Quality out-of-school time (OST) programs offer expanded learning opportunities to over 100,000 kids across Kentucky and are a lifeline for working parents, but more families than ever are being left out.

In Kentucky, for every child enrolled in an OST program, four more are waiting to get in. In the context of COVID-19, parents must often choose between returning to work or leaving their children alone and unsupervised when school is not in session or taking place remotely.

Key BENEFITS of out-of-school time participation

**For KIDS:**
- Time to engage with peers and reduce unproductive screen time
- Increased excitement about learning and interest in school
- Decreased likelihood of using drugs or engaging in other risky behaviors
- Improved academic outcomes

**For PARENTS:**
- Ability to keep their job, work more hours, or seek employment
- Peace of mind at work, knowing that their children are not alone and unsupervised
- Access to free snacks or meals and other support services for their children
- Connections to community resources

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of programs</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,499</strong></td>
<td><strong>Number of programs lost over the past year</strong></td>
<td><strong>80</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Percent of programs that are non-fee-based</strong></td>
<td><strong>14%</strong></td>
<td><strong>Average weekly cost per child for fee-based programs</strong></td>
<td><strong>$117.90</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Estimated number of kids waiting to get in</strong></td>
<td><strong>280,552</strong></td>
<td><strong>Percent of parents who support public funding for OST programs</strong></td>
<td><strong>83%</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>
Top ROADBLOCKS to participation

According to America After 3PM, a national household survey conducted by the Afterschool Alliance every few years to track out-of-school time demand and participation across each of the 50 states, more parents than ever are struggling to afford and access an out-of-school time program - a problem especially urgent in the context of COVID-19. In Kentucky, **cost and access top the list of roadblocks to out-of-school time participation**, with low-income families and families of color facing the greatest barriers.

Out-of-school time is a smart investment in Kentucky's future. Too many kids are missing out. Help us change that.

Every $1 invested in out-of-school time programs saves taxpayers at least $3.

Program SPOTLIGHT

Positivity, Resilience, Smiles, and Camp Covington

Camp Covington is a summer learning program run by Covington Partners, a nonprofit organization which operates 21st Century Community Learning Center programs after school and during the summer in seven schools within the Covington Independent School District. During the 2021 summer, staff at Camp Covington worked daily to provide rigorous academic support and enrichment opportunities to help students re-engage with learning and recover from losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Each site also worked diligently to provide critical supports like meals and mental health services while making the program hands-on and fun for the students. Over 1000 students districtwide participated in the program this year.

Data Sources

All fact and figures included in this fact sheet are based on data contained in the KYOSA Data Explorer and results from the 2020 America After 3PM survey. The KYOSA Data Explorer is an interactive mapping tool designed by the Kentucky Out-of-School Alliance and PolicyMap aimed at helping stakeholders and the public learn more about Kentucky's out-of-school time program landscape, identify gaps in access and vulnerable populations and communities, and develop policies that will ensure that all children and youth have the opportunity to participate in out-of-school time programs. For more information about the KYOSA Data Explorer, visit: [https://kyoutofschoolalliance.org/research-policy/kyosa-data-explorer/](https://kyoutofschoolalliance.org/research-policy/kyosa-data-explorer/). America After 3PM is a nationally representative survey of randomly selected adults who live in the United States and are the parent or guardian of a school-age child who lives in their household. Results from America After 3PM are disaggregated for each state and for specific populations. For more information about America After 3PM, visit: [http://afterschoolalliance.org/AAMPM/](http://afterschoolalliance.org/AAMPM/).