

Accelerating Arkansas Students' Learning & Recovery

AFTERSCHOOL IS A PARTNER

The Need

More than a year after the pandemic, many schools are struggling to connect with students, especially students of color and those living in low-income communities. Afterschool and summer programs stand ready to help kids **re-engage in learning, rebuild relationships, and emerge from this crisis strong, resilient, and hopeful.**



The Opportunity

The American Rescue Plan provides Arkansas \$1.25B to address student learning loss and provide wraparound services that kids need to thrive, both in and out of school.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN IN ARKANSAS

\$1.25B to Dept. of Education in March 2021
60 days to disburse funds

\$1.13B

to school districts
must commit funds
by September 2023

→ **\$225M**

for learning loss

\$125M

stays with DOE

→ **\$62.6M**

for learning loss

→ **\$12.5M**

for afterschool

→ **\$12.5M**

for summer activities

Leveraging Expanded Learning Experts

Arkansas Out of School Network represents afterschool and summer enrichment programs across Arkansas. Our programs are evidence-based and proven to help students learn, do better in school, and gain critical life skills. We can help schools accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional recovery.

As part of the 50-State Afterschool Network, we can:

- Provide evidence-based best practices from the field of expanded learning programs
- Offer considerations for guidance in dispersing funds
- Provide data on Arkansas programs to help with your deliberations
- Share learning and examples from other states

Meeting Arkansas's Demand for Afterschool



86% of Arkansas parents are satisfied with their child's afterschool program

207,000

Arkansas kids are waiting to enroll

During the pandemic, programs stepped up to:



Care for kids of working parents, first responders, and essential staff



Help students and families with remote learning



Stay connected with kids and teens to provide social and emotional support



Distribute meals and groceries



In March 2021, nearly half of programs nationwide reported concerns about closing or laying off staff.