



Afterschool Alliance

AFTERSCHOOL FOR ALL

The President's proposed FY2011 budget poses grave concerns for funding of quality afterschool, before school and summer programs.

Defacto \$13 million cut to 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC). The budget proposed calls for level funding of the 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) initiative at \$1.16B, but it also combines the 21st CCLC funding stream with the Full Service Community Schools program and changes the nature of the grant process, resulting in a loss of \$13 million—and potentially more—from funding for 21st CCLC afterschool, before school and summer programs. See [table for the impact of this proposed cut in your state](#).

The budget represents the funding amounts and policy direction that the Administration would like to see Congress enact as part of their upcoming FY2011 budget and appropriations process; however, Congress ultimately will decide the funding amounts for all federal programs. The President's budget also includes significant recommendations for changes to the [Elementary and Secondary Education Act \(ESEA\)](#), which is to be reauthorized by Congress. The budget includes additional funding for education reform efforts if ESEA is reauthorized this year. While the details of the proposal are not available, we are concerned about the recommendations and will continue to work with the Administration and Congress to address these before ESEA is reauthorized.

- **ESEA reauthorization language favors extended day over afterschool.** The Administration's FY2011 budget suggests that 21stCCLC be changed in ESEA so that funding can be used for a host of new programs including extended day and community schools, but there is no recognition of the need for increased resources. Furthermore, several of the budget documents are conspicuously missing any mention of afterschool programs. Quality before-school, afterschool and summer learning programs help improve student outcomes, keep kids safe and help working families. They deliver resources like snacks, meals, mentors, tutors, and more. While the afterschool community supports a broad array of initiatives to provide expanded learning opportunities for youth, those initiatives must be accompanied by new resources. Diverting funding from already underfunded afterschool programs will not expand learning opportunities for the millions of kids who are currently in need of programs.
- **Proposed reauthorization language could result in fewer children being served.** While the [America After 3PM](#) study released last fall found that more than 15 million students are unsupervised afterschool, the Administration's proposed budget and ESEA reauthorization changes could decrease, rather than increase, the number of children being served by quality afterschool programs. Switching from the current funding formula that guarantees competitions and funded programs in each state to a national competition with real winners and losers, could result in fewer children being provided with quality before-school, afterschool and summer programs.
- **Proposed reauthorization language fails to recognize that even with extended day, kids need afterschool.** In many instances kids attending extended day programs still need after school enrichment. For example, nearly all of the Massachusetts' extended day schools end by 4 p.m. and families must still count on afterschool programs to provide additional enrichment for children attending extended day schools. Not only are these kids missing out on more time for learning, the afternoon hours are when unsupervised young people are most likely to be the victims and perpetrators of crime.
- **Reauthorization proposal is lacking a solid research base.** While the afterschool community supports a variety of approaches to expand learning opportunities for children and youth, we feel the proposed reauthorization language places too great an emphasis on extended day models, at the expense of quality afterschool programs. Further, the research base supporting extended day is limited to one or two studies, hardly the solid evidence base upon which new policy should be built. In contrast, there is a growing evidence base showing that afterschool programs help kids succeed academically, socially and professionally.