

# Comprehensive out-of-school time is essential to Colorado families.

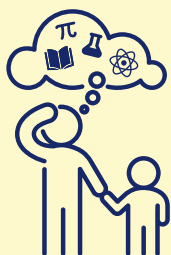


Demand for comprehensive out-of-school time (OST) programs grows each year, and, in 2020, it reached an all-time high. Families with low incomes living in under-resourced neighborhoods are most likely to lack access to these affordable programs.

For every child enrolled in an comprehensive out-of-school time program in Colorado, five more are waiting to get in.



This means nearly half of the kids (400,000) in our state would enroll if a program was available.



## 40%

of Colorado parents report that afterschool programs are not even available in their community.

For example, there are counties in Colorado that do not have comprehensive out-of-school time programs, leaving working families with no options for their kids to participate in expanded learning opportunities. Access issues also persist in urban and suburban areas of our state.

## Lack of comprehensive out-of-school time programs cost Colorado families and businesses.



More than 145,000 Colorado kids were alone and unsupervised between the hours of 2 and 6 P.M. in 2020. This is especially troubling because these hours – when the school day is over – are the peak time for youth to commit crimes, become victims of violence, or use illegal substances.



According to a Brandeis University survey, parents report losing 8 days of work per year and businesses up to \$300 billion per year due to parental concerns about afterschool care.

Colorado must do more to support our youth, working families, and economy. We need more investment in comprehensive out-of-school time programs across the state so that every Colorado family has access to these live-changing programs.