

# ABOUT AFTERSCHOOL IN NJ

Afterschool programs provide a safe and structured environment for kids to spend their afterschool hours while their parents are at work. High-quality afterschool programs, often called expanded learning opportunities (ELOs), provide young people a variety of hands-on, engaging learning activities that build upon the school day.



Afterschool programs are also important because they offer time for physical activity, a healthy meal or snack, and help develop important social-emotional skills.

In NJ, afterschool programs take many forms, including public-school run programs, as well as programs run by community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, for-profit organizations and social service agencies.

According to the Afterschool Alliance's America After 3PM survey, while only 14% of NJ's K-12 children participate in afterschool programs, many more would do so if a program were available in their community.

## Federal Funding

In NJ, 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC), the only federal program dedicated to afterschool, provides funds for afterschool programs that serve primarily Title I students. In FY '11, NJ's distribution of 21st CCLC funds was \$22,811,967. Currently, there are 47 21st CCLC grantees in NJ.

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) provides vouchers or subsidies for low-income parents to pay for child care, including pre-school, before-school, afterschool and summer programs. It also provides for technical assistance to these programs for quality improvement. In FY'11, NJ received \$183,356,793 in CCDF funds.



Afterschool programs provide enrichment opportunities that students might not otherwise be exposed to - including intergenerational mentoring, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) activities, and service learning projects; these contribute to positive educational outcomes in the classroom.



NJSACC: The Statewide Network for New Jersey's Afterschool Communities

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## State Funding

In 1988, the Division of Prevention and Community Partnerships in the New Jersey Department of Children and Families developed the Family Friendly Centers program, which provides \$2.5 million in grants to afterschool programs providing enrichment activities to participants.

## Other Funding

Afterschool programs generally creatively braid different types of funding in order to sustain their programs, including parent fees, foundation support, corporate support, in-kind donations from their community, and state and federal grants.

The At-Risk Afterschool Snacks and Meals Program, a federal nutrition program offered by the US Department of Agriculture, provides eligible afterschool programs with a reimbursement of \$0.78 per child per day for snacks and \$2.86 per child per day for meals. Because the At-Risk Afterschool Meal Program is relatively new to NJ, fewer than 7% of eligible children receive a full meal through this program.

## About NJSACC

NJSACC : The Statewide Network for New Jersey's Afterschool Communities had its beginnings 30 years ago as a grassroots coalition made up of stakeholders from education, government, industry, not for profit, for profit, health and human services to improve the quality of the growing field of afterschool.

In 1993, NJSACC became incorporated as a not for profit organization. NJSACC is a founding member of the National AfterSchool Association and currently serves as the state affiliate of NAA.

In 2007, NJSACC was selected to join the National Network of Statewide Afterschool Networks funded by the Charles S. Mott Foundation.



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