



Dear Program Provider,

Welcome to the After School Matters Program Providers Newsletter! This monthly newsletter will share updates, resources, and instructional strategies, as well as celebrate the successes of our teens and build community among our program providers. Enjoy!

Program Updates & Reminders

After School Matters Instructor Forum



February 2, 2018 | Save the date!

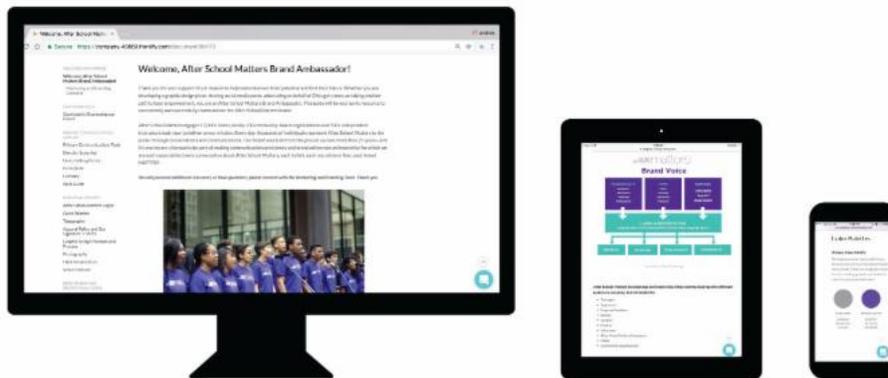
***Please note that this is a required session for Spring 2018 After School Matters Instructors.**

The [Instructor Forum](#) is a full day of workshops, breakout sessions, and activities which will support you and all other After School Matters instructors in your continuous improvement. The Instructor Forum offers you an opportunity for professional development, a chance to come together as a community and learn from one another, and a space to celebrate your work. [Learn more!](#)

Friday, February 2, 2018 | 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
at NEIU [Student Union](#) | 5550 N. St. Louis Ave.

[RSVP NOW!](#)

After School Matters Branding Guide



The Communications Team is excited to share a new, comprehensive resource tool – the [After School Matters Branding Guide](#).

The Branding Guide is a all-inclusive reference center for branding and communications assets and guidelines. Whether you are developing a graphic design piece, in need of an organizational fact sheet, sharing social media posts, or simply need our logo, or more, this guide will be your go-to resource to consistently and successfully communicate the After School Matters brand.

Every conversation about After School Matters, each t-shirt, each recruitment flyer, each tweet MATTERS, and we hope you reference the Guide regularly to support your important work.

The Branding Guide is a living, breathing information hub that we'll continue to update in order to ensure you have access to the latest and greatest information. Before launching, we shared the guide with a small group of program providers and incorporated most of their feedback.

We are grateful for their thoughtful and insightful feedback. To make this tool as helpful as possible, we will need your continued feedback! Please share any thoughts, questions or additional needs with our Marketing and Creative Specialist, Mariah Archie at mariah.archie@afterschoolmatters.org.

Editing Social Security Number in the Teen Application

Teens can now enter and/or edit their Social Security Numbers in their teen application after their application has been submitted. To do this, a teen must log back into the [teen application](#) and enter their Application ID number, which can be found in the application confirmation email that teens receive after submitting an application. After logging into the teen application using their Application ID number, a teen can edit their Social Security Number. If you have any questions, please email applications@afterschoolmatters.org.

Corporate Partner Workshops

After School Matters has several corporate partners who host workshops for programs. These workshops can be scheduled during your usual program time. Examples of previous engagements include:

- **Mock-Interview & Resume-Writing Workshop:** Teens work directly with corporate volunteers to create or edit resumes and practice interview questions and answers.
- **Financial Literacy Workshop:** Teens learn about the financial resources available to them to plan for their financial future.
- **Office Tours, Q&A discussion:** Teens tour an office and network with industry professionals and learn about the various educational and career paths.
- **Other Content Specific Workshops:** Teens learn best practices on specific content areas, i.e. the Arts, Communications and Leadership, Sports, and STEM.

If you would like to learn more about the available workshops, or would like for your program to participate this spring, please contact Emily Walters, Volunteer Coordinator at emily.walters@afterschoolmatters.org, or 312-768-5200.

Important Dates & Deadlines

January 8 - February 2, 2018

Conduct Teen interviews

Friday, January 19, 2018

Deadline to rollover teens from Fall 2017

Saturday, January 27, 2018

Enrollment Deadline: Final roster due (February-start programs)

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Program start date (February-start programs)

Monday, February 19, 2018

Non-program date (President's Day)

Monday, March 12, 2018

Program start date (March-start programs)



March 26 - 31, 2018

Non-program dates (CPS Spring Break)

Tuesday, April 10, 2018

Non-program day (SAT testing)

Tuesday, April 13, 2018

Non-program day (CPS School Improvement Day)

Tuesday, April 19, 2018

Non-program day (HS Report Card Pick Up)

Saturday, May 5, 2018

Program end date (February-start programs)

Saturday, May 26, 2018

Program end date (March-start programs)

View the full [After School Matters 2017 - 2018 Program Calendar](#).

