

New Ohio Graduation Requirements: Afterschool Is a Partner



What's New? Readiness Requirements for High School Graduates

All Ohio students graduating in 2023 and beyond* must meet new graduation [requirements](#) that demonstrate how their academic and technical skills align with their plans for life after high school. Students must earn two diploma seals, including one that is designed by the state and one that is determined by their high school.

The Opportunity

Afterschool is the perfect place for students to earn the [OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal](#), which counts toward this graduation requirement and focuses on entrepreneurial learning that helps youth develop critical workforce and life [skills](#), including collaboration, critical thinking, and leadership.

The Ohio Afterschool Network (OAN) offers FREE training and resources afterschool programs can use to help students earn the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal, including:

- **12 lessons** for afterschool educators to be facilitated by afterschool and summer program staff
- **Guidance** for working with school administrators to obtain district approval
- **Materials** programs can use to promote this new offering to families, schools, community partners, local businesses and funders

*Students entering ninth grade on or after July 1, 2019

Why You Should Do This!

We've already trained 600+ educators across Ohio. Here's how afterschool programs benefit:



Form new partnerships with schools

Many school districts need help identifying opportunities for students to meet these new requirements. OAN worked with the Ohio Department of Education to develop the pathway to the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal. We can help providers connect with local school leaders to promote this opportunity and recruit students.



Engage local businesses and community leaders

To earn the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal, students must complete an in-person or virtual job shadowing experience with a volunteer work mentor. Programs and students can collaborate to invite area businesses to participate.



Recruit students and families

High school students need and want exciting new opportunities to explore careers and develop the skills they need to succeed. Show them what your program has to offer!



Attract new funding




Potential funders, including 21st Century Community Learning Centers, foundations and corporate donors, look for innovative workforce and youth development programming. One Columbus program was recently awarded \$20,000 from a local corporation to facilitate entrepreneurial education.

TO GET STARTED, contact **Liz Nusken**,
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OAN believes that quality out-of-school time programs have an important role in preparing students for success in school, work and life.

Contact OAN:
www.oanohio.org | (833) OAN-OHIO

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