

# Funding California's After School and Summer Programs

21<sup>st</sup> CCLC and ASES programs are an essential education and safety investment

## Background: After School and Summer Programs Benefit 860,000 students in California

California's After School Education and Safety (ASES) program and the federally-funded 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC) program support over 4,500 schools offering after school and summer programs to 860,000 students in California. These programs serve the most economically disadvantaged students—81% of students in these programs are eligible for the free and reduced-price meals program.

After school and summer programs are essential to closing the achievement and opportunity gaps. They provide underserved students with meaningful academic and enrichment activities, keep kids safely off the streets during the prime time for crime by and against children, and offer essential child care for working parents. They also provide a crucial infrastructure for STEM, summer learning, physical activity, and leveraging hundreds of millions of federal dollars for nutritious snacks and meals.

California-specific research has proven that these programs have a range of positive impacts including improved school attendance, English fluency, academic success, crime prevention, improved health and nutrition, and important social-emotional skill development. They are also cost-effective—with \$2 to \$9 dollars saved for every \$1 invested.

## The Problem: Increasing Costs and Threats of Eliminating Federal Funding Risk Shutting Down Programs and Leaving the Most Vulnerable Kids and Families Without Quality Services

### Proposed Elimination of 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC

[President Trump's budget<sup>i</sup>](#) calls for the elimination of the 21st CCLC program in Fiscal Year 2018. 21st CCLC is the only federal funding explicitly for expanded learning (after school and summer) programs.

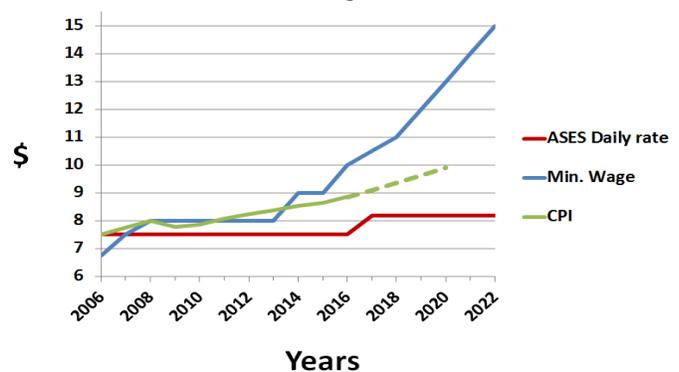
Many California programs depend on this funding, particularly summer learning programs and programming for high school students (for which this is the only public funding source). These dramatic cuts would result in thousands of jobs lost and hundreds of thousands of young people on the streets without a safe place to go after school.

As of mid-September, the House and Senate voted to continue funding 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC in FY 2018 at roughly the same amount. While the final funding level will be negotiated over the next few months, there is strong bipartisan support in Congress to keep 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC programs open for the kids and families who rely on them.

### Rising State Minimum Wage

Despite increases in the state minimum wage (47%) and the cost of living (21%), ASES programs were funded at the same daily rate of \$7.50 per student per day for over a decade. As a result, most [ASES programs surveyed<sup>ii</sup>](#) had to reduce academic supports and enrichment activities, and had difficulty attracting and retaining quality staff.

In 2017, the Legislature and Governor provided a \$50 million increase, bringing the ASES daily rate to \$8.19. This funding is a great start, but it only goes halfway in meeting the current fiscal needs of ASES programs, which will only grow as the state minimum wage increases to \$15 in 2022.



California has successfully leveraged state and federal investments to [build a system serving more than half a million students<sup>iii</sup>](#) from low-income communities every day. The dual threat of under-resourced state funded programs, together with the possible elimination of federally funded programs, could have exponential negative impacts on hundreds of thousands of children and their families.

For additional information visit [www.SaveAfterSchool.com](http://www.SaveAfterSchool.com) or [www.ca3advocacy.org](http://www.ca3advocacy.org).



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<sup>i</sup> *Major Savings and Reforms, Budget of the U.S. Government, Fiscal Year 2018* – Office of Management and Budget:  
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/whitehouse.gov/files/omb/budget/fy2018/msar.pdf>.

<sup>ii</sup> *ASES Daily Rate Survey 2016 - Summary* - Partnership for Children & Youth:  
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/57d1b198d2b857cb88000f2/t/57e166b929687fa8f3890d03/1474389691623/ASESSurveySummary.pdf>.

<sup>iii</sup> *State of the State of Expanded Learning in California*– California Afterschool Network:  
<http://www.afterschoolnetwork.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/state-of-the-stat-of-expanded-learning-2016-17-final-web.pdf>.

Updated September 14, 2017