



State and Federal Investments in Afterschool Programs

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Afterschool and summer programs promote [social and emotional learning](#), [academic engagement](#) and [positive youth behaviors](#). [Research showing](#) that regular participation in evidence-based programs leads to positive outcomes, particularly among [students at risk of academic failure](#), has prompted federal, state and local governments to invest more in afterschool and summer programs.

In addition to more traditional approaches to afterschool, communities are also investing in holistic, whole-child strategies that incorporate afterschool and summer learning. Creating flexible funding streams enables states, districts and schools to design expanded learning opportunities that accommodate the needs of each community.

State Action

At least 27 states funded afterschool programs in 2019 through budget actions that must be ap-

proved by both legislative chambers and the governor. Funding is distributed either directly, through grant programs or line items for specific programs, or as part of broader youth-serving initiatives, in which afterschool programs are a required, recommended or allowable expense. These investments totaled nearly \$1.7 billion.

■ **Recent Legislative Examples.** [New York AB 2003](#) funded afterschool programs directly through the state-funded Empire After School Program. The current budget provides continuation funding for existing grantees and new funding for an additional cohort of grantees, for a total of \$55 million in fiscal year 2020.

As part of its revamped school funding formula, [New Mexico HB 5](#) included a per-pupil weight for districts that opt into an extended learning program. This program requires districts to add additional days to the school year, increase professional development hours and provide afterschool programming. The state's department of public in-

Did You Know?

- More than [1.7 million school-age children](#) were served at 21st Century Community Learning Center sites nationwide in 2016-2017.
- According to a national survey, [84%](#) of parents support public funding for afterschool programs.
- [Increased funding](#) for the Child Care Development Block Grant program is expected to serve an additional 78,000 school-age children each month.