Opportunities & Resources for Teens

Museum of Contemporary Art: 21Minus

Designed by Chicago youth and curated and hosted by the MCA's Teen Creative Agency (TCA), 21Minus is the MCA's annual exposition of teen creativity and passion. The MCA's Teen Creative Agency is looking for workshops, performances, interactive installations, music, videos, and printed work related to the theme "The Future" to fill the museum on June 16, 2018 for the 21Minus event. Chicagoland residents under 21 are encouraged to submit a proposal by Saturday, January 27, 2018. For more information, visit the [MCA website](#) or click [here](#).

After School Matters University (ASMU)

Teens can Apply Now for ASMU! After School Matters University (ASMU) provides high school freshmen and sophomore teens with an opportunity to explore, engage and learn about the post-high school experience during the week of CPS spring break. To learn more and apply, click [here](#).

14th CineYouth Film Festival

Cinema/Chicago and The Chicago International Film Festival are hosting the 14th CineYouth Film Festival, which showcases the work of young filmmakers ages 22 and younger from around the world. CineYouth 2018 will take place from April 27 - April 29, 2018 at the Music Box Theater in Chicago, IL. Submission details can be found [here](#), and the deadline for entries is **Monday, February 26, 2018**.

University of Chicago Collegiate Scholars Program

The University of Chicago Collegiate Scholars Program (CSP) is a three-year enrichment program that prepares talented Chicago Public School students in grades 10 - 12 for admission and success at highly selective colleges and universities. Current high school freshman can apply [here](#) by **February 11, 2018**. For more information, click [here](#).

Check out more [teen opportunities](#) at [afterschoolmatters.org](#).

Opportunities & Resources for Alumni

After School Matters Alumni Council

Formed in 2017, the After School Matters Alumni Network strengthens After School Matters by reconnecting former participants with the organization and our current teens. The Alumni Network is currently seeking applicants for our key decision-making group, The After School Matters Alumni Council. Alumni of all ages and career paths who live in Chicago are welcome to apply. Learn more [Learn more](#) and encourage your alumni to [apply now](#). Applications for new members are due **Thursday, February 15, 2018**.

Elevate Your Future workshop series

The Alumni Network offers professional development workshops focused on providing college students, aspiring professionals, and working professionals with the skills they need to succeed in their careers. *Elevate Your Future* is our two-part spring series centered on personal branding and networking.

Upcoming Workshops:

Personal Branding: The Art of Marketing YOU

In this workshop, alumni will learn how to translate experience into strengths, how to make their passion work for them, how to share their personal brand by crafting an elevator pitch.

Thursday, January 18
5:30-7:00 p.m.

[RSVP for Personal Branding](#)

The Art of Networking: Making Meaningful Connections

In this workshop, alumni will put their personal brand in action! They will learn how to find professional networks, what to do when they are networking, and how to follow up with someone after an event.

Thursday, February 15
5:30-7:00 p.m.

[RSVP for Networking](#)

Learn more about the After School Matters Alumni Network [here](#) or by visiting the After School Matters Alumni Network Facebook page.

Opportunities & Resources for

Support Services Directory

As you build relationships with young people, it's important to remember when and how you can provide additional support if it's needed! If a young person needs additional resources, you can use the [Support Services Directory](#) After School Matters has created to help connect them with resources in their community. If you need to provide a young person with additional support, remember to **always** loop in your Program Specialist. Please also note your status as a [mandated reporter](#).

Instructional Strategy of the Month

Great First Day

A **Great First Day** sets the tone for a great program session! Your teens will never forget the way the first day makes them feel, so it's important to welcome them warmly, make time for icebreakers which allow them to grow comfortable with one another and establish a feeling of community, and set a group agreement for your time in program together. This checklist also includes key logistical first day things: like remembering to print your attendance sheets and review the teen manual. View the full checklist [here!](#)

If you want to discuss this tool or additional facilitation and instruction strategies, contact Emily Nott, Manager of Professional Development at emily.nott@afterschoolmatters.org or 312-702-8591.

Safety First!

Background Checks Instructors, liaisons, and site supervisors undergo a comprehensive background check before working with teens. You may not begin recruiting or instructing until you receive written notice of clearance/approval from After School Matters' Contracting Department.

Teen Stipend Reminders

Wintrust Bank

Teens are able to cash their stipend checks for free at any Chicagoland Wintrust Bank!

Teens can find the nearest Wintrust Bank location [here](#).

Urban Partnership Bank

Teens are able to cash their stipend checks for just \$1 at any Chicagoland Urban Partnership Bank! Teens can find the nearest Urban Partnership Bank location [here](#).

School IDs, State IDs and Driver's Licenses will be accepted as forms of identification for cashing checks at both banks.

Contact Us!

You can reach the **Teen Stipend Hotline** at **312-768-5199** or [email us](#).

Comuníquese Con Nosotros



Para mas información en español, llámenos al **312-846-7106** o mándenos un correo electrónico a espanol@afterschoolmatters.org.

Thank you for showing teens they matter.

Connect with us on social media for more program highlights.



#TeensMATTER

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