

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

One of the primary goals on both a state and national level is to focus on after school programs. Research shows that after school programs can be tremendously effective in drug and violence prevention, closing the achievement gap and improving school performance in general.

A great opportunity on the horizon is the 21st Century Community Learning Center. These grants provide funding for afterschool programs that serve at-risk youth and are a great opportunity to incorporate the arts. Community learning center grants can help students meet state and local standards in core academic subjects. They offer students a variety of opportunities, including academics, arts, literacy, drug and violence prevention, counseling, recreation, technology and character education.

There is a fair amount of funding available to make these programs effective, so we need to create arts in education programs that will help these programs achieve their goals.

Any community-based non-profit organization, local educational agency, public or private entity or partnership of these can apply to receive grants from the state of North Carolina.

North Carolina is now the home of the new Center for Afterschool Programs, housed at the Public School Forum of North Carolina.

Looking for additional ways to fund arts integration in your afterschool program?
Look at the North Carolina Arts Council's AIE Initiatives Grant or Residency Grant, The National Endowment for the Arts, and other Funding Sources.

For more information on 21st Century Community Learning Centers, go to
See 21st Century Community Learning Center www.ncpublicschools.org/school_improvement/
www.ed.gov/21stcclc
www.afterschool.gov

For more information on afterschool programs in North Carolina and beyond, see
North Carolina Center for Afterschool Programs www.nccap.net
Afterschool Alliance www.afterschoolalliance.org