



**Applying for a 21st Century Community
Learning Center (21st CCLC) grant
FY2011**



The Ohio Afterschool Network supports children, youth, families, and communities by advocating with a unified voice for sustainable investments in safe, healthy, nurturing afterschool learning experiences.

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Applying for a 21st Century Community

Learning Center (21st CCLC) grant

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What is a 21st CCLC?

A 21st Community Learning Center is a comprehensive program of academic, educational, and enriching opportunities for children and their families. It provides a safe and nurturing environment where children can participate in educational and enriching experiences during afterschool, before school, summer and other out-of-school-time hours. 21st CCLC's improve academics, keep children safe and support working families. They can be held in a school building, community based organization site, a childcare facility, a faith based setting or other identified location. A 21st CCLC also serves the families of the children attending the program through literacy or educational services. These programs result from dedicated partnerships among school and community-based organizations to meet the unique needs of their communities.



What are the key features of a quality 21st CCLC?


A quality CCLC should provide an enriching, engaging, educational, and safe environment for all participants. It should be a place that supports academic growth and challenges, while also providing new and engaging enrichment opportunities. It should be a place to build safe and nurturing relationships with caring adults and peers. It should provide the opportunity to explore and be challenged- educationally, physically, and intellectually. These features of a quality 21st CCLC can often be achieved by including the following in your program:

1. Academic support with specific focus on mastering the necessary skills in mathematics and reading to help students meet local and state standards.
2. Academic enrichment, including tutorial services to students attending low performing schools
3. Dedicated partnerships among the school(s) and the community based organization(s) to meet the unique needs of the communities
4. Strong connections between schools and out of school time programs; along with strong community collaboration allowing students to engage in positive youth opportunities including the arts, recreational activities, and service learning opportunities.
5. Tiered interventions, including basic assistance such as homework support and enrichment activities up to small group specific and intensive intervention.
6. A strategic plan targeted at parent and family involvement that provide opportunities for literacy and/or educational services to families of the students participating in the program.
7. A safe and accessible location(s) that provides a comprehensive out of school program that build and expand upon the regular academic school day yields positive outcomes for students.
8. Academic support with specific focus on mastering the necessary skills in mathematics and reading to help students meet local and state standards.
9. A healthy snack or meal.
10. Mentoring opportunities

How do I know if I should apply?

When deciding to apply for a 21st CCLC grant several considerations should be made, including:

- 1) Is the targeted population designated as economically disadvantaged?
- 2) Are the students to be served designated performing below proficient in mathematics or reading on state assessments such as the Ohio Achievement Assessment? Ohio achievement data are published in local report cards (LRC). To access the interactive LRC system in support of the application, visit <http://ilrc.ode.state.oh.us/default.asp> (See pg. 4 of the FY 2011 Request for



Application (RFA) available at <http://education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=1180&ContentID=42827&Content=81670> (please copy and paste the link into your browser) See page 4 of the FY2011 Request For Applications.

3) Do I have the support of the local school district in which most of the students in my program attend? Page 3 in the FY2001 RFA states, "... ODE requires partnerships between the school(s) and at least one community based organization (CBO). Either partner may choose to be the fiscal agent and/or house the program. Through such partnerships, a grantee responsible for implementing and evaluating the local program can ensure access to student achievement data."

4) Do I have the resources to provide a nutritionally balanced snack to students every day without using 21st CCLC funds? The cost of the snack and any other food items is not an allowable expense under the 21st CCLC grant. If you represent a public or private school and provide educational or enrichment activities in an organized and structured and supervised environment and participate in the National School Lunch (NSL) program, you can apply for the After School Care Snack Program (ASCP). The ASCP is a federal reimbursement program established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). This program provides reimbursement to programs serving the required nutritious snacks. Information on the After School Care Snack Program is available at <http://education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=828&ContentID=24656&Content=78955> (please copy and paste the link into your browser)

