



PROTECT CALIFORNIA'S AFTERSCHOOL SAFETY NET

Keep children learning and help parents get back to work

Proposed \$100 million cut to afterschool programs puts students and families in our state's highest poverty communities at risk. It would result in fewer students and families receiving care at the very moment they need these programs most.

Afterschool programs are **essential to reducing California's educational disparities.**

84%

of children in afterschool programs are **socio-economically disadvantaged.**

9/10

children in afterschool programs are **children of color.**

1/3

children in ASES programs are **English learners.**

25%

of California's **homeless students** are in afterschool programs.

Afterschool programs are proven to address the very needs heightened by the current crises.



Social-emotional well-being

During school closures, afterschool staff have continued to provide support and care to their students, conducting one-on-one wellness checks and connecting families to critical resources.

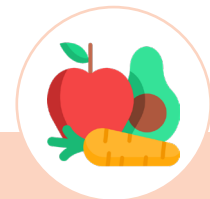
Students will return to classrooms having experienced extreme social disconnection and trauma. Afterschool programs are proven to advance students' social and emotional well-being by providing a consistent connection with caring adults, promoting youth voice, and teaching teamwork and interpersonal skills.



Learning loss

During school closures, afterschool staff have continued to provide tutoring and enrichment classes virtually, as well as in-person for children of essential workers.

Schools will need to address unprecedented learning losses due to school closures and challenges with distance learning. Afterschool programs provide an additional 540 hours of learning time, tutoring and mentoring. Afterschool programs are proven to improve students' reading and math performance and reduce chronic absence, leading to higher graduation rates.



Food insecurity

During school closures, afterschool programs have partnered with districts to provide meal service and grocery gift cards to ensure families get the food and nutrition they need.

The COVID crisis has highlighted the food insecurity many students face. Afterschool programs reduce childhood hunger by serving nutritious snacks and meals daily.

For additional information visit www.saveafterschool.com



The current crisis is disproportionately affecting the children and families who attend California's publicly funded afterschool programs. **Now is not the time to reduce service.**

If afterschool programs, which serve nearly 400,000 students every day, are cut by the proposed \$100 million:

62,563

children will lose their afterschool program.

540 hours

of learning time, child care, safety, and social-emotional support will be lost per child who loses their program.

5 million

meals that vulnerable children depend on will not be served.

If the reimbursement rate reverts back to 2006-07 funding levels, programs throughout the state will become financially insolvent, and far more children will lose access to supervision and care.

Parents need afterschool programs to get back to work to help restart the economy.

A 2019 survey found that if parents lost access to their afterschool program, **58% would have to reduce the number of hours they work, and 26% would have to stop working completely.**

Schools will need their afterschool partners more than ever.

As we consider reopening campuses across California, schools will be relying on afterschool partners to help them pull off this massive and uncharted task. With new visions for instruction, adjusted schedules, and establishing safety protocols, afterschool programs will be called on to do more.

Before COVID-19, afterschool programs were already stretched to their breaking point after years of rising costs. Each time the state minimum wage increases without additional funding from the state, afterschool programs sink deeper into deficit. Since 2007, the state minimum wage has increased 62%, but funding for afterschool has only increased 18%. That increased funding (\$100 million in total), secured by the Legislature over the last 4 years, was enough to just keep afterschool program doors open given the rising minimum wage. The state currently spends less than \$3.00 an hour for afterschool care for our most vulnerable students.

Oppose the \$100 million proposed cut to After School Education and Safety.

The Governor's proposed budget would cut the number of vulnerable children who are able to access care, meals, and learning time. We need to ensure that afterschool programs can pay staff at least minimum wage, provide the support children and schools need to respond to COVID-19, and enable parents to go back to work and help restart the economy.

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