



GEORGIA STATEWIDE AFTERSCHOOL NETWORK

Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network 2021 Policy Priorities

STATE

Raise awareness about the availability, value, and impacts of afterschool and summer learning programs

Increase funding for afterschool and summer learning programs to meet demand and ensure affordability of care by:

- Creating a dedicated funding stream for afterschool and summer learning programs
- Increasing state funding for child care subsidies (CAPS)
- Protecting current investments, including Georgia's TANF investments
- Leveraging private and community support for afterschool and summer learning programs

Reduce barriers for afterschool and summer learning providers to access government funding opportunities

Strengthen rules and regulations impacting school age childcare to increase quality and developmentally appropriate programming, including:

- Training and technical assistance
- Licensing and exemption regulations
- CAPS
- Quality Rated

Increase provider access to and utilization of the Georgia Afterschool & Youth Development Quality Standards and participation in the Quality Rated School Age program

Expand curricular and professional learning opportunities for afterschool and summer learning programs

Support afterschool and summer learning programs in providing high quality programming in areas including, but not limited to, literacy, nutrition, physical activity, behavioral health, STEM, and workforce development

Strengthen interagency communications, data collection and sharing, collaborative systems, and evaluation metrics that support children, youth, and youth-serving organizations

Support school districts in leveraging the opportunities for afterschool and summer learning within Georgia's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) State Plan

Expand research on the access to and quality and impact of Georgia's afterschool and summer learning programs

FEDERAL

Increase funding for federal programs supporting afterschool and summer learning programs in Georgia, including, but not limited to:

- Every Student Succeeds Act, particularly the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) program and Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants
- Child Care Development Fund
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- Perkins Career and Technical Education Act

Strengthen federal policies that impact the ability of Georgia's afterschool and summer learning programs to prepare youth for college, career, and life

Improve the utilization of afterschool and summer nutrition programs, including streamlining of programs