4) Are there businesses, organizations, clubs, faith based organizations and / or other entities in my area that might be willing to collaborate or consider being involved in some capacity with the 21st CCLC? Examples include, but are not limited to:

- A college or university that would provide a one-time course in an area of interest to students.
- An area hospital or medical facility that would teach first aid or a health class to program staff and/or participants.
- A parent volunteer to do a sewing, cooking, etc. class.
- A local business to donate supplies for a special project.
- A bank that would send a volunteer to teach a money management class to students and parents.
- A dietician to teach a healthy snacking class.
- A high school student to lead a LEGO league.
- A senior citizen to lead a book club.
- A library to provide access to books, reading programs, guest readers, research opportunities, etc.
- Parks /environmental educators to provide one time or ongoing programs, field trips, speakers, and activity resources.

- A museum to visit, provide speakers, activities, research opportunities, traveling exhibits, etc.
- Arts programs to bring in special projects, dancers, musicians and music classes, traveling art exhibits, art students to lead clubs, etc.
- 4-H, Farmers Bureau, and University Extension Offices can provide activity ideas, speakers, field trips, and program curriculum.

These are just a few of many opportunities of how to gain community involvement and support for a 21st CCLC Community Learning Center.

5) Do you have a person available and committed to the application process and mandatory trainings to obtain the necessary information and specific steps to complete the grant application prior to the **5:00 pm, April 30, 2010** deadline?

6) Are you able to show clear and substantial need, capacity and strategic plan to implement the grant? See Appendix F, Grant Application Scoring Rubric, of the FY 2011 RFA to guide the writing of a successful application.

How is a 21st CCLC funded?


The 21st CCLC program is authorized under Title IV, Part B of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as amended by the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB)*. Formula grants are awarded to State Educational Agencies (SEA), which in turn manage statewide competitions and award grants to eligible entities.

The FY2011 request for applications (RFA) was released in January 2010. The deadline to submit the application is Friday, April 30, 2010 at 5:00 pm. The grant read will be held on Wednesday, May 19, 2010.

Notification of awards will be made through the Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP) grants application system by July 1, 2010. The minimum grant award is \$50,000 and the maximum award is \$200,000. Organizations may apply for up to five (5) new grants; however, most organizations initially apply for one (1). Federal statute prohibits a state from granting any first-year program less than \$50,000. The maximum award to any program in this funding cycle is \$200,000 per grant. Each grant may support no more than three sites. The total budget for the grant is inclusive of all sites.

How long does funding last?

Approved grants will be funded for a five-year period contingent upon new and continued U.S. Department of Education's (USDOE) annual appropriation to the state. Additionally, the first three years will be funded at 100%, and the fourth and fifth years will be funded at 75% and 50%, respectively. Funding is based on the submission of the initial and annual continuing grant applications, approved



budgets, program outcomes, a plan of sustainability, results of the Compliance and Performance Assessment (CAPA) component of the sub-recipient monitoring process, results of audits conducted by the Auditor of State's office, compliance with all federal and state guidelines and requirements, and continued funding from the USDOE.

What happens after 5 years? Is there continuation money?

Currently, at the end of grant year five, the grantee closes out the grant. There is not the option to apply for continuation money or a continuation grant at the end of year 5. However, you may reapply for a new, round of funding at the 21st CCLC sites you have been serving for the previous five years. This application will be considered a new application as if you have not previously had a 21st CCLC grant. For more information on sustainability and financial planning, check out the resource section at the end of this toolkit.


Who is eligible to apply?

The 21st CCLC grant application process is open to any public or private organization. Examples of agencies and organizations now eligible under the 21st CCLC program include, but are not limited to: individual schools and school districts, community based organizations (CBO), non-profit agencies, city or county government agencies, faith-based organizations, institutions of higher education, and for-profit corporations. The 21st CCLC grant mandates eligible organizations applying for funds collaborate with the schools the children attend. The 21st CCLC also allows a consortium of two or more agencies, organizations or entities to apply.

