

PROFFESIONAL DEVELOPMENT



RECOMMENDATIONS

Planning for and setting aside funds for professional development opportunities to support program staff at all levels is important. See the descriptions starting on page 2 about the suggestions below.

ENTRY LEVEL & DIRECT SERVICE STAFF TRAININGS

The list below includes a mix of training, peer learning, and other professional development opportunities that break down youth development principles specific to afterschool for new staff or direct service staff looking to increase their base knowledge.

- CypherWorx Online On-demand Trainings
- Youth Work Methods Trainings
- Virtual PD Series
- Missouri School Age Conference (MOSAC)
- STEM, CAPSA, Entrepreneurship, and Civic Engagement Peer Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Mentoring from the STEM Mobile Lab Educator

SITE DIRECTOR TRAININGS

While Site Directors can benefit from both the foundational youth development trainings in the above list, along with the more advanced content sessions in the Program Director/Administrator suggestions below.

- Site Director Orientation Training
- Beyond the Bell Toolkit Training
- Afterschool Ambassadors, STEM, Entrepreneurship, CAPSA, and Civic Engagement PLCs
- Mentoring from the STEM Mobile Lab Educator
- Youth Work Methods Trainings
- Virtual PD Series
- Missouri School Age Conference (MOSAC)
- Kansas/Missouri Afterschool Leadership Conference
- STEM Educator Symposium

PROGRAM DIRECTOR/ADMINISTRATOR TRAININGS & MEETINGS

Program directors may benefit from networking opportunities such as the Director Networking Calls and the Afterschool Ambassadors PLC, along with advanced training sessions such as the YWM Training of Trainers and the MOSAC directors sessions.

- Afterschool Ambassadors PLC
- STEM Educator Symposium
- Beyond the Bell Toolkit Training
- Youth Work Methods and YWM Training of Trainers
- Virtual PD Series
- Missouri School Age Conference (MOSAC)
- Kansas Missouri Afterschool Leadership Conference
- 21st CCLC Summer Symposium
- National Afterschool Association Convention

DESCRIPTIONS OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAININGS & MEETINGS

21st Century Summer Symposium

The Summer Symposium features successful strategies that State Educational Agencies (SEAs) and their grantees can use to implement and manage all components of a 21st CCLC program. Attendees will hear from nationally recognized speakers during plenary sessions and work closely with education experts and peers during interactive workshops. SEAs and grantees will gain valuable perspectives on afterschool issues and receive important updates about the 21st CCLC program. Information about the conference dates and location is usually available in late spring.

Afterschool Ambassadors Peer Learning Community

The ambassador program empowers up-and-coming leaders in the field to confidently and effectively advocate for afterschool access for all Missouri children. MASN provides training and mentorship to help ambassadors build relationships with federal, state, and local elected officials through in-person meetings, program visits, phone calls, emails, and social media.

Beyond the Bell Toolkit Training

This training opportunity is geared towards organizations looking to start an afterschool program from the ground up. It is also helpful training for new program directors. The course introduces the resources presented in the Beyond the Bell Toolkit (by the American Institutes for Research). It covers topics such as program design, staffing, communications, records management, program quality improvement, and everything it takes to run a great program.

CAPSA Peer Learning Community

The Career Awareness and Post-Secondary Access (CAPSA) Peer Learning Community provides support and resources to middle school and high school afterschool programs engaging in college and career readiness/career awareness and post-secondary access activities. As a peer learning community, this group shares best practices and resources supporting students' future hopes and dreams through career pathway planning.

Civic Engagement Peer Learning Community

The Civic Engagement and Service Learning PLC will share ideas and resources for incorporating civic engagement into afterschool and summer learning programs. Civic engagement focuses on community involvement, leadership skills, and sparking interest in government. Thanks to a generous grant from the National Youth Leadership Council participants will receive expert training in service learning, a process for engaging youth.

CypherWorx

Access to school-age/afterschool-specific training is available through the CypherWorx platform. Training is in an asynchronous online on-demand format and can be completed on a computer, tablet, or cellular device. A selection of courses has been approved for Missouri Clock Hours. Access to the CypherWorx system is available at no cost through MASN.

