

6th Assembly District, Sacramento County

AB 1113 – Youth Afterschool Programs

SUMMARY

Quality expanded learning (afterschool and summer) programs provide safe and engaging places that promote physical, social, emotional, and academic growth for students of all ages. However, the vast majority of funding these programs is directed toward young students, leaving few resources for grades 8-12 that strongly benefit from participation.

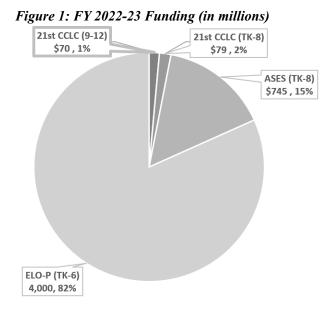
AB 1113 increases equity for middle and high school students by ensuring an appropriate portion of existing state and federal expanded learning funding is prioritized for older students. This is especially important as CA progresses towards its goal of universal afterschool access.

BACKGROUND

<u>Research</u> shows that middle and high school students who participate in expanded learning are more likely to graduate and less likely to become involved in the justice system. An evaluation of afterschool programs for high school students in CA showed that participating students scored higher on standardized tests and had better attendance at school than their peers. This is especially critical in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in dramatic decreases in student attendance and engagement.

These programs cannot function without dedicated staff, but providers struggle to recruit and retain staff due to low wages. Staff turnover makes it hard to build positive staff-child relationships that improve student learning and development.

CA provides funding for afterschool through 3 programs: 1) 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program (21st CCLC), 2) Afterschool Education and Safety Program (ASES), and 3) Expanded Learning Opportunity Program (ELO-P), or "universal afterschool" program. As shown in *Figure 1*, the vast majority of current afterschool funding is prioritized for grades TK-6, leaving out middle and high school students. Less than 3% of afterschool funding in the state is dedicated for high school students even though they make up 33% of CA students.



SOLUTION

AB 1113 requires 60% of future 21st CCLC funding for high school students and 20% for middle school students. In addition, AB 1113 provides equitable COLAs for ASES and 21st CCLC programs in future years to ensure expanded learning programs can hire, train, and retain quality staff.

Finally, AB 1113 protects a portion of ASES funding for middle school students and directs the Department of Education to collect data on pupils enrolled in expanded learning programs.

All CA students deserve to have a safe, enriching place during after school hours, where they can develop skills and relationships that will help them succeed in school, career, and life.

SUPPORT

Partnership for Children and Youth, Co-Sponsor California Afterschool Advocacy Alliance, Co-Sponsor

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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