

# American Rescue Plan is Making a Difference for Students through Afterschool and Summer Programs

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) provides an unprecedented opportunity to support students' well-being and academic growth with comprehensive afterschool and summer programs. Whether students get those supports depends on how state and local education agencies choose to invest their ARP funds. Here's a look at the current state of ARP investments in comprehensive, evidence-based afterschool and summer learning programs—and the potential that remains.

## ARP Investments in Afterschool and Summer Opportunities

**25 MILLION**

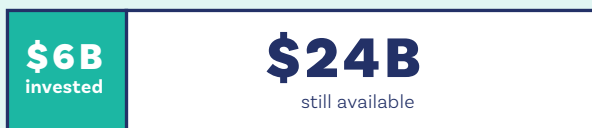
children are waiting for an afterschool program



**YEAR 2020**

**3 MILLION**

children have **new learning opportunities**

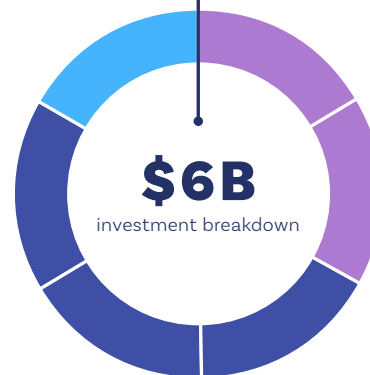
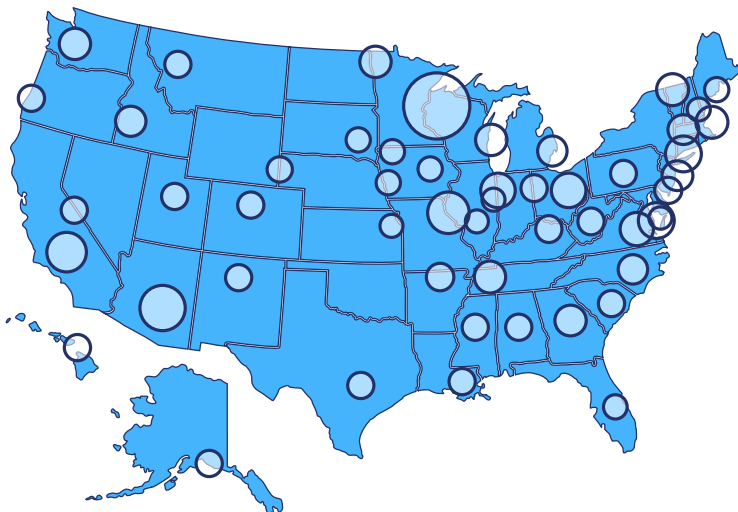


**THIS YEAR**

### INVESTMENTS IN EVERY STATE

See 300+ examples of state, city, and school district investments in quality afterschool and summer at [HelpKidsRecover.org](https://www.helpkidsrecover.org). Have a story for the map?

Email us at: [info@afterschoolalliance.org](mailto:info@afterschoolalliance.org) with the subject line: ARP Map Story



- School districts  
**\$2 BILLION**  
Source: Local education agency Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) III plans\*
- State education agencies  
**\$3 BILLION**  
Source: State education agency ESSER III grant awards to local programs
- Cities  
**\$1 BILLION**  
Source: State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds\*\*

\*According to a review by Afterschool Alliance

\*\*Tracked by National League of Cities

## Expanding opportunities for young people who most need support

**UTAH** **Utah's Carbon School District** directed roughly 20% of the district ESSER III funds to reinstate a previously successful afterschool program that had ended due to lack of funding. The program serves a community with some of the highest intergenerational poverty in the state and provides academic support, transportation, meals, and additional wraparound supports.

**VERMONT** For 30 years, **Gallop to Success in North Bennington, Vermont**, which helps campers develop teamwork skills and learn to care for animals, has been funded by donations and staffed by volunteers. In 2021, thanks to funding from the Summer Matters for All grant program supported by Vermont's state level ARP set-aside for summer, Gallop increased the number of students it served 10 fold, from 12 youth to 120, and paid its volunteers for the first time, many of whom were youth who came up through the program and now serve as leaders.

**OREGON** In Oregon, through a partnership between the **Hillsboro School District (HSD) and the Hillsboro city government** using a combination of ARP Local Fiscal Recovery Funds and ESSER III funds and the Student Investment Account, HSD is expanding access to afterschool programs at 10 schools, eight of which are Title I schools. This approximately \$4.8 million investment increases afterschool program slots from 320 students to more than 1,000 students in grades K-6 for the 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24 school years.

## Evaluations show powerful results

**OKLAHOMA** Tulsa Public Schools dedicated up to \$9 million of its ESSER III funding toward its 2022 "Ready. Set. Summer!" program, a voluntary 4-week summer program for 10,000 students in K-12 grades. Activities included academic enrichment, gardening, robotics, and field trips.

→ From spring to fall 2021, participants showed a 3% increase in grade-level reading and a 1% increase in math proficiency

**GEORGIA** The Building Opportunities in Out-of-School Time (BOOST) grant, made possible through state afterschool set-aside ESSER III funds:

→ Supported 97 community-based organizations and 4 statewide organizations

→ Reached more than 67,000 youth through afterschool programming

→ Reached more than 78,000 youth through summer programming

→ Is serving students from low-income families (98%), students with special needs (65%), students in foster care (64%), and English language learner students (58%)

**IDAHO** An evaluation of out-of-school time programs made possible by COVID-relief funds found that among families with children participating in programs:

→ 87% say the program helps their child succeed academically

→ 93% say that the program provides their child new experiences

→ 97% agree that their child enjoys attending the program

### LOOKING AHEAD

## Programs need sustained investments to keep their doors open

When ARP funding expires in late 2024, many youth will lose their programs—and families and communities will lose essential supports—if action is not taken. It will take local, state, and federal funding, as well as private philanthropy, to sustain afterschool and summer programs and continue to close the opportunity gap.