Entrepreneurship Peer Learning Community

The Entrepreneurship in Afterschool Peer Learning Community (PLC) provides support and resources to afterschool programs engaging in entrepreneurship education. Although entrepreneurship education is available to all grades, this PLC focuses on opportunities for middle and high school students in out-of-school time programs. As a peer learning community, this group shares best practices and resources for developing a healthy youth entrepreneurship ecosystem around the state.

Kansas/Missouri Afterschool Leadership Conference

The Kansas Enrichment Network (KEN) and MASN will co-host a new, two-day conference in Kansas City in the spring of 2025. The content of the sessions will focus on topics of interest to program administrators and directors. (Approximately 7-9 clock hours available.)

Missouri School Age Conference (MOSAC)

This annual conference brings together around 500 afterschool professionals for keynotes and breakout sessions specific to afterschool. Topics and sessions generally provide information for new, direct service staff all the way through veteran program directors. (Approximately 12-14 clock hours available) We recommend you budget to send your site coordinators and other staff as you can for this fantastic conference.

National Afterschool Association (NAA) Convention

The NAA Convention offers a good variety of topics for any level – from direct service to supervisor to system builders to funders. The sessions also have good information for newer staff members. We recommend that experienced staff consider presenting at this conference. Note: SAC funds cannot be used to attend a National Training. 21stCCLC programs must request approval if using grant funds.

Site Director Orientation Training (SDOT)

The SDOT is an asynchronous training designed to give site directors a strong foundation for leading an afterschool program site, covering topics such as staff management, communication, youth behavior, and more. All site directors/site coordinators must complete the Site Director Orientation Training available through the CypherWorx platform within 90 days of starting the program or within 90 days of starting their employment as a site director/site coordinator. Access to the CypherWorx system is available at no cost through MASN. (7 clock hours available)

STEM Mobile Lab, Professional Development

Through the leadership and instruction of the STEM Lab Educator, individual and group mentorship will be offered to support STEM enrichment and educational tools found to be successful in afterschool implementation. This mentorship is designed for professionals to gain information related to hands-on use of STEM educational tools, creation of playlists, and general use mentorship and support of STEM.

STEM Peer Learning Community

The goal of the STEM Peer Learning Community (PLC), supported by a grant to MASN from the Million Girls Moonshot (MGM) initiative, is to equip afterschool educators with the tools to facilitate effective STEM learning. The PLC will focus on expanding content through STEM Playlists and enhancing delivery through Reflective Coaching.

STEM Educator Symposium

The STEM Symposium is a one-day training opportunity for afterschool program staff to engage in a deep dive into STEM topics and resources on how to teach effective STEM lessons. The STEM Symposium typically has a keynote address and multiple breakout sessions providing information on STEM topics. (3.75 clock hours available)

Virtual PD Series

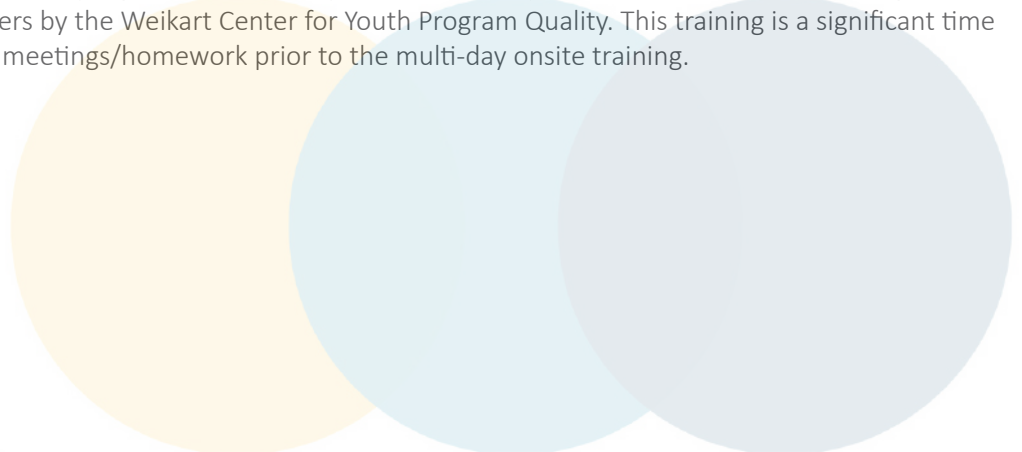
The Virtual Professional Development (PD) Series offers virtual trainings throughout the school year. These trainings typically consist of between four and six sessions and are often stand-alone sessions, meaning they don't build on one another and staff can attend without the worry of having missed out on pre-requisite information. The first session will be in the early fall and the series will finish in early spring. (1.5 clock hours available for each session)

