The newest data paints a black & white picture: Arizona is falling behind in afterschool. For every 1 child in an afterschool program, 3 are waiting to get in. The findings report accessibility as the most prominent barrier to program participation with almost 50% of Arizona youth eager to be in a program if one were available to them. Out-of-school time programs provide critical support for our school-aged youth:

- A safe space for youth to succeed while parents work,
- Academic support and homework help,
- Opportunities to be physically active,
- Space to learn social and emotional skills,
- Practice in team building, communication, and life skills,
- And much, much more.

These vital benefits are clear reasons why we need to ensure all Arizona youth have access to a safe, quality afterschool program. Our kids need more investment, not less!

Join us, starting tomorrow, for the Every Hour Counts: Arizona Falling Behind in Afterschool campaign where we'll highlight the importance of out-of-school time, barriers to participation, and how to get Arizona back on track. Mark your calendars for the Every Hour Counts: Power Hour (virtual) on Arizona Gives Day, Tuesday, April 6th, to hear from youth, families, and professionals on the impact of out-of-school time.

- Early Giving starts: Tuesday, March 16th
- Every Hour Counts: Power Hour, Tuesday, April 6th at 3 PM PST/ 4 PM MST (virtual)
Interested in being part of the Every Hour Counts: Power Hour? Find out how you or your organization can be featured at our event here.

On-Demand Workshops Are Now Available
More than 50 on-demand workshops are now available for only $5 each!
Earn a 1-hour CEU certificate for each attendee registered.
View a list of available workshops HERE

AzCASE is a part of the Million Girls Moonshot!
The Moonshot seeks to re-imagine who can engineer, who can build, who can make. It will inspire and prepare the next generation of innovators by engaging one million more girls in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) learning opportunities through afterschool and summer programs over the next 5 years.

We need summer programs to share more about how they do STEM to help us to better understand how we can best support afterschool and summer programs statewide. The survey should take 5-10 minutes to complete. Everyone who completes the survey will have exclusive access to a webinar on engaging kids in hands-on engineering activities from home and will be entered into a drawing for a $100 gift certificate.

Click here to take the survey!
Learn more at https://milliongirlsmoonshot.org/

Apply for a 2021 STEM Grant!
Deadline to apply: April 1, 2021

After a year on hiatus due to the pandemic, we're thrilled to bring back our STEM Grants for out-of-school time programs! Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence and Cox Communications will award a total of $15,000 in grants ranging from $500 to $1,500 to programs that incorporate or expand the use of STEM based learning in their programs. Applications will be reviewed by an independent judging panel with extra points given to programs that have signed the Make It Count Pledge and who have submitted an Assessment using the AzQSAT. Additional consideration will be given to programs that promote equity.

▶ View Full Criteria & Apply Now

Our 2021 Conference workshop slots are filling fast. If you haven't submitted a proposal yet, please do so soon.

Workshops will be presented on October 23, 2021 at the Phoenix Convention Center.

Submit A Proposal

COVID-19 RESOURCES
UPDATES & TOOLS FOR OST PROVIDERS
Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence