



California AfterSchool Network

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State of the State of Expanded Learning in California 2016–2017

EDITED BY

Jessica Gunderson - CAN Policy Committee Co-Chair
Policy Director, Partnership for Children and Youth

Brian Lee - CAN Policy Committee Co-Chair
State Director, Fight Crime Invest in Kids

AND

Anissa Sonnenburg
*Education Programs Consultant, Expanded Learning Division,
California Department of Education*

“High quality Expanded Learning programs are an integral partner with schools to increase student engagement, skill development, and college and career readiness. These programs also support working families by providing safe, healthy learning environments for their children in the critical hours after school and during the summer.”

Tom Torlakson
Superintendent of Public Instruction

AUTHORED BY

Jessica Hay
Program Director, California AfterSchool Network

AND

Jeff Davis
Executive Director, California AfterSchool Network

WWW.AFTERSCHOOLNETWORK.ORG



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

California boasts the largest and highest-rated Expanded Learning infrastructure in the nation. Expanded Learning programs in California support after school, summer, inter-session, and before school programs at over 4,500 Expanded Learning sites serving nearly 860,000 children and youth annually.

California's Expanded Learning system is at risk due to stagnant funding along with increased operating costs due to a rise in cost of living and the increased state-mandated minimum wage.

Protecting this Expanded Learning system is essential to closing the opportunity and achievement gaps of children and youth in California. After school programs often result in positive academic and life outcomes, increased engagement, improved attendance and behavior, and increased health and wellness for high need students who participate in them.

Expanded Learning programs offer a wide range of supports and resources for the most underserved communities, which include year around learning opportunities; active and engaged STEM learning, nutrition education, increased physical activity, an opportunity to promote and develop social-emotional learning and an avenue to alleviate the teacher shortage California is facing.

Sustaining and growing California's Expanded Learning infrastructure is critical to support the needs of children, youth and families. Even with historically high public support and a high return on investment, there is still a substantial unmet need for these learning opportunities in California.



The State of the State of Expanded Learning in California is a publication of the California AfterSchool Network produced in partnership with, and with generous support from the California Department of Education's Expanded Learning Division (EXLD).

Expanded Learning programs for the purposes of this report are defined consistently with the California Department of Education's Expanded Learning Division: "the term Expanded Learning refers to before and after school, summer, and intersession learning experiences that develop the academic, social, emotional, and physical needs and interests of students. Expanded Learning opportunities should be hands-on, engaging, student-centered, results-driven, involve community partners, and complement learning activities in the regular school day/year."¹

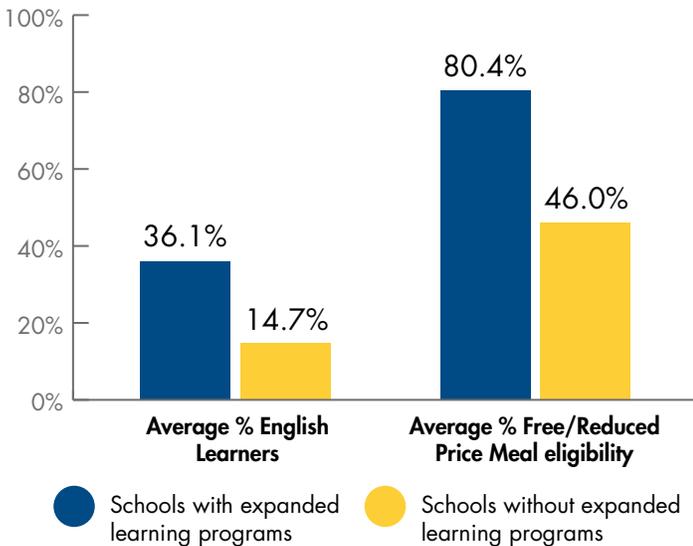
California's Expanded Learning infrastructure serves substantial numbers of underserved students

California funds and administers the largest Expanded Learning infrastructure in the nation! The state-funded After School Education and Safety (ASES) program and federally-funded 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) program operate at **over 4,500 sites with nearly 860,000^A students enrolled** in after school and summer programs and have the capacity to serve 485,000 students daily.^{B,2} These programs serve high percentages of economically disadvantaged students and English learners, and higher percentages of female, African American and Latino students than average California schools.^C

California's Expanded Learning programs serve high percentages of economically disadvantaged students and English learners

On average, schools with after school programs have over 80% of their students eligible for free and reduced price meals (FRPM) and more than double the percentage of English Learners than schools without Expanded Learning programs

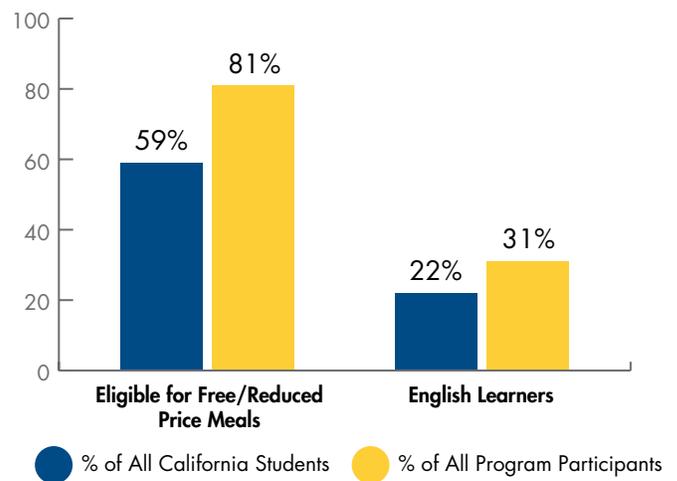
Figure 1. Proportion of Economically Disadvantaged and English Learners at Expanded Learning Program Sites



81% of the nearly 860,000 students enrolled in California's Expanded Learning Programs are FRPM-eligible. California's Expanded Learning Programs serve higher percentages of English Learner and Migrant students than the overall percentage of California students. 31% of Expanded Learning participants are

English Learners, compared to 22% of all California students, and 2% of Expanded Learning participants are migrant students, compared to 1% of all California students. 11% of Expanded Learning participants are Special Education students, 5% are homeless students, and 3% are in foster care.

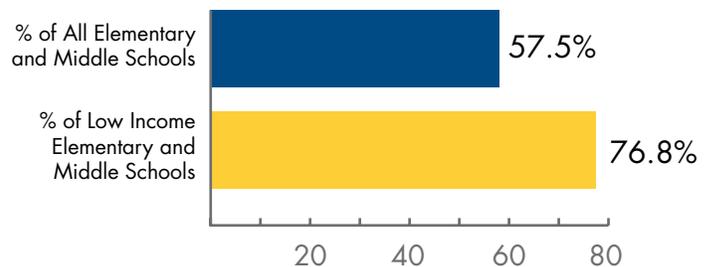
Figure 2. California's Expanded Learning Programs Serve Vulnerable Student Groups



California's Expanded Learning programs primarily serve low income elementary and middle schools

45% of California's public schools benefit from an Expanded Learning program. These programs benefit 59% of California's low income schools.^D More than 9 out of 10 (92%) publicly funded Expanded Learning programs are at elementary and middle schools. Expanded Learning programs are located in over half of all of California's elementary and middle schools and in over three-fourths of the state's low income elementary and middle schools where over 40% of students are eligible for FRPM.

Figure 3. Proportion of California Elementary and Middle Schools with After School Programs



^A There are 859,098 students enrolled in California Expanded Learning programs according to CDE's Expanded Learning Division.

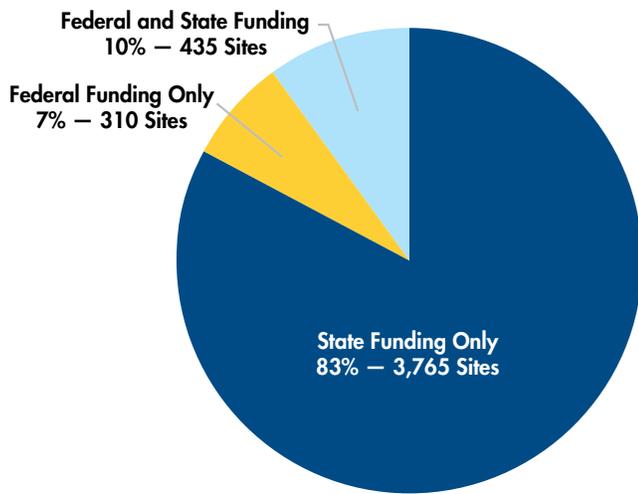
^B California Expanded Learning programs have the capacity to serve 486,060 students daily per CDE's Expanded Learning Programs Database.

^C 8% of all Expanded Learning program participants are African-American versus 6% of all California students. 69% of programs participants are Hispanic versus 54% of all Californian students according to CDE's Expanded Learning Division student demographic data.

^D Low income schools refers to schools with 40% or more of their students eligible for Free and Reduced-Priced Meals (FRPM) consistent with Federal Title 1 standards for needy schools.

Breakdown of State ASES and Federal 21st CCLC Funding

In the 2016-17 school year, approximately \$541 million in new and continued state ASES grants and approximately \$130 million in federal 21st CCLC grants were allocated to programs on 4,510 school sites serving over 485,000 students daily, with nearly 860,000 students enrolled. 21st CCLC funding also supports summer learning opportunities for over 14,000 children and youth.



California has a total of 4,510 publicly funded after school programs, with the vast majority (83%) funded exclusively by the state. ASES funds programs at 4,200 school sites, while 21st CCLC including High School After School and Enrichment for Teens (ASSETs) funds programs at 745 school sites including 288 High School ASSETs sites. Approximately 10% of school sites receive both state and federal funding.

California Expanded Learning Programs are Primarily Funded Through ASES

Expanded Learning programs are primarily funded by California's ASES program. ASES programs are delivered in partnerships between school districts and communities. ASES programs are funded according to a formula of \$7.50 per student, per day and have flexibility in how to design programming, provided that they offer a combination of education and enrichment activities and operate five days per week, until 6 pm. Programs must provide a 33% cash or in-kind match for every state dollar. **ASES funding supports programs that serve elementary and middle school students.**

California Ranks Number One in the Nation in After School



In March 2015, the Afterschool Alliance released *America After 3pm*, summarizing a national survey assessing participation, access, public support, and family satisfaction with after school programs. Based on their findings California is ranked number one in the nation for after school. The report surfaced strong public support for after school programs, which demonstrate a strong return on investment.³

Federal 21st CCLC Program

Additional funding is provided through the Federal 21st CCLC program (see figure 4). Federal funding for the 21st CCLC program was preserved in the new Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) despite the U.S. House of Representatives proposing to eliminate the 21st CCLC program. Following a tremendous outpouring of public support for the program, the final education bill preserved the 21st CCLC program as an independent funding stream.⁴ **The Federal 21st CCLC program supports Expanded Learning programs at all grade levels, all year long.** Half of California's Federal 21st CCLC funds are reserved to benefit high school students through the High School After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens (ASSETs) program. Over \$5.4 million in 21st CCLC funds have the capacity to support over 14,000 children and youth with summer learning opportunities this summer.

Child Care Funding in California

In addition to ASES and 21st CCLC programs, California administers and funds a variety of subsidized child care programs designed to serve low income students. California allocates \$1.1 billion to preschool programs,⁵ and \$1.8 billion to support child care for children ages 0 to 12.⁵ 40% of those children ages 0-12 supported by child care programs are in school-age care.

According to the most recent data from the CDE's Early Education and Support Division, at least 62,190 age 6 or over school-age children, as well as many school-age 5-year-olds, are served with child care funds through child care centers, family child care homes, and license exempt programs. These programs are funded through CalWORKs stages 2 and 3, family child care, general child care, migrant care, migrant alternative payment, severely handicapped, and alternative payment programs.⁶ Thousands of additional school-age children are served through CalWORKs stage 1 child care.

California publicly funded Expanded Learning infrastructure is at-risk

Increasing costs in the face of stagnant funding leave ASES programs in danger of closing, meanwhile federal budget proposals to eliminate the federal 21st CCLC program would result in the closure of hundreds of K-12 after school and summer learning programs.

California's State Funded After School Education and Safety Program At Risk

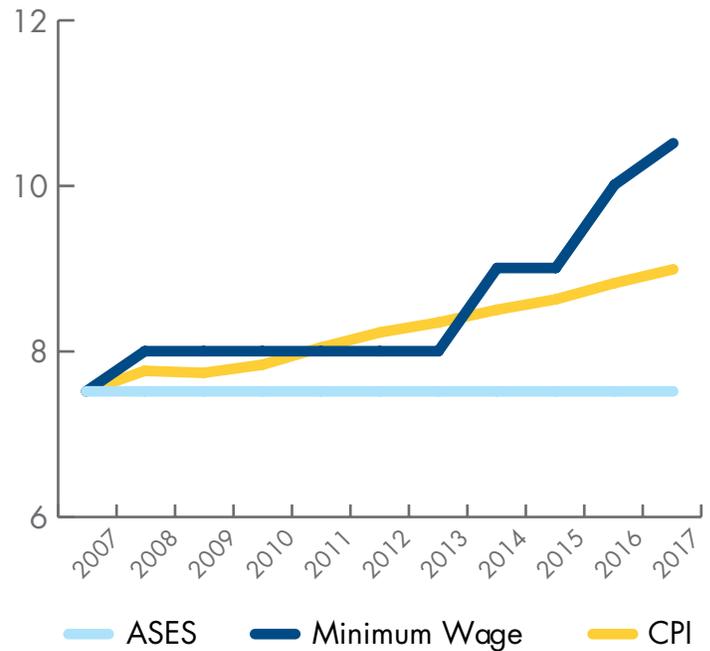
Since 2007, ASES program sites have been funded at a daily rate of \$7.50 per student, per day. During that time the Consumer Price Index (CPI) has increased by 21 percent.⁷ Changes in the minimum wage, which will have increased by 47 percent⁸ by January 2018, are further squeezing Expanded Learning programs. The state increased the minimum wage by \$1 to \$9 on July 1, 2014 and by \$1 to \$10 on January 1, 2016. Minimum wage will increase to \$11 by 2018 and \$15 by 2022.

Cost pressures are having negative impacts on California's Expanded Learning programs. A 2016 Survey⁹ completed by 630 ASES providers representing over 250 school districts found that **flat funding has negatively impacted 92 percent of programs**, and 29 percent of respondents indicated they were very likely to close in the next two years. To address this issue, Senator Connie Leyva recently introduced Senate Bill 78 (SB 78).¹⁰ SB 78 would increase the ASES daily rate by \$1.50 (to \$9.00 per student per day) through a budget augmentation in 2017-18 with future increases tied to increases in the state minimum wage.*

California's Federally Funded After School 21st CCLC At Risk

President Trump's budget calls for the complete elimination of 21st CCLC funding for FY 2018-2019,¹¹ asserting the program lacks evidence of improving student success despite overwhelming research to the contrary. If approved, 1.6 million children and families would be left with no quality after school and summer learning opportunities nationally,¹² including over 85,000 children and youth in California.^F The elimination of

Figure 5. The Rising Cost of Doing Business



the 21st CCLC would mean a loss of funding for over 700 of California's Expanded Learning program sites including almost 300 high school ASSETs program sites, and would reduce the ability to provide year around learning opportunities through summer programs. A recent poll from Quinnipiac University found that **83% of voters oppose President Trump's proposed cut to after school funding**, including 63% of Republican voters and 97% of Democratic voters.¹³ In late April 2017, Congress released an omnibus spending bill to fund the government through the end of September, increasing 21st CCLC funding by \$25 million in FY 2017-2018 which would bring total funding to \$1.9 billion.¹⁴ The budget was signed by the President in early May 2017. This bill preserves and increases the 21st CCLC program for the 2017-2018 school year. However, Congress and the President now turn their attention to the FY 2018 budget, the year that President Trump proposed to eliminate the 21st CCLC program.



^F California's 21st CCLC programs have the capacity to serve 85,554 students daily per CDE's Expanded Learning Programs Database.

