



## The Illinois Quality Afterschool team

at AIR provides technical assistance to Illinois 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (CCLCs).



## Resources for Grantees

### Professional Development Workshops

In-person events offered each year include a fall project directors' workshop and two special topic workshops held in different regions of the state. As needed, we also provide a new grantee orientation.

### Spring Conference

The culminating event of the year is attended by all grantees, plus their program team members and partners. For this day-long session of networking and learning, grantee and guest presenters appear on the program to share their expertise on the most current afterschool topics. To share your success or experience with your colleagues at Spring Conference, be sure to submit a presentation proposal.

### Illinois Quality Afterschool Website

The Illinois Quality Afterschool website has all of the information and resources you need in one place. You'll find features such as these:

- An up-to-date calendar of events, publication release dates, and deadlines
- Archived materials from past workshops, conferences, and webinars
- *Illinois Quality Afterschool Quarterly* and *Resource Bulletin* archives
- A Resource Database with the latest research, tools, best practices, activities, and more

Find us online at <http://iqa.airprojects.org/>.

### Webinars

The Illinois Quality Afterschool team at AIR hosts regular webinars delivering evidence-based information and implementation strategies to help you provide high-quality 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC programming. Topics are identified based on grantees' common needs and include issues such as attendance, program sustainability, and cultural diversity.

Recordings of past webinars can be found at [http://iqa.airprojects.org/iqa\\_database/webinars/](http://iqa.airprojects.org/iqa_database/webinars/).

## Online Publications

We offer two quarterly online publications for grantees. The Illinois Quality Afterschool Quarterly newsletter includes profiles of Illinois 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC programs, practical tips for improving your program, and notification of upcoming events and funding opportunities. The Resource Bulletin has information on the latest reports, resources, and research to help you make the most of your afterschool program.

You can subscribe to these publications by completing the online form at <http://iqa.airprojects.org/forms/subscribe.php>.

## Facebook Group

Join in the community conversation, get to know your peers online, and see what's happening in 21<sup>st</sup> CCLCs across the state.

Join the Illinois Quality Afterschool Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/IQA.SEDL/>.

## Technical Assistance

If you have a specific technical assistance need that has not been addressed in our workshops, webinars, or conferences, please let us know. We are here to help.

Visit our website at <http://iqa.airprojects.org/> and complete the online technical assistance form.

## Additional Resources

*Beyond the Bell® Toolkit* and products, developed by American Institutes for Research, can help manage every aspect of afterschool and expanded learning programs. The Toolkit contains ready-to-use tools to support your efforts in program management, design, partnerships, delivery, evaluation, and continuous program improvement.

Find information about the toolkit at <http://www.beyondthebell.org/>.

*Building and Managing Quality Afterschool Programs* shares practices to help you cover it all—great programming, terrific staff, positive relationships, and plenty of resources to lead and sustain successful afterschool programs. This guide presents information about both the academic and the organizational and management practices that successful afterschool programs use.

Find this free publication online at <http://www.sedl.org/pubs/catalog/items/family125.html>.

### About American Institutes for Research

Established in 1946, American Institutes for Research (AIR) is an independent, nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization that conducts behavioral and social science research on important social issues and delivers technical assistance, both domestically and internationally, in the areas of education, health, and workforce productivity.



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### About the Illinois Quality Afterschool Program

The Illinois Quality Afterschool Program at AIR, funded by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), provides technical assistance and professional development to all 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC grantees in Illinois. This initiative is designed to ensure that 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC grantees in Illinois receive the necessary assistance—including training, tools, resource materials, and expertise—to deliver high-quality afterschool programs that can strengthen student engagement and academic achievement.

