

How can schools get help in planning programs and preparing applications?

The Department of Education can assist communities and schools to assess their needs and collaborate to establish after-school programs. To obtain a free copy of "Safe and Smart" or "Keeping Schools Open as Community Learning Centers." Call 1-877-4ED-PUBS, or e-mail edpubs@inet.ed.gov

Also, the Department and the C.S. Mott Foundation offer technical assistance workshops for people developing after-school programs and 21stCCLC grant applicants. Call 1-800-USA-LEARN for more information.

How can I learn more about CLCs?

E-mail us at 21stCCLC@ed.gov, fax comments or questions to 202-219-2198, or visit our Web site at: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OERI/21stCCLC/>

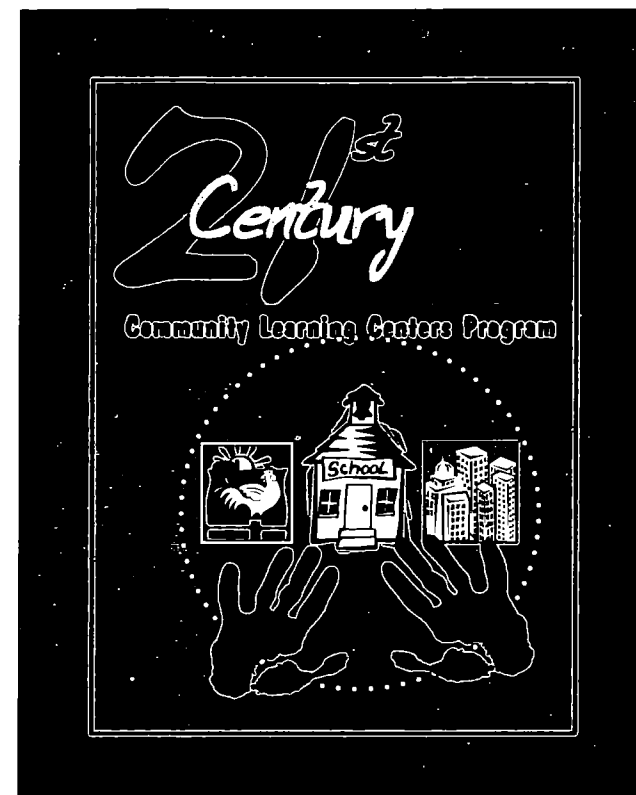


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After-school programs for
communities in need

U.S. Department of Education

In partnership with the
C.S. Mott Foundation

What are 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CLCs)?

CLCs are entities within public elementary, middle or secondary schools that provide programs to address the educational, health, social services, cultural, and recreational needs of its community after school, on weekends and during the summer. CLCs expand learning opportunities for children and youth and contribute to reduced drug use and violence.

Why focus on after-school programs?

In a recent poll, over 90 percent of voters across the nation favored providing school-based enrichment programs for all children during after-school hours in their communities. Seventy-five percent also said they would be willing to pay higher taxes to support such programs. According to the FBI, adolescents between 12 and 17 are most at risk of being involved in a crime or a victim of a crime between 3-8 p.m.

What is a participating school?

The U.S. Department of Education provides competitive grants to rural or inner-city public elementary, middle, or secondary schools, consortia of such schools, or local educational agencies (LEAs) applying on their behalf. Schools applying for a grant must collaborate with other agencies, organizations, and businesses in the community.

What kinds of services do CLCs provide?

Based in school buildings, Centers provide enriched academic activities, tutoring, sports, music and arts opportunities for students after school. Health and social services, access to technology and telecommunications, and courses for adults are also offered in CLCs. Many Centers stay open at night to serve both students and their families.

21st Century Community Learning Centers 1998 Grantees

263 grants in 43 states and the District of Columbia

What must Community Learning Centers offer?

- Activities that provide *significant expanded learning opportunities for children and youth* in the community and that *contribute to reduced drug use and violence*.
- At least 4 of the 13 services or programs stated in the law:
 - Literacy education programs;
 - Senior citizen programs;
 - Children's day care services;
 - Integrated education, health, social service, recreation, or cultural programs;
 - Summer and weekend school in conjunction with recreation;
 - Nutrition and health programs;
 - Expanded library hours to serve community needs;
 - Telecommunication and technology education for people of all ages;
 - Parenting skills education;
 - Support and training for child care providers;
 - Employment counseling, training, and placement;
 - Services for individuals who leave school before graduating from secondary school; and
 - Services for individuals with disabilities.