Youth Work Methods (YWM) Training

Youth Work Methods (YWM) Trainings from the Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality can be requested by grantees and are led by the AREs. These 2-hour workshops are aligned with the items of the Youth PQA. They are all delivered using the participatory learning method and give point-of-service staff practical skills they can implement immediately. Topics include Active Learning, Planning and Reflection, Building Community, and many more. (2 clock hours available)




Youth Work Methods Training of Trainers (TOT)

Would you like to be able to train your staff and volunteers on the Youth Work Methods trainings yourself? MASN hosts a YWM TOT every few years for program directors, supervisors, and key staff from 21st CCLC and SAC grantees to become certified YWM trainers by the Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality. This training is a significant time commitment, including weekly meetings/homework prior to the multi-day onsite training.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DETAILS

MASN has compiled a list of online, local, state, national, and topic-specific professional development events to assist you with this planning. For further information regarding professional development opportunities, contact Brad Lademann at lademannb@missouri.edu.

	Who should attend	Estimated cost per person (registration, hotel, food, travel)	When	Where	More information
21st Century Summer Institute	Program Directors/ Administrators	No registration fee, out-of-state travel for 2 days	Typically July	Varies, out of state	 https://21stcccl.leadmci.com
Afterschool Ambassadors PLC	Site Coordinators Program Directors/ Administrators	No cost, stipend available	June-May	Virtual and in-person meetings and events	Contact Natalie Hampton
Beyond the Bell Toolkit Training	Site Coordinators Program Directors/ Administrators	No cost	February	Virtual	Contact Brad Lademann
CAPSA Peer Learning Community	Direct Service Staff Site Directors	No cost	Monthly	Virtual	Contact Aaron Banks
CypherWorx	All	Cost currently paid by MASN	Ongoing	Virtual	Contact Ashlee Liska
Entrepreneurship Peer Learning Community	Content-specific Direct Service Staff Site Directors	No cost, mini-grant available	Monthly	Virtual	Contact Aaron Banks
Live Virtual Professional Development Series	Entry Level and Direct Service Staff, Site Directors	No cost	4 per year	Virtual	Contact Brad Lademann
KS/MO Afterschool Leadership Conference	Program Directors/ Administrators	Registration ~\$250, budget 1-2 nights travel	Late March/Early April	Kansas City	
Mentoring from the STEM Mobile Lab Educator  www.moafterschool.org/stemlab	Entry Level and Direct Service Staff Site Directors	\$5000, includes onsite STEM activities with youth	Ongoing	Your location	Contact Beth Rasa-Edwards
MOSAC (Missouri School Age Conference)	All	Registration ~\$375, budget 2-3 nights of travel	November	The Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks	 www.mosac2.org

	Who should attend	Estimated cost per person (registration, hotel, food, travel)	When	Where	More information
Regional Directors Meetings	Program Directors/ Administrators	No cost	Fall and Spring	Virtual	Contact your Afterschool Regional Educator (ARE)
Site Director Orientation Training	Site Coordinators	No cost	Ongoing	Virtual in CypherWorx	Contact Ashlee Liska
STEM Peer Learning Community	Direct Service Staff Site Directors	No cost, stipend, and mini-grant available	September-May	Virtual with in-person options	Contact Brad Lademann
STEM Educator Symposium	Content specific Direct Service Staff, Site Director, Program Directors/ Administrators	Registration paid by sponsor, budget 1 night of travel	March	Missouri Science & Technology, Rolla	Contact Mark Cowsert
Youth Work Methods Training	Entry Level and Direct Service Staff, Site Directors	No cost	As scheduled with Trainer	Your location or virtual	Contact your Afterschool Regional Educator (ARE)
YWM Training of Trainers	Program Directors/ Administrators	No cost	Summer	Central location	Contact Brad Lademann