Must a 21st CCLC be licensed? If so, who is the licensing agency?

A 21st CCLC program must be licensed according to the Ohio Revised Code 3301.59(A) (<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/3301.59>) which requires that state and/or federally funded programs serving school-age children must be licensed. If the program will be operated by a school district, it must be licensed by the Ohio Department of Education. If the program will be operated primarily by a community based or faith based organization, or any other entity besides a school district, then it must be licensed by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. It does not matter who the fiscal agent of the grant is or whether or not it is located in a school building. Who actually operates and runs the program day-to-day is the deciding factor for the appropriate licensing agency.

Example 1: If a school district and community based organization collaborate to apply for a 21st CCLC grant and the program will be held in a school building, the school district will be the fiscal agent, and will have some teachers in the program to plan curriculum and tutor, but the CBO will hire, train, supervise



and have all program staff on their payroll, then the program is considered a community based 21st CCLC program and must be licensed by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

Example 2: If a school district and a community based organization collaborate to submit a 21st CCLC grant and the school district will be the fiscal agent, the CBO will provide staff and coordinate volunteers, but the school district will use teachers as the program coordinator and will have the primary program staff on the district payroll, then the program must be licensed by the Ohio Department of Education.

Ohio Revised Code 5104.02(B)(9) <http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/5104.02+> provides guidelines for exemption to youth development programs operated outside of school hours by a community or faith-based organization. You will need to check with an Ohio Department of Job and Family Services licensing specialist to see if your program is exempt from licensing. There is no law exempting school districts from licensing.

For more information regarding licensing, please visit

Ohio Afterschool Network:

<http://www.ohioafterschoolnetwork.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=24>

Ohio Department of Education:

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEPrimary.aspx?Page=2&TopicID=463&TopicRelationID=803> *(please copy and paste the link into your browser)*

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services:


<http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/providers.stm>

How can I become licensed prior to submitting a grant if I don't have a program in operation?

If you decide to apply for a 21st CCLC grant, contact the Ohio Department of Education for school district-run programs, or the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services for all other programs to inquire about beginning the licensure process. Indicate in the grant application that you have applied for licensure and what the status of your application is as of the grant submission. Page 8 of the FY 2011 RFA states: "All required licenses must be in place or in process, as applicable, prior to receiving a 21st CCLC grant award."

What is the application timeline?

The FY 2011 21st CCLC RFA has been posted to the Ohio Department of Education website as of January 2010. **The application must be approved and submitted**



by Friday, April 30, 2010 by 5:00pm. The system closes at 5:00 pm and will not re-open. There are no extensions given for the submission of this grant.

Additionally, **anyone applying for a FY 2011 new 21st CCLC grant must submit a Letter of Intent with the required signatures by April 1, 2010.** A "Letter of Intent" must be submitted for **each** application being entered into the Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan.

The Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP) is a unified grants application and verification system that consists of two parts, the Planning Tool and the Funding Application. A job aid on the navigation of this system as well as a blank Letter of Intent can be found at <http://education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?Page=3&TopicRelationID=1180&Content=81670> (*please copy and paste the link into your browser*)

How do I start the grant process?


It is most helpful to begin by thoroughly reviewing the FY 2011 21st CCLC RFA which can be found on the Ohio Department of Education website at <http://education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?Page=3&TopicRelationID=1180&Content=81670> (*please copy and paste the link into your browser*)

This link will take you to a page titled "21st Century Community Learning Center Grant Information". Scroll down to '21st CCLC Grant Application Information' click on the PDF for 'FY 11 Request for Applications (RFA)'. Read through the entire grant and make note of questions and any clarifications needed to proceed in the process. It is also helpful to review the scoring rubric. The scoring rubric is Appendix F of the FY11 RFA.

