

AFTERSCHOOL NETWORKS: THE BASICS

State Afterschool Networks are state-level intermediaries that bring together a wide range of partners from youth development, out-of-school time, education, workforce, state government, community-based organizations, and others to ensure that all kids have access to high-quality afterschool and summer learning programs. Currently, 50 states have statewide afterschool networks.

EACH NETWORK IS CENTERED AROUND THREE GOALS:

- Create a sustainable structure of statewide, regional, and local partnerships—particularly school-community partnerships—focused on supporting afterschool policy development at all levels.
- Support the development and growth of statewide policies that will secure the resources needed to sustain new and existing afterschool programs.
- Support statewide systems to ensure programs are of high quality.

WHAT INFORMATION CAN MY AFTERSCHOOL NETWORK PROVIDE?

- Find your state afterschool network’s website for information on the state network’s priorities as well as information such as afterschool (and sometimes summer) opportunities in your state, trainings and resources, funding opportunities for direct service programs, and more.
- Some afterschool networks offer opportunities to volunteer or post job opportunities for local afterschool programs.
- Others share information on program quality and which programs are available in which communities.



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WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- For state service commissions, other intermediaries, funders, and others who can help grow and support programs: understand the landscape in your community, including overall afterschool program participation, where program providers and services are provided, as well as sources of funding and support to help identify program “deserts,” and training needs.
- For schools and districts: learn about programs in your community that can help support your students.
- For program providers: access professional development support and resources to improve and sustain your programming.
- For parents and caretakers: learn about some of the afterschool programs that are available in your state, where they are, and what they entail.

[FIND YOUR STATE NETWORK HERE.](#)

Want to learn more? Check out the [Afterschool Alliance’s May 2024 This is Afterschool fact sheet](#) and find [state specific statistics here](#).

