

Accelerating Georgia Students' Learning & Recovery

AFTERSCHOOL AS A PARTNER

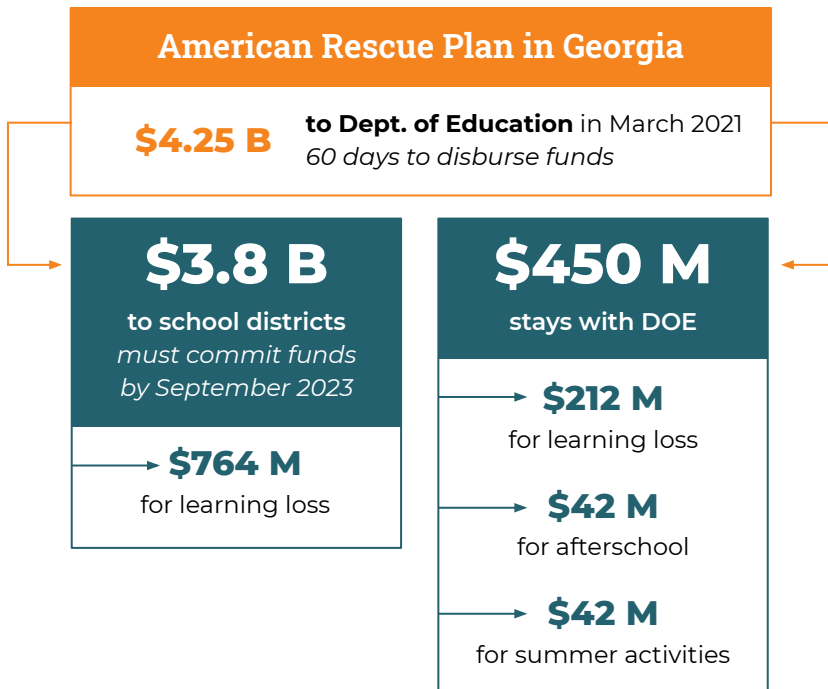
The Need

More than a year after the pandemic, many schools are struggling to connect with students, especially students of color and those living in low-income communities. Afterschool and summer programs stand ready to help kids **re-engage in learning, rebuild relationships, and emerge from this crisis strong, resilient, and hopeful.**



The Opportunity

The American Rescue Plan provides our state \$4.25 billion to address student learning loss and provide wraparound services that kids need to thrive, both in and out of school.



Leveraging Expanded Learning Experts

Afterschool and summer programs are evidence-based and proven to help students learn, do better in school, and gain critical life skills. They can help schools accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional recovery.

Afterschool and summer learning programs can:

- Adapt programming to meet student, family, and school needs
- Offer enrichment activities for students of all backgrounds
- Deliver staff and support to help students who need it most
- Improve academic outcomes and develop key social-emotional and 21st Century skills for college and career readiness

Meeting Georgia's Demand for Afterschool



633,481

Georgia kids are waiting to enroll

During the pandemic, programs stepped up to:



Care for kids of working parents, first responders, and essential staff



Help students and families with remote learning



Stay connected with kids and teens to provide social and emotional support



Distribute meals and groceries



In March 2021, nearly half of programs nationwide reported concerns about closing or laying off staff.

Evidence-Based & Proven Effective

Afterschool and summer enrichment programs can reinforce what kids learn in school and provide extra support to students who are struggling or have special needs. Programs provide safe places and new opportunities for students of all ages and backgrounds to learn, explore, and create without stress.

We offer:

- Caring staff who can help kids build social-emotional skills
- Deep reach in underserved communities
- Strong connections with kids and families
- Expertise leveraging community partners and volunteers

Accelerating Learning & More

Decades of research prove kids who regularly participate in quality [afterschool](#) and [summer enrichment](#) programs:



Gain self-control, confidence, and social skills



Improve school attendance, work habits, and grades



Make gains in reading and math



Have higher graduation rates

The American Rescue Plan presents an incredible opportunity and the funding necessary to reimagine education in Georgia. We must seize this moment to create a sustainable, communal, and functioning ecosystem of support, both in and out of school, to support the development of the whole child and accelerate growth.



Let's Work Together

Georgia can make great strides in addressing equity, diversity, and inclusion by using these funds to support meaningful collaboration between community-based organizations and school districts. Here are some ways the Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network can help:

- *Provide evidence-based best practices from the field of expanded learning programs*
- *Advising on guidance for local education agencies*
- *Assisting with administering and advising on grant programs for afterschool and summer*
- *Providing data on programs in Georgia and unmet demand*
- *Identifying programs serving highest need communities*
- *Providing training and quality supports for programs that receive funds*
- *Share learning and examples from other states*

Contact Us

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GEORGIA STATEWIDE AFTERSCHOOL NETWORK