The scoring rubric tells you specifically what will be looked at and scored at the actual grant read. The scoring rubric places point values of one through six on each of nineteen items to be scored. Additional appendices and other resources are listed in the RFA and on the 21st CCLC grant page. Helpful sections include information on Scientifically Based Research (SBR) and The Principles of Effectiveness, and Evaluation/Experimental Design. Since this is a highly competitive grant, it is very helpful to be totally familiar with not only the FY 11 but more importantly how the competitive grant will be scored.

What should be included in a successful 21st CCLC grant?

All applications will be assessed competitively according to the scoring rubric criteria (Appendix F). The FY11 Rubric should be followed closely to achieve a maximum score.



Competitive Priority is given to applications that target high needs students who are below proficient in reading and/or mathematics and identified as economically disadvantaged (according to the Interactive Local Report Card).

Additionally, for FY 11, priority will be given to grants serving middle school and/or high school grades.


Once it has been established that the program aims to serve this population, there are several key aspects to a successfully written 21st CCLC grant application.

1. A clear indication of joint-planning that has occurred between the Local Education Agency (LEA) and Community-Based Organization (CBO). Such collaboration will ensure cooperation in all aspects of the grant should it be awarded. For FY 11, the Planning Tool in the CCIP will be used to substantiate the link between the out of school learning program and the traditional school curricula. Applicants will submit Program Performance Objectives around math, reading, partnerships, and parent engagement.
2. Establish clear links to school day learning and show how your 21st CCLC will enhance and support what happens during the regular school day, with a special focus on reading and math.
3. There should be an emphasis on academic and enrichment programming that is connected to Scientifically Based Research (SBR). Establish a clear connection to what the program proposes to do and how it is linked to SBR.
4. Demonstrate a clear and concise Professional Development plan that is specifically linked to program goals and the overall scope of the grant.
5. The Principals of Effectiveness should be clearly tied to the goals of the 21st CCLC.
6. Provide a detailed and clear use of the budget and tie the budget to your stated goals.
7. Provide a clear, specific and realistic timeline for implementing your grant.
8. Provide a specific and doable sustainability plan for the fourth and fifth year of reduced funding and beyond. Be sure to include use of partnerships and collaboration in your sustainability plan.
9. Show a detailed plan for recruiting participants and making the program available to the students you intend to serve. For example, how will students get to and from your program? Will you be providing transportation? How will you encourage parent involvement?

Applying for the grant

After carefully reviewing the grant application (RFA) and the scoring rubric, and deciding this is a good match for the program you plan to provide for students, you are ready to begin!

The application process is specifically explained within the Ohio Department of Education 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant Information page. You



will want to access this page and begin the process as soon as you decide to apply for a 21st CCLC grant; the initial process can take some time to complete.

The first steps in applying for a 21st CCLC grant include:

1. Obtain an Employer Identification Number (EIN), which is assigned by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).
2. Set up an Internal Retrieval Number (IRN), which is a unique number assigned to each organization that is doing business with the Ohio Department of Education. To obtain and use an IRN, you will need the following:
 - The Office for Safety, Health and Nutrition (OSHN) Potential Vendor Letter
 - W-9 and Instructions
 - New Vendor Information Form
 - Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) Form
 - IRN Request Form

All instructions and forms needed to obtain the above items are available and clearly labeled on Ohio Department of Education 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant Information page (please copy and paste the following link into your browser):


<http://education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?Page=3&TopicRelationID=1180&Content=81670> (please copy and paste the link into your browser)

3. Establish an Ohio Department of Education SAFE account. From any Ohio Department of Education Web page, click on "SAFE Sign-in" at the top of the page, this will direct you to register as a new user. Each individual who will be attending training programs or accessing secure information on the Ohio Department of Education Web site must complete a profile.

Definitions of Commonly Used Terms related to a 21st CCLC


- **CBO – Community-Based Organization:** often refers to non-profit community organizations such as settlement houses, Boys & Girls Clubs, museums, etc. It can also be a local sports franchise, a law enforcement group, an arts council or even a fraternal organization such as the Rotary Club.
- **Collaboration:** working together to jointly deliver services and programs for one purpose.
- **Consortium:** A group of organizations sharing in the finances and/or administration of a single grant.

