



State of the State of California After School Programs

Overview:

State and federally funded after school programs provide safe and enriching activities for hundreds of thousands of California’s students. In addition to keeping students safe and out of trouble in the hours immediately after school is dismissed, these programs typically provide students with academic assistance, enriching opportunities like arts, community service and project-based learning, and physical activities. The benefits of state and federally funded after school programs also extend to the hundreds of thousands of working parents who strive to secure high quality academic assistance and cost effective after school care for their children. Hosting an after school

program affords schools the opportunity to extend the school day with supplemental education services and enrichment, and provides students with opportunities to interact with positive and trustworthy adults outside of the formal classroom setting. The following brief describes the populations served, the magnitude and sources of funding, and the unmet need for additional after school programs in the state of California. Supplementary after school program data by county, State Assembly and Senate district, and US Congressional District is available online at www.afterschoolnetwork.org/policy.

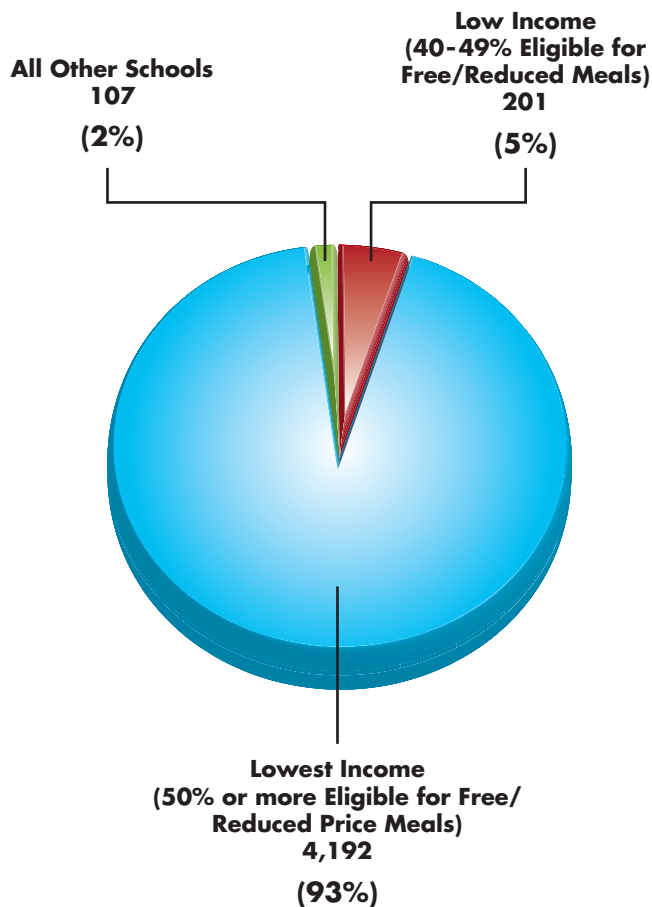


*This report was prepared by the California AfterSchool Network
in collaboration with the Center for Education and Evaluation Services (CEES)*

After School Programs Serve Large Numbers of California's Neediest Students

Nearly half (46 percent) of public schools, attended by 48 percent of California's 6.1 million public school students, provide state- or federally-funded after school programs. These programs, all of which include an academic component, are located almost exclusively in low-income communities at schools which serve the majority of the state's economically disadvantaged and English Learners – key subgroups for many schools and districts in meeting state and federal accountability targets.

Figure 1. Distribution of State and Federally-Funded After School Programs by Family Income



Of the 4,500 schools hosting state- or federally-funded after school programs, 98 percent are schools in low-income communities, consistent with federal Title I standards for needy schools (40% or more students eligible for the federal free and reduced price school meal program). Those 4,500 schools also have a higher percentage of English Learners than all public schools statewide.

Table 1. Characteristics of California Schools with After School Programs (State and Federally funded)

Schools	Total Schools	Low-Income Schools (40% or more Free/Reduced Price Meal Eligible)	Lowest-Income Schools (50% or more Free/Reduced Price Meal Eligible)	Average % English Learners
All Schools	9,812	6,804	5,954	26%
Schools with After School Programs	4,500 (46%)	4,393 (65%)	4,192 (70%)	38%

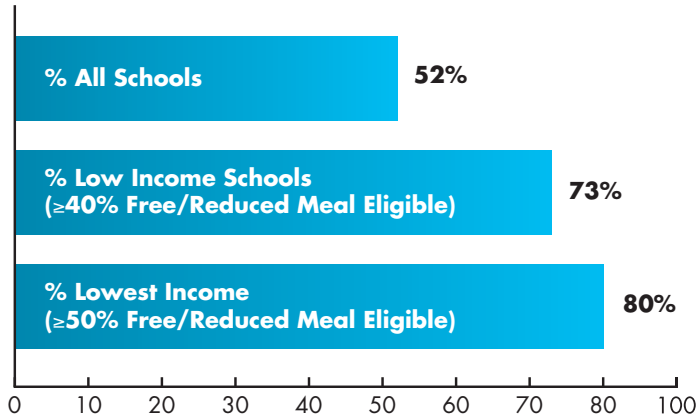
After school programs serve approximately two-thirds (65%) of California's schools where at least 40% of students are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Among the schools where at least 50% of students qualify for free or reduced price meals¹, 70% have the benefit of an after school program to support students.

¹ASES gives grant priority to programs serving schools with 50 percent or more of students eligible for the free or reduced price school meal program.



