



GEORGIA STATEWIDE AFTERSCHOOL NETWORK

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SAMPLE PROCLAMATIONS

Proclamations provide an opportunity for you to raise awareness of afterschool, share your program's successes, and thank key people for their support. In fact, nearly every governor in the country signs a proclamation each year for Lights on Afterschool. This gesture is a simple way for elected officials to show their support, and gives you something to show off and announce at your event.

More than governors can issue proclamations— mayors, city councils, a school board, parks and recreation department, your own governing board, or your partners can also issue proclamations for Lights On Afterschool. Below is sample language for a proclamation that any organization might adopt to endorse Lights On Afterschool and affirm that afterschool is key to kids' success.

SAMPLE PROCLAMATION FOR MAYORS

Keeping the Lights On After School: A Proclamation

WHEREAS, the citizens of [**Name of town/city/district/state/community**] stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they:

- Provide safe and engaging learning experiences that help children realize their full potential.
- Support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive when they are out of their classrooms.
- Build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among youth, families and adults.
- Engage families, schools and community partners in advancing not only children's welfare, but also that of the community itself. For every \$1.00 invested in afterschool in Georgia, the return on investment is equal to \$2.64.

WHEREAS, afterschool programs have risen to the moment to support youth in addressing their academic needs and well-being as they recover from the pandemic. Afterschool programs continue to provide innovative, hands-on opportunities for youth to reengage in their learning and connect with caring adults and peers in a safe and supportive environment.

WHEREAS, [**Name of Program**] has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key to helping our children become successful adults.

WHEREAS, *Lights On Afterschool*, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 20, 2022, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families and communities.

WHEREAS, over 600,000 additional Georgia children would enroll in an afterschool program if one were available in their community.

WHEREAS, many afterschool programs across the country are facing operating challenges so severe that they are forced to consider closing their doors and turning off their lights.

WHEREAS, the **[state/city]** is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing expanded learning opportunities that will help close the achievement gap and prepare young people to compete in the global economy.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, **[Name of Mayor]** do hereby proclaim October 20, 2022 as "*Lights On Afterschool Day*"; AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that I enthusiastically endorse *Lights On Afterschool* and commit our community to engage in innovative afterschool programs and activities that ensure the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school.

SAMPLE PROCLAMATION FOR ORGANIZATIONS, INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER OFFICIALS

Keeping the Lights On After School: A Proclamation

WHEREAS, **[Name of Organization, Institution or Location]** stands firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they:

- Provide safe and engaging learning experiences that help children realize their full potential.
- Support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive when they are out of their classrooms.
- Build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among youth, families and adults.
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WHEREAS, over 600,000 additional Georgia children would enroll in an afterschool program if one were available in their community.

WHEREAS, many afterschool programs across the country are facing operating challenges so severe that they are forced to consider closing their doors and turning off their lights.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that **[Name of Organization, Institution or Official]** urges the citizens of **[Name of Community or County]** to ensure that every child has access to a safe, engaging place to go after school; AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this **[Title of Official]** enthusiastically endorses *Lights On Afterschool* and is committed to innovative afterschool programs and activities that ensure that the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school.