginia 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:
 - [West Virginia Afterschool Network](#)
 - [West Virginia Dept. of Health & Human Services - Resource and Referral](#)

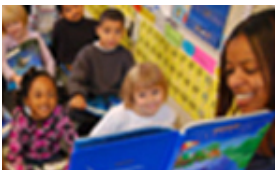
What You Can Do to Support Afterschool in Your State:



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, \$47,548 was donated through jcpenny's pennies from heaven campaign in West Virginia.



Join the Afterschool Alliance's *Lights On Afterschool* celebration. More than 53 programs in West Virginia 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, 81 people in West Virginia 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.