

Title IV, Part B of the Every Student Succeeds Act: 21st Century Community Learning Centers

The 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) initiative is the only federal funding source dedicated to supporting local summer learning and afterschool programs. The *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) updated and reauthorized the 21st CCLC program in December 2015. Each state receives funds based on its share of Title I funding for low-income students. Grants support afterschool and summer learning programs that provide the following services to students attending high-poverty, low-performing schools:

- Academic enrichment activities that can help students meet state and local achievement standards,
- A broad array of additional services designed to reinforce and complement the regular academic program, such as: youth development activities; service learning; nutrition and health education; drug and violence prevention programs; counseling programs; physical fitness and wellness programs; and,
- Literacy and related educational development services to the families of children who are served in the program.

Authorization of Title IV, Part B Funds

ESSA authorizes Title IV, Part B at \$1 billion for FY 2017, and \$1.1 billion for FY 2018 through FY 2020. Each state will receive an allocation based on the Title I funding formula.

Appropriations Challenges

Over the last 10 years, unmet demand for afterschool grew by 20%, but funding has remained flat. 22 million youth nationwide are eligible to attend Community Learning Centers, but funding allows only 1.6 million to participate. Only 1 in 3 requests for funding Community Learning Centers is awarded. Over the last 10 years, \$4 billion in local grant requests were denied because of intense competition and lack of adequate federal funding.

President Trump's Administration has proposed eliminating all funding for Title IV, Part B, further hampering states' and school districts' ability to offer after-school and summer programming for students that need it the most.

Program Funding Need

Afterschool programs are locally driven solutions that help students, families, and employers get ahead. These programs keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and help parents keep their jobs. Students in afterschool attend school more often, do better in school, gain skills for success, and are



more likely to graduate. But the demand for these programs far exceeds the supply. Nationwide, only one in three families who want afterschool for their children has access to programs.

Regular participation in afterschool programs helped narrow the achievement gap between high- and low-income students in math, improved academic and behavioral outcomes, and reduced school absences. Students who regularly participate in Community Learning Centers improved their school attendance, class participation and behavior, homework completion, and reading and math achievement scores and grades.

For further information, or if any questions arise, please contact SHAPE America advocacy staff listed below.

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