



**America's Service Commissions
2018 Notice of Funding Opportunity
Afterschool Program Development Grant**

Important Dates:

- Application Deadline – Friday, August 31, 2018 at midnight ET
- Application Notification – Applicants will be notified no later than Friday, September 21, 2018
- Technical Assistance Phone Call – Tuesday, August 14 at 2:00 p.m. ET. Register for the call:
<https://attendee.gototraining.com/r/2067131730780368386>

Program Description:

The purpose of this competition is to make awards to state service commissions to identify potential paths for developing national service programming that expands the quality and quantity of afterschool programming.

Funding for these grants is made possible by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. Afterschool programming is a priority for the Mott Foundation, as they work to increase access to quality educational opportunities for all children — particularly those from low-income families and underserved communities. Mott Foundation supports state afterschool networks and will work with ASC to facilitate connections between selected state service commissions and state afterschool networks.

In year one, America's Service Commissions (ASC) selected eight state service commissions to each receive a grant of \$12,500. This grant allowed recipient commissions to dedicate staff (or consultant) time to better understanding the afterschool landscape in their respective states and identify potential paths for developing national service programming that expands the quality and quantity of afterschool programming.

In year two, ASC is seeking up to five additional state service commissions to award up to \$12,500 grants and offering continuation funding up to \$4,000 for existing grantees. Funding from these grants may be used as match for federal grants.

ASC organizes a learning community call, provides coaching, and organizes a yearly convening for commissions receiving grants. In addition, ASC will work with selected state service commissions to document promising practices in expanding the quantity and quality of afterschool programming through national service resources, in addition to ways in which to incorporate high-quality service and service-learning activities in afterschool programming.

As facilitating connections between state service commissions and state afterschool networks is a desired outcome of these grant funds, state service commissions are required to provide a letter of support from their afterschool network as part of their application. This letter should detail the afterschool network's commitment to working with the state service commission during the project period and summarize any existing relationships, conversations to-date, and initial plans.



Award Amounts:

ASC intends to make five grant awards of \$12,500 and eight grant awards of \$4,000. ASC reserves the right to increase or decrease the number of awards based on the number of quality applicants. Funding for this opportunity is made possible by the Mott Foundation.

Eligible Applicants:

State service commissions in good standing with ASC.

Project Period:

The project period is October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019 for new grantees. Continuation grants are available October 1 through September 30, 2019.

Application Submission:

New Grants:

- New grant applications should be submitted via the online survey form at:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ASCafterschool2018>
- A copy of the application form can be downloaded online at
<http://www.statecommissions.org/afterschool.html>.
- Your Letter of Support from your state's afterschool network should be uploaded via the online survey form as part of your application submission.

Continuation Only:

- Continuation grants should be submitted online at:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/afterschoolcontinuation>.



Partners:

About ASC and State Service Commissions

America's Service Commissions (ASC) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization representing and promoting state service commissions and their programs. The mission of ASC is to lead and elevate the state service network.

State service commissions are governor-appointed public agencies or nonprofit organizations made up of more than 1,000 commissioners – private citizens leading the nation's philanthropic and service movement. The nation's 52 state service commissions operate at the state and local level granting more than \$300 million in federal national service funds that support citizen service and volunteerism in America. These funds support more than 40,000 AmeriCorps members. To learn more visit www.statecommissions.org.

About Mott and Statewide Afterschool Networks

Over the past 12 years, the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation has made investments in coalitions of diverse stakeholders and organizations coming together to build good policies and practices to sustain and expand quality afterschool and summer learning opportunities. Now reaching 50 states, the statewide afterschool networks cultivate partnerships and initiatives that develop and support quality afterschool and summer learning opportunities for young people. The National Network of Statewide Afterschool Networks is focused on the core components of afterschool and summer learning opportunities – engaged learning, school-community partnerships and family involvement. For more information on the Mott Foundation and afterschool Networks visit

<http://www.statewideafterschoolnetworks.net/>.

Service Year Alliance

ASC's work in this area will complement the work of the Service Year Alliance. Service Year Alliance is working with a panel of experts, including both afterschool network leaders and programs, to identify high-potential service year models and develop a set of tools and templates that will enable organizations to easily create and successfully incorporate service years into afterschool programming and youth serving organizations. Service Year Alliance will broadly disseminate the materials and will provide training and technical assistance to afterschool organizations that want to start a service year program. Service Year Alliance will also work with afterschool networks to promote this opportunity to the afterschool field. As a result of this work, Service Year Alliance is eager to be a partner and support to the state service commissions that are working to expand service year opportunities in afterschool programs.

Additional information:

There are numerous ways national service programming can be incorporated into afterschool settings to provide direct service or expand capacity. Please see the Appendix at the conclusion of this document for a number of examples.



