

Iowa School District Leaders Survey

About the Survey:

The Iowa Department of Education is administering a survey to establish baseline data about afterschool programs around the state. This survey will collect input from all school superintendents and school board presidents. These surveys will garner information regarding afterschool affordability, access, and quality.

Goals of the Survey:

Through the surveys, the Department of Education will gain valuable information about the current state of afterschool in Iowa, including the need for afterschool programming, perceptions of quality programs, partnerships, access to programs, and funding and sustainability options. This feedback will inform priority and policy decisions for before and after school programming in Iowa by providing a comprehensive picture of current quality, funding, and policy of afterschool programming around the state.

An independent contractor, State Public Policy Group, has been hired to administer this survey, and collect and analyze the survey responses.

Individual survey responses will not be published; the findings will be based on aggregate analysis of the responses.

We urge you to take 10 to 15 minutes to complete this survey. Please note that the survey will no longer be available after November 7, 2008.

Please use the following definition when answering the survey questions:

Afterschool programs provide experiences that are meaningful and beneficial to children, youth, families, and communities by offering safe, engaging, and enriching environments for children and youth when they are not in school. Afterschool programs not only assist youth with academic issues, but also help them develop career paths and volunteer opportunities, build social skills, and become civically engaged. These ongoing, continuous programs occur before school, after school, in the evenings, weekends, school breaks and other breaks, school in-service days, or for late starts or early dismissals. They can be offered by a school, a contractor with a school, a community-based organization, a faith-based organization, or other partnerships at a school or other location.

* 1. Name of School District:

2. Please indicate your role within the school district:

Superintendent

School Board President

Other (please specify)

3. Do students in your district, according to the age groups listed below, attend an afterschool program?

(Note: If you answer "no" for all age groups on this question, please skip to question 10)

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Age Groups	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Elementary (grades K-5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Middle (grades 6-8)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
High (grades 9-12)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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Please use the following information for Q 4-5

* SCHOOL-BASED AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS are defined as:

- Schools make decisions regarding program implementation and curriculum
- Programs and activities take place primarily on school grounds
- Funding may come from multiple sources and is controlled by the school
- Program and activities linked to school day through curriculum

* SCHOOL-LINKED AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS are defined as:

- An organization or governing body outside of the school that runs the program and holds executive decision-making authority
- The school is the primary access point for program participants and may work with the organization or governing body in implementing the program
- Program and activities may take place on or off school grounds, depending on available resources
- Funding often comes from multiple sources and is not controlled by the school
- Program activities are linked to the school day through academic assistance and progress monitoring

* The above definitions are taken from the University of Nebraska.

4. Using the definitions above, are the program(s) in your district school-based and/or school-linked?

School-based

School-linked

All of the above

None of the above

I do not know

5. Using the same definitions above, do you agree or disagree that school-based and school-linked programs are superior to other types of programs?

Agree

Disagree

I do not know

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6. What entities currently offer afterschool programs in your district? Check all that apply.

- Local government
- The public school district
- Non-profit community organizations
- Faith-based organizations
- Private organizations
- None
- Other (please specify)

7. How is the program in your district funded? Check all that apply.

- Business
- City/County
- State grants money
- Federal 21st CCLC
- Community organization or foundation
- Non-profit or faith-based organization
- Parent fees
- School district
- Other state funding (e.g. Department of Human Services)
- Other federal funding (e.g. Department of Agriculture)
- N/A
- Other (please specify)

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8. What is the fee charged per week per child for afterschool programs serving students in the district? If your district has multiple afterschool programs, please check all that apply.

- Less than \$10
- \$10 to 19
- \$20 to 29
- \$30 to 39
- \$40 to 49
- \$50 or more
- I do not know
- There are no afterschool programs for students in this school district

9. Please rank, in the order of importance, the following community priorities that are most positively affected by afterschool programs in your district. Use 1 for the most important priority, 2 for the second most important priority, 3 for the third most important priority, 4 for the fourth most important priority, 5 for the fifth most important priority and 6 for the sixth most important priority.