MASN CONTACTS Referenced Above

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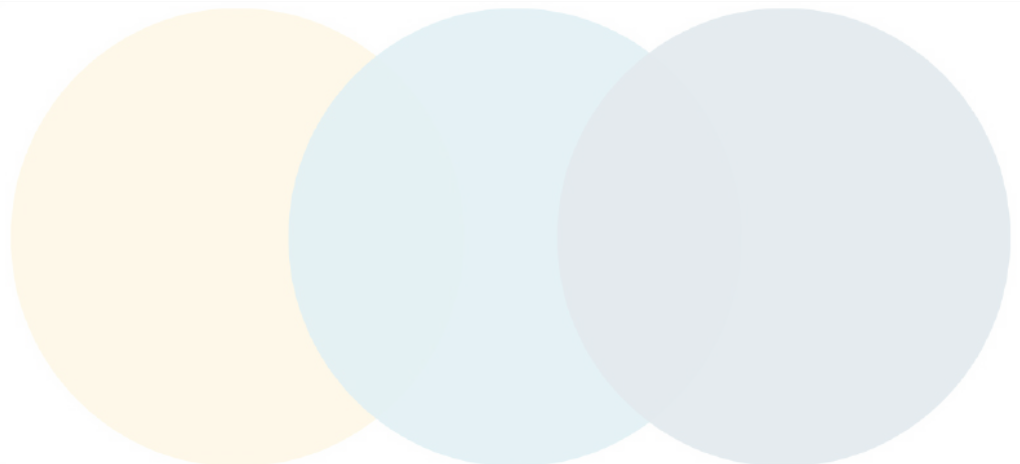
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GET INVOLVED WITH MASN

In addition to professional development, MASN offers multiple ways to get involved with afterschool on a level beyond your local program. From regional directors calls to statewide afterschool committees, plan to engage with your colleagues across the state and work to partner with, advocate for, and increase the quality in Missouri's afterschool programs.

- Monthly Director's Calls
- Regional Director's Meetings with AREs
- Director Networking Calls
- Statewide Afterschool Committees
- Show-Me Afterschool Day at the Capitol
- STEM Day at the Capitol
- Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week
- Lights On Afterschool



DESCRIPTIONS OF OPPORTUNITIES WITH MASN

Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week

Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week is a time set aside to intentionally recognize those working in afterschool programs for the impact they have on students and to show them appreciation and gratitude for the work they put in throughout the school year. In partnership with the National Afterschool Association (NAA), afterschool programs across the state let their program staff know how much they are valued and loved.

Director Networking Calls

MASN facilitates monthly Afterschool Program Director Networking Calls on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Each opportunity to collaborate will focus on a different topic, announced in advance, so program directors can prepare questions or be ready to share experiences and expertise.

Lights On Afterschool

Lights On Afterschool is an annual event held in October where more than a million people nationwide gather to shine a light on the importance of afterschool programs in keeping kids safe, helping working families, and inspiring learning. Programs around the state host a wide array of fun events to draw attention to the vital work of afterschool programs.

Monthly Director's Calls

Join afterschool program directors from across the state on the third Tuesday of each month for an informative, virtual call. Each month, MASN provides information on all things afterschool happening in Missouri. The information often includes funding and partnership opportunities, policy highlights, events and professional development, and a chance to ask questions of your fellow program directors. The first part of the call is geared to all program directors. The second part of the call is specifically for DESE grantee program directors.

Regional Directors Meetings

Afterschool Regional Educators (AREs) will host a virtual gathering of grantee program directors in their area to connect and network with each other twice a year.

Show-Me Afterschool Day at the Capitol

Show-Me Afterschool Day at the Capitol is a day in February when afterschool advocates from across the state gather at the state capitol building in Jefferson City to educate policymakers about the support that afterschool programs provide for Missouri youth, families, and communities.

Statewide Afterschool Committees

Join us quarterly to contribute to statewide systems-building work in the areas of Policy and Advocacy, Quality and Professional Development, STEM, and Public Awareness! Committees are open to all afterschool staff, administrators, and community partners. Committees meet virtually once each quarter. Meeting dates and times are published in the MASN Afterschool Pipeline. There is no charge to participate.

STEM Day at the Capitol

Each year the Missouri Chamber's Math and Science Coalition hosts its annual STEM Day at the Capitol celebration and exhibit. Hundreds of students, educators and business professionals will showcase some of the innovative efforts underway in Missouri to encourage and inspire tomorrow's STEM talent. Afterschool programs can join to showcase how they are contributing to STEM learning and STEM careers.