* Update: on June 27, 2017 Governor Jerry Brown signed the California State Budget, which included a \$50 million increase for ASES for 2017-2018

Unmet need for Expanded Learning opportunities in California

Expanded Learning programs support working families by providing enriching learning opportunities in a safe and supportive environment until 6pm. There is strong public support for Expanded Learning programs in California. **84% of parents support public funding for after school programs** including 91% of Democrats and 80% of Republicans.¹⁵ Expanded Learning investments save tax payer dollars

4 of 5 California parents agree that after school programs help working parents keep their job.³

by improving academic success, reducing juvenile crime and increasing a student's future earning potential. Expanded Learning investments save tax dollars by reducing crime and welfare costs, and increasing youth skill building and academic performance. **For every one dollar invested in after school programs there is up to nine dollars in community savings.**¹⁵

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Unmet Need for ASES and 21st CLCC

California's legislators and voters have created the largest and highest-quality Expanded Learning infrastructure in the nation. While California has made great strides, there is still a significant unmet need for Expanded Learning programs.

Table 1. Low Income Schools Without an After School Program

	Low Income Schools (all grade levels)	Low income Schools (Elementary and Middle Schools Only)	Lowest Income Schools ^P (all grade levels)	Lowest Income Schools (Elementary and Middle Schools Only)
Statewide	7,276	5,150	6,520	4,639
Without After School Program	2,980	1,195	2,349	798
	41.0%	23.2%	36.0%	17.2%

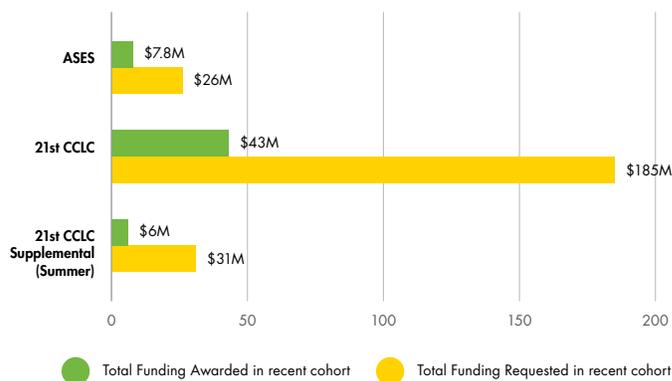
Over 2,900 low income schools, including over 1,000 elementary and middle schools, do not benefit from a state ASES or federally funded 21st CCLC after school program. In addition, more than a quarter (29%) of the state's over 1.3 million English Learners attend schools that do not benefit from an ASES or 21st CCLC after school program.

More children in California than ever before (1.7 million) take part in an after school program; however 2.4 million more children all across California would be enrolled in one if one were available.³

Most Recent Cohorts of State and Federal Funding Illustrate Unmet Need in California

The most recent cohorts of ASES and 21st CCLC (including ASSETs) funding illustrate a significant unmet need for Expanded Learning in California. In the most recent cohorts of ASES and 21st CCLC funding applicants requested over \$143 million more funding than was available, leaving hundreds of thousands of students without the benefit of a quality expanded learning program.

Figure 6. Unmet Need for ASES and 21st CCLC Funding



In the most recent cohort (2016-17) of ASES grants, applicants requested over \$26 million in ASES funding⁶ to support 305 sites, although a total of only \$7.8 million funding 126 sites could be awarded. ASES awards are granted to sites with the greatest need as determined by the percentage of students eligible for FRPM. **Due to excess demand, only schools with FRPM of 79.59% or higher were awarded state ASES grants in this round.** In the most recent Intent to Award (March 2017) announcement for Cohort 10 of 21st CCLC elementary/ middle and High School ASSETs grants (which begin July 1, 2017), applicants requested over \$185 million in federal funding but only \$43 million is intended to be awarded. Demand for supplemental 21st CCLC funding, which can be used for summer learning, also far outpaced the supply. Cohort 10 requests included over \$31 million for supplemental funding, yet just over \$6 million was awarded.¹¹

⁶ Applicants requested \$26,043,060.00 in state ASES funds in the most recent cohort (2016-17 to be funded for the 2017-18 school year).

¹¹ CDE's Expanded Learning Division intends to fund approximately \$43 million in 21st CCLC and ASSETs grants for Cohort 10. Funding amounts may change, and are contingent upon funds available in the federal budget.