- **Direct Costs:** Expenses that are associated with the operation of a project and that are itemized by categories specified as allowable under the grant or contract.
- **Illuminate:** “Illuminate” sessions provide synchronous learning opportunities including voice over Internet, web cam video, instant messaging, polling, creation of breakout rooms and the ability to archive and review the sessions. These sessions are often used by the Ohio Department of Education to conduct 21st CCLC trainings.
- **Fiscal Agent:** The Fiscal Agent is defined as the agency or organization that serves as the contract administrator for the grant. The Fiscal Agent will often be responsible for providing the appropriate payroll, sub-contracting and relevant accounting procedures associated with the grant.
- **Grant read:** a group of individuals that read through submitted grants, each grant is scored with a scoring device or rubric to obtain an overall score.
- **Indicator:** a quantifiable measurement that can be taken over time to track progress. An indicator provides evidence that a certain condition exists or certain results have or have not been achieved. Indicators enable decision-makers to assess progress towards the achievement of intended outputs, outcomes, goals, and objectives.
- **Indirect Costs:** The costs associated with the impact or consequences of running a program. Costs that are not readily identified as direct project / program expenditures (i.e., accounting services, space, utilities).
- **In-Kind Services:** A contribution of property, supplies, or services that are contributed without charge to the program.
- **IRN – Internal Retrieval Number:** a number used by the Ohio Department of Education as a unique identifier of various types of school-related entities within Ohio. This number is frequently needed to access Ohio Department of Education data.
- **LEA- Local Education Agency:** refers to a school district or educational service center that is responsible for providing education services to students.
- **Letter of Intent:** The purpose of the Letter of Intent is to allow for proper Grant Read planning and to ensure both the applicant and primary partner have discussed and agreed to a 21st CCLC partnership, program goals and embrace an active role in the 21st CCLC program.
- **License:** A document issued by the Ohio Department of Education or Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to a person, a group of people, school



district or corporation who has met the state minimum standards for child care, which allows them to legally operate a school age program.

- **Needs Assessment:** An analysis that studies the needs of a specific group, presents the results in a written statement detailing those needs (such as training needs, needs for health services, etc.), and identifies the actions required to fulfill these needs, for the purpose of program development and implementation.
- **O-QAR – Ohio’s Quality Assessment Rubric:** The O-QAR instrument is an assessment tool for 21st CCLC programs and is comprised of three parts. O-QAR Part I helps 21st CCLC’s assess the extent to which they are in *compliance* with state and federal regulations. Part II helps sites assess the *quality* of implementation across various programming and oversight areas within the 21st CCLC. Part III assists 21st CCLC’s in determining the perceptions of how well the 21st CCLC is getting to good outcomes.
- **PPICS - Profile and Performance Information Collection System:** U.S. Department of Education data collection system for 21st CCLC’s. A Web-based data-collection system designed to capture information regarding state-administered 21st CCLC Programs.
- **RFA – Request for Application:** Term used when an entity is accepting proposals for grants or contracts that indicates the availability of funding. The announcement generally includes the amount of funds available, the number of awards likely to be made, and a unique deadline for applications.
- **Rubric:** A guide for judgment or scoring, a description of expectations.
- **SAFE account- Secure Application For Enterprise:** A Web Portal and a "single sign on" software security solution for Ohio Department of Education customers. <https://safe.ode.state.oh.us/portal/>
- **SBR – Scientifically-Based Research:** A phrase often associated with No Child Left Behind. To meet the NCLB definition of scientifically based research, curriculum must: employ systematic, empirical methods that draw on observation or experiment; involve rigorous data analyses that are adequate to test the stated hypotheses and justify the general conclusions; rely on measurements or observational methods that provide valid data across evaluators and observers, and across multiple measurements and observations; and be accepted by a peer-reviewed journal or approved by a panel of independent experts through a comparatively rigorous, objective, and scientific review.
- **SES – Supplemental Educational Services:** Refers to free extra academic help, such as tutoring or remedial help, that is provided to students in subjects such as reading, language arts, and math. This extra help can be provided before or after school, on weekends, or in the summer. Low-income



families can enroll their child in supplemental educational services if their child attends a Title I school that has been designated by the state to be in need of improvement for more than one year.

