



Policy and Funding 2025: White House and Congress

Frequently Asked Questions

Do you all have a sense of how the new Administration and Congress would feel about extending or expanding the child tax credit?

There has been bipartisan support in Congress for extending the child tax credit; it has not been lifted up as a priority by the incoming administration.

Do you have links to what types of federal funding each state is currently receiving? I recently moved, and I'm trying to learn the ins and outs of my new home.

Every state receives 21st CCLC and Child Care Development Block Grant funding. For more information on the afterschool landscape in your state, visit state pages here: <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/policyStateMap.cfm>.

How can we apply for these funding opportunities? We are underfunded and could use this funding.

The sustainability and funding page on the afterschool toolkit has some good places to start: <https://toolkit.afterschoolalliance.org/sustaining-a-program/>.

What advocacy at the federal level can be done to ensure that the 5% 21st CCLC set aside is connected to the efforts and resources of statewide afterschool networks?

While the 5% activities set aside in 21st CCLC can be used by SEAs to provide resources to state afterschool networks and other afterschool intermediaries, and some do, any changes to the policy would require reauthorization of ESEA/21C. We do have a work group developing recommendations for enhancing 21C. [Read more here](#).

I understand they may open 21st century funding for another round this year? Is this on a national level or just a state level?

Each state has its own schedule for doing rounds of funding for afterschool. Most states do a 21C RFP each year. But some skip a year or two—check with your state education agency or state afterschool network to see when the next round is expected in your state.

How could potential bans on DEI and SEL affect afterschool? Does it look like Congress could pass something like this?

It is possible executive orders and/or legislation could impact DEI and SEL in federally funded programs, including afterschool. Most legislation that would impact these areas would need 60 votes in the Senate.

Is there any data or knowledge on the barriers to citizenship status of the child or parent/caregiver having access to afterschool programming? Do we foresee a barrier (or decrease in access) from this incoming administration? Especially if we shift to state grants or vouchers for programming.

We saw the impact of executive orders and policy proposals on citizenship and immigration in the last administration. This will be something to pay attention to in the coming weeks and months.

Is there data available that speaks to the risk of cutting funding for afterschool programs? We have youth in rural communities (as young as 5) who are left home alone when the school day ends.

Participating in afterschool programs increases adult supervision, helping youth feel safer and reducing the likelihood of being left unsupervised with peers outside of school. It also decreases instances where younger children are supervised by older siblings. Adult supervision that fosters developmental relationships promotes positive youth development. These relationships not only enhance personal safety and reduce risky behaviors such as [smoking and drug use](#) but also create an environment that supports learning and helps young people thrive.

In order to make the best use of time, what are the titles of the positions of legislators to search for and meet with? We operate in Atlanta, GA, and the San Francisco Bay Area (specifically Alameda County).

Find your members here:

<https://www.congress.gov/members/find-your-memberhool-improvement/nita-m-lowey-21st-century-community-learning-centers#Contacts>.

Why can't a nonprofit organization apply for a block grant for their program? Why do we have a partner with a county or city to apply for the block grant?

There are some funding streams that can be applied for directly by nonprofits, including AmeriCorps and Youth Mentoring funding. Child Care funding goes through parents following a voucher system. Nonprofits are eligible to apply directly for 21st CCLC funds as the lead grantee, although they need to partner with schools. Some states have more flexibility in this area than others regarding 21st CCLC.

Does child care have a set aside for personal development?

The Child Care Development Fund does have a quality set aside that can be used for professional development.

Would it be possible to collectively advocate for more flexibility in 21st CCLC funding being used for community-based OST sites that serve 40% F/RL students in the afterschool program but who come from multiple schools that are not 40% F/RL?

We do have a work group developing recommendations for enhancing 21C and would love to get your input. [Read more here](#).

Are any of the Republicans supportive/helpful?

Here is the link to the [transition memo](#) that the Afterschool Alliance drafted for the incoming administration.

What do you know so far about McMahon? Will any member of the vetting Senate committee ask a question about afterschool?

We have a blog on [what we know so far about Linda McMahon](#). We'll share more as we learn from confirmation hearings. We anticipate that a member of the vetting committee will be asking about afterschool.