



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **From Washington, DC to Washington State, America's Landmarks Will Be Lit Up for *Lights On Afterschool* Next Week**

#### ***Empire State Building to Be Bathed in Yellow and Blue for Afterschool Next Thursday***

This month, as the nation rallies for the 24th annual [Lights On Afterschool](#), landmarks across the country are being lit in yellow and blue to show support for afterschool programs, which keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and give working parents peace of mind that their children are safe and supervised after the school day ends.

Organized by the [Afterschool Alliance](#), *Lights On Afterschool* is the only national rally for afterschool programs. More than a million people are expected to participate in thousands of *Lights On Afterschool* events held on and around October 26th at schools, 4-Hs, Boys & Girls Clubs, YMCAs, cities, parks, museums, community centers, and other places.

Among the landmarks being lit for *Lights On Afterschool* next week:

- In [New York City](#), the Empire State Building will light up in blue and yellow beginning at sunset next Thursday, October 26.
- In [Alabama](#), the Retirement Systems Building in Montgomery.
- In [Hawaii](#), the Aloha Tower and Board of Water Supply in Honolulu.
- In [Louisiana](#), the Caesars Superdome in New Orleans, as well as the State Capitol and Louisiana State University's Tiger Stadium in Baton Rouge.
- In [Massachusetts](#), Clear Channel Outdoor will light Boston's South Station in blue and yellow.
- In [Missouri](#), Shepherd of the Hills Tower in Branson.
- In [Michigan](#), the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation in Flint.
- In [North Carolina](#), the Governor's Executive Residence in Raleigh; the Reynolds Building in Winston-Salem; and 550 S Tryon in Charlotte.
- In [Oklahoma](#), the Myriad Botanical Gardens Crystal Bridge in Oklahoma City.
- In [Pennsylvania](#), the Ben Franklin Bridge and the Lincoln Financial Field Eagles Stadium in Philadelphia; and the Duquesne Incline in Pittsburgh.

- In Washington State, the Spokane Steam Heat Plant Smokestacks.
- In Washington, DC, the Frederick Douglass Bridge.
- In West Virginia, the Kanawha Boulevard Bridge in Charleston.
- In Wisconsin, the Lambeau Field Stadium in Green Bay.

Some 24.7 million U.S. children not in an afterschool program would be enrolled, if a program were available to them, according to a [survey of 1,500 parents](#) commissioned by the Afterschool Alliance and conducted by Edge Research in 2022. That is the highest number ever recorded. Unmet demand for afterschool programs is significantly higher among Latino and Black children (at 60% and 54% respectively) than among children overall (49%). Cost is the top barrier to enrollment, cited by 57% of parents as a reason for not enrolling their child. Ninety percent of parents rate the quality of the afterschool program their child attends as excellent (51%) or very good (39%).

Capital One and Clear Channel Outdoor are generous sponsors of *Lights On Afterschool* this year.

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*The Afterschool Alliance is a nonprofit public awareness and advocacy organization working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs. More information is available at [www.afterschoolalliance.org](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org).*