Participation is higher than ever. A critical time to invest in kids. Parents have a vision for summer learning.

Summer Enrichment
Ensuring Access for All

Summer enrichment programs can be game-changing for young people. But unmet demand remains high, and millions of kids are missing out—especially those from traditionally underserved communities.

Families in the highest-income bracket spend 5x more on out-of-school time activities each year than families in the lowest-income bracket.

Kids from families with low incomes are more likely to miss out.

Parents want summer learning programs funded. Access is not equitable.

12.6 million kids in summer enrichment 2008 2013 2019
25% 33% 47%
47%
Benefits for kids and families
Summer programs help kids learn and grow. Summer programs give parents peace of mind.

Keep kids safe and engaged
Social and emotional supports
Healthy meals and safe outdoor activity
Career exploration and job experience
Promote healthy behaviors
Care for kids while parents work

Reading and math gains
95% of parents are satisfied with their child's structured summer experience. Parent satisfaction is high.

Parents want their kids to
Explore a variety of activities
Be active and outdoors
Build connections

For every child in a summer program, one more is waiting to get in.

83% 85% 88% of parents support public investment in summer programs
Support is strong and bipartisan:
Summer 2021
79%
Summer programs plan to offer in-person and/or virtual activities for kids. What will be available for kids?

Due to lack of funding, many programs will: Reduced enrollment due to COVID-19 52%
Hiring enough staff 44%
Addressing learning loss 42%
Having the resources to meet families' needs 36%
Need to raise parent fees - or - Find new revenue sources 30%

www.afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM

Local leaders can help kids re-engage, recharge, and rebound from the pandemic by investing in summer enrichment.

Cost is the greatest barrier to participation for families with low incomes... Programs are too expensive 44%
Low-income families with highest incomes
$3,600/yr
Higher income families with lowest incomes
$700/yr

Issues with location or transportation?

Don't know what programs are available?

82% of program providers are concerned about their program's long-term funding and future due to COVID-19.

Democrats Independents Republicans

Accelerate students' social, emotional, and academic recovery. And help parents return to work.

Structured summer experiences...