State of the State of California After School Programs

Figure 2. Proportion of California Elementary/Middle Schools with After School Programs



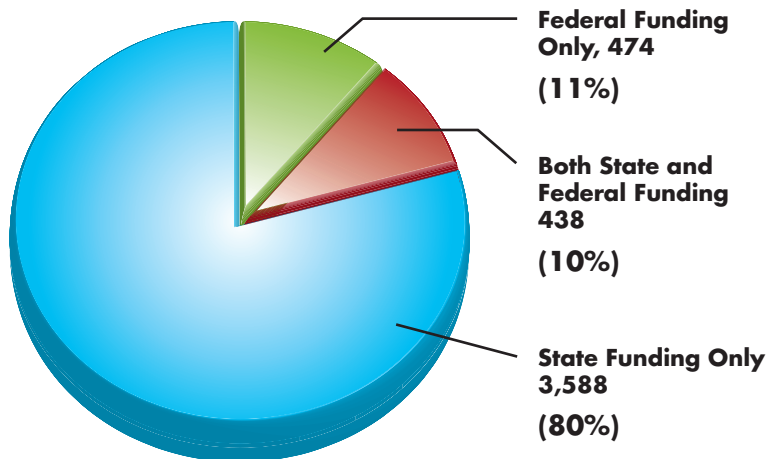
Most state and federal after school funding, including all state after school funding, serves elementary and middle school students. After school programs are located in 52% of the state's 7,900 schools that serve elementary and middle-school students. Virtually all of these programs (98%) are in elementary and middle schools where at least 40% of students are eligible for the free or reduced price meals program. These programs serve approximately three-fourths (73%) of California's elementary and middle schools where at least 40% of students are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Among the elementary and middle schools where at least 50% of students qualify for free or reduced price meals, 80% have the benefit of an after school program.

Most After School Programs Are Funded by the State

School-based after school funding originates from the state-funded After School Education and Safety (ASES) program and the federally-funded 21st Century Community Learning Centers. Part of California's federal 21st Century funding is reserved for high schools through the 21st Century High School After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens (ASSETs) program. While 21st Century (including ASSETs) funds programs at 912 school sites, ASES funds programs at more than four times as many sites (4,026).

Although some school sites build an after school program by combining funds from both ASES and 21st Century, the majority of publicly funded after school programs rely exclusively on funding from the state, as shown in **Figure 3** below. *(Continued on next page)*

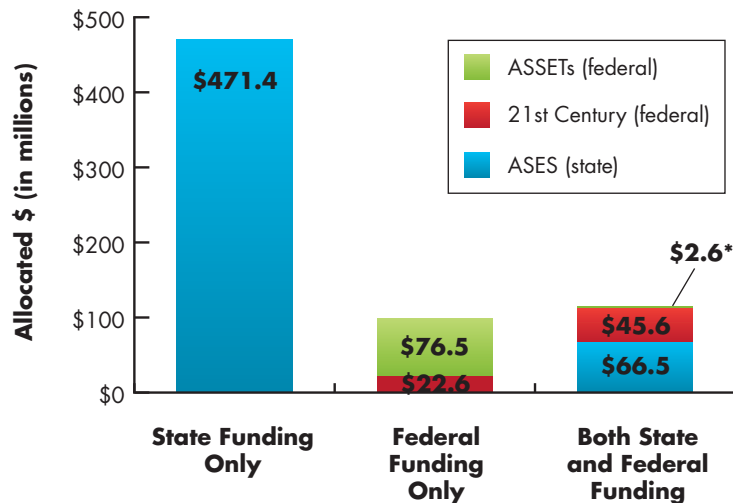
Figure 3. Number of California Schools with State vs. Federally-funded After School Programs



State of the State of California After School Programs

Most After School Programs Are Funded by the State *(continued)*

Figure 4. Amount of State vs. Federal Funding for California's After School Programs



Just as the number of California's after school programs reliant on state funding dwarfs the number of programs with federal funds, the total dollars allocated by the state heavily outweighs the funding received from the federal government (**see Figure 4**). For the 2010-11 school year, approximately \$538 million in state ASES grants and \$147 in federal 21st Century and ASSETs grants were awarded.

**As it supports high school programs, ASSETs funding is not typically combined with that of ASES or 21st Century, which support elementary and middle school programs. However, some schools that span both high school and middle school grades (such as K-12 or 7-12) do combine ASSETs and other funding.*

Unmet Need for After School Programs

Although most low-income schools have state- or federally-funded after school programs, there are still over 2400 low-income schools without programs, including nearly 1500 elementary and middle schools.

Table 2. Low-income Schools without an After School Program

	Low-income Schools (all grade levels)	Lowest-income Schools (all grade levels)	Low-income Schools (Elementary and Middle only)	Lowest-income Schools (Elementary and Middle only)
Statewide	6804	5954	5562	4910
Without After School Program	2411 (35%)	1762 (30%)	1486 (27%)	1005 (20%)

In addition, more than a quarter (27%) of the state's 1.5 million English Learners attend schools that do not offer a state- or federally-funded after school program.

The limited funding for after school programs results in numerous schools being denied the opportunity to serve their students in an after-school program. In August and November 2010, the California Department of Education awarded more than \$34 million in new ASES grants. But of the 958 sites that applied 474 – nearly half – were turned away. The 474 sites and \$54 million in denied funding represented over 40,000 students who will not have the benefit of the type of high quality after school programs that state and federal funding make possible.

Appendices and further information available at www.afterschoolnetwork.org/policy