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Economy	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Public safety/Crime reduction	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Family connections	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Academic success	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Business and work	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Citizenship	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

10. Do you agree or disagree that every child, in the following age groups, in Iowa should have access to an afterschool program?

	Agree	Disagree	Don't Know
Elementary School (K-5)	jn	jn	jn
Middle School (6-8)	jn	jn	jn
High School (9-12)	jn	jn	jn

11. Do you feel you currently have sufficient FUNDING within your district to meet demand for afterschool programs?

- Yes
- No
- I do not know

12. Do you feel you currently have sufficient RESOURCES within your district to meet demand for afterschool programs?

Yes

No

I do not know

13. What are known barriers within your district for afterschool programming? Please check all that apply.

Lack of available transportation

Lack of community interest

Lack of available financial resources

Lack of trained staff

Lack of space for programming

Lack of school district capacity to lead or organize programming

There are no barriers

I do not know

Other (please specify)

14. Are there additional unmet needs in your district for afterschool programming?

Yes

No

I do not know

15. In your opinion, what entities have a responsibility for developing and offering afterschool programs? Please check all that apply.

Local government

The public school district

A non-profit community organization

A faith-based organization

A private organization

Other (please specify)

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16. What keeps parents from enrolling a school age child in the afterschool program (s) in your district? Check all that apply for each age category listed below.

	Elementary	Middle School	High School
Cost	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The student is participating in other activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student has job	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There is no need for an afterschool program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There is no afterschool program nearby	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Available program does not have openings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Available program does not offer activities parents think are important	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Program is not well run	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student is old enough to be independent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I do not know	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify)

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17. Please rank, in the order of importance, the top FIVE benefits of a child attending an afterschool program. Use 1 for the most important benefit, 2 for the second most important benefit, 3 for the third most important benefit, 4 for the fourth most important benefit and 5 for the fifth most important benefit.

	1	2	3	4	5
Creates healthy habits	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Improvements in behavior	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Improvements in grades	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Parents do not have to worry about where kids are	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Positive relationships with adults	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Prepares the child for adult life	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Provides a safe place	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Provides new learning experiences	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Receives help with homework	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Supervision by adults	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Social interaction with peers	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ

Other (please specify)

18. Please rank, in the order of importance, the top FIVE criteria that make an afterschool program "high quality". Use 1 for the most important criteria, 2 for the second most important criteria, 3 for the third most important criteria, 4 for the fourth most important criteria and 5 for the fifth most important criteria.

	1	2	3	4	5
Academic support	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Enrichment activities	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Formal curriculum	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Nutrition	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Parent communication and involvement	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Professionally trained staff	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Recreational activities	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Varied programming content	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ

Other (please specify)

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Please use the following information to answer Q 19-22.

The 21st Century Community Learning Center grant program is funded by the Federal Department of Education and administered by state Departments of Education. Grants are targeted to serve students before and after school that are attending high poverty and low-achieving schools. In 2007, out of a national allocation of \$981,180,000, the state of Iowa received \$4,807,715 to administer grants statewide.

19. Is this program an appropriate use of public funds?

Yes

No

I do not know

20. Is this amount an appropriate level of funding?

Yes

No

I do not know

21. Is the current focus on high poverty/low-achieving schools for before and after school programs appropriate in the State of Iowa?

Yes

No

May be

I do not know

22. Is a focus on before and afterschool programs for all children appropriate for the State of Iowa?

Yes

No

May be

I do not know

23. Which level of government should be responsible for assisting in funding afterschool programming? Check all that apply.

Federal

State

County

Government is not responsible for assisting in funding afterschool programming

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If there is an active school-based afterschool program in your district, please answer Q 24-25

24. Are programs that are currently operating in your district planning for financial sustainability?

Yes

No

I do not know

NA

25. Which practices have you implemented or are considering to ensure sustainability of your program? Check all that apply.

Parent fees

District support

Community partnerships

State and/or Federal funding

Endowments or private gifts

Cutting capacity or program components

Private grants

Other (please specify)