



## This is Afterschool in Arizona

Inspiring Learning, Providing Safety, Promoting Smart Choices, and Supporting Working Parents

Support for afterschool is overwhelming and demand is growing. Nationwide, 9 in 10 adults say afterschool programs are important to their community—and more than 19 million kids are waiting to get in. Decades of research prove afterschool helps kids attend school more often, get better grades, and build foundational skills, like communication, teamwork, and problem solving.

School-age kids spend 80 percent of their waking hours outside of school. Afterschool and summer learning programs provide transformative learning experiences in unique settings that help young people discover what they love to do and reach their full potential.

### Supporting Arizona's Students

An evaluation by the Arizona Department of Education found that students regularly participating in Arizona's 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC programs during the 2009-2010 school year saw academic gains. More than 40% of regular 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC participants saw improvements in their math grades and more than 40% improved their English grades.

#### Among Arizona parents:



72% agree that afterschool programs help their kids get excited about learning.



46% report that their kids have learning opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) in their afterschool program and 66% agree afterschool programs can help kids gain STEM-related interests and skills.



71% agree afterschool programs help kids gain teamwork, leadership, and critical thinking skills.

### Unmet Demand for Afterschool in Arizona

For every Arizona student in afterschool, **2 more** would participate if a program were available.



ENROLLED:  
**178,554**  
STUDENTS



WAITING:  
**318,223**  
STUDENTS

21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center grants are the only dedicated federal funding source that support local communities' afterschool and summer programs. Demand for programs is so great that **1 out of every 2 applications cannot be funded.**



Afterschool Alliance

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## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers

In Arizona, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers serve 56,250 kids in 250 communities.

Community Learning Centers bring together diverse partners to meet community needs. A typical program receives \$67,000 from partners to supplement its federal funding. Nationwide, partner contributions totaled more than \$1 billion between 2006 and 2010.

Nationally, children attend programs in:

- Public school districts: **7,892**
- Charter schools: **386**
- Community-based organizations: **959**
- Faith-based organizations: **115**

In a nationwide study of students who regularly attend a Community Learning Center, teachers report that:



1 in 2 improved their math and Language Arts grades



More than 2 in 3 improved their homework completion and class participation



3 in 5 improved their behavior in class

## Supporting Arizona's Families

Families across America report that the gap between work and school schedules can be up to 25 hours per week. Parents lose 8 days of work, and businesses lose up to \$300 billion a year due to parental concerns about afterschool care.

Among Arizona parents:

- 72% say afterschool programs give them peace of mind.
- 73% agree afterschool programs help them keep their jobs. 69% believe afterschool reduces the likelihood that kids will engage in risky behaviors.
- 84% support public funding for afterschool programs.

Afterschool provides a solid return on investment. Research spanning several states shows that every \$1 invested in afterschool programs saves at least \$3 by:



- 1 Increasing kids' earning potential
- 2 Improving kids' performance at school
- 3 Reducing crime and juvenile delinquency



"Caring staff who serve as mentors, leadership development opportunities, and future planning are just a few of the benefits I have been able to experience. None of these things would have been possible for me if not for my afterschool program. My afterschool experience has been nothing short of transformational. It has helped me stay on track to graduate and also helped me to realize what my future can look like."

**Kaleb Roberston**

Afterschool program alumnus and current student at Fox Valley Technical College, Culinary Arts program



The Afterschool Alliance is working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs. Learn more at: [www.afterschoolalliance.org](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org)

# This is Afterschool

Helping students thrive.