Application Components and Scoring:

1. Problem/Need:
 1. Provide an assessment of afterschool challenges in your state and how national service could address the challenges. (5 points)
 2. Planning Process:
 1. Describe your plan to better understand challenges facing afterschool programming in the state. (5 points)
 2. Describe your outreach plan for engaging organizations and experts, including the statewide afterschool network in your state. Discuss existing relationships or conversations your commission has had with afterschool networks/programs in advance of submitting this application. (10 points)
 3. Describe your plan to help potential statewide afterschool networks and programs determine how they can use national service to address the identified needs. Describe how you will prioritize afterschool programming in your outreach for upcoming funding opportunities (i.e., formula). Describe how you will explore opportunities to incorporate service and/or service-learning activities into afterschool programming. (10 points)
2. Timeline:
 1. Provide a timeline for completing the planning process that allows viable organizations to apply for funding. Your timeline and activities should include participation in required ASC meetings. (10 points)
3. Organizational Capacity:
 1. Describe your staffing plan to participate in this grant including participation in required ASC TTA. (5 points)
 2. Describe your staff capacity to provide technical assistance to the statewide afterschool networks and afterschool programs to apply for national service funding. (5 points)
4. Budget:
 1. Your budget should be sufficient to carry out the grant activities and include costs to participate in required ASC calls and in-person convening. Expected uses of the subgrants include: percentage of staff time for staff focused on expanding afterschool programming, local/in-state travel to meetings, as well as travel to the annual national convening organized by ASC. (10 points)
5. Letter of Support:
 1. Your Letter of Support from your state's afterschool network should detail their support for your application and any initial plans that you have discussed. (10 points)



Application Review and Selection:

Applications will be reviewed and scored by ASC staff with input from the Mott Foundation. Applicants will be notified of their selection by September 21, 2018.

Reporting and Other Requirements:

By submitting an application for this funding opportunity, selected applicants agree to:

- Participate in required reporting related to grant activities;
- Fully participate in all required grant meetings, coaching sessions (as applicable) and calls; and,
- Share and document best practices with the commission network based on their experience developing programming in afterschool and/or service-learning.

Required Calls/Meetings:

- Monthly Learning Call
- In-person Convening for new grantees on a date TBA. This convening is optional for continuation grantees.

Questions:

With questions related to this funding opportunity please contact Rachel Bruns at rbruns@statecommissions.org or (515) 720-5892.



APPENDIX 1 – Examples of State Service Commission and Statewide Afterschool Network Partnerships from Year 1 Grant

Volunteer West Virginia: In partnership with the West Virginia Statewide Afterschool Network, Volunteer West Virginia hosted five listening sessions around the state with more than 70 individuals in attendance representing local partners, afterschool sites and school districts. The listening sessions were focused on better understanding key areas of interest and challenges for afterschool programs. These sessions helped identify next steps and opportunities to leverage national service and volunteer resources to meet some of these areas of interest and challenge including a newly formed AmeriCorps State program launching in the fall of 2018 focused on afterschool programming for middle school students. Additional outcomes to-date include new conversations with local philanthropy on supporting afterschool programming and building local city-based afterschool networks to continue and expand collaborations.

Serve Idaho: In partnership with the Idaho Out-of-School Network, Serve Idaho has hosted three roundtables and a statewide webinar to better understand afterschool challenges in the state. More than 45 participants were involved in the input sessions with a focus on reaching rural areas. As a result of the grant work to-date, Serve Idaho is funding a planning grant in the fall of 2018 exploring the development of an AmeriCorps State program focused on 4-H afterschool programming. In addition, the commission continues to connect interested organizations with each other or existing national service programs to a partnership exploring applying for an AmeriCorps grant.

APPENDIX 2 – Afterschool and National Service Programming Examples

The following examples provide an overview of ways in which national service resources can be utilized to expand the quality and quantity of afterschool opportunities. These examples are intended to provide an idea of how national service can be engaged, but do not represent an exhaustive list of the possibilities.

Wisconsin Afterschool Network (WAN) and Marshfield Clinic AmeriCorps Afterschool Program:

During the 2017-2018 program year, WAN will place 30 full-time AmeriCorps members with afterschool programs that implement the Academic Plus Program, that improves academic performance of economically disadvantaged children and youth ages 5-14. Members work directly with children as part of the case management team. Members support healthy active living, enhance social emotional learning and provide academic assistance during the school day and afterschool program. Beyond national service resources, funding for this program is made possible from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and Marshfield Clinic. Training and technical assistance for afterschool sites is provided by WAN and the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee.



CalSERVES Expanded Learning Program, Napa County Office of Education:

The CalSERVES Expanded Learning program places 60 full-time AmeriCorps members with after school programs to provide tutoring and social-emotional support with the goal of improving the academic performance of high need elementary and middle school students. Members work with the after school team and the school's wellness committees to promote a positive school climate, provide academic support during the school day and afterschool, and support the social emotional development of students most in need. The AmeriCorps presence serves as a vital link connecting the students as they move through their school day and after school programs. Participating school districts see the results and provide the financial contribution to match national service resources in order to effectively implement the CalSERVES program.

Additional examples of AmeriCorps State programs serving in an afterschool setting can be found in the publication [Transforming Communities through Service: A Collection of the Most Innovation AmeriCorps State and Volunteer Generation Fund Programs in the United States](#).