Six Tracks Toward Sustainability

There are many factors that can enhance or impede the sustainability of an afterschool program. The six key functions listed below will demand attention throughout the life cycle of the program. Effective implementation and a commitment to continuous improvement in these areas can set your program on a track toward long-term sustainability.

Management
- Staffing
- Professional development
- Shared leadership
- Safe environment

Collecting and Using Data
- Data collection
- Data management
- Assessment of program effectiveness
- Continuous improvement

Programming
- Academic enrichment
- Youth development
- Responsive to needs
- Student-centered

Integrating K–12 and Afterschool
- Linkages to classroom learning
- Research-based teaching strategies
- Challenging curriculum
- Alignment with state standards

Communication
- Afterschool program staff, partners
- School-day staff, administrators
- Participants’ families
- Community members, leaders

Collaboration
- Schools
- Partners
- Families
- Community