<http://education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=1511&ContentID=1908> (please copy and paste the link into your browser)

- **STARS- System To Achieve Results for Students:** STARS is a Web-based application that provides for planning and management of professional development and technical assistance programs for Ohio educators. You will use your SAFE account to access STARS
- **Sub-recipient:** A third-party organization performing a portion of a grant project. The terms of the relationship are typically documented in a Memorandum of Agreement / Understanding. The funder holds the grant awardee responsible for all actions taken by both the awardee and the Sub-recipient.
- **Sustainability:** The ability to meet the current needs of the organization and program, while actively preparing for future needs.


Where do I find resources and information about afterschool programs?

Afterschool Alliance - The Afterschool Alliance is a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising awareness of the importance of afterschool programs and advocating for quality, affordable programs for all children. It is supported by a group of public, private and nonprofit organizations that share the Alliance's vision of ensuring that all children have access to quality afterschool programs, www.afterschoolalliance.org

Afterschool Initiative's Afterschool Core Knowledge and Competencies - ASI-CKC tool can assist with increasing the quality and professionalism of Ohio's afterschool programs by documenting the knowledge and skills that afterschool professionals must strive for it children in their care to thrive. http://www.occrra.org/Documents/Asi_Reference.pdf.

Afterschool Specialists- Each Child Care Resource and Referral agency in Ohio has an Afterschool Specialist available to offer technical assistance, trainings, referrals, and many additional resources to out-of-school-time programs. <http://www.occrra.org/asi.htm>

Finance Project - A specialized non-profit research, consulting, technical assistance and training firm for public and private sector leaders nationwide. The Finance Project helps leaders make investment decisions, develop financing strategies, and build partnerships that benefit children, families and communities. <http://www.financeproject.org>



Harvard Family Research Project - the Harvard Family Research Project Out-of-School Time Program Evaluation Database distills a wealth of information examining a specific aspect of out-of-school time (OST) evaluation. <http://www.hfrp.org/out-of-school-time/ost-database-bibliography/database> *(please copy and paste the link into your browser)*

Learning Point Associates- Learning Point Associates is a nonprofit educational organization with more than 20 years of direct experience working with and for educators and policymakers to transform education systems and student learning. <http://www.learningpt.org>

MENTOR - MENTOR works with a strong network of state and local Mentoring Partnerships to expand quality mentoring and leverage resources and provide the support and tools that mentoring organizations need to effectively serve young people in their communities. <http://www.mentoring.org/>

Mott Foundation – the mission of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation is to support efforts that promote a just, equitable and sustainable society. The Mott Foundation typically offers grants related to civil and human rights, environment, and poverty. It is a primary funding source of Ohio AfterSchool Network (OAN). www.mott.org


NAA – National Afterschool Association – NAA represents the voice of the afterschool field in the areas of professional development, program quality, public policy and current issues affecting children and youth in their out of school time. www.naaweb.org

NIOST – National Institute on Out of School Time- NIOST is part of the Wellesley Centers for Women at Wellesley College and was an early investor and resource in the field of out of school time programs. www.niost.org

The National Summer Learning Association - Formerly the National Center for Summer Learning, the National Summer Learning Association works to further the core mission of expanding quality summer learning opportunity for young people in high-poverty communities. <http://www.summerlearning.org/>

OAA – Ohio Afterschool Association, state affiliate of NAA - Ohio AfterSchool Association (formerly Ohio Professionals for School Age Children) is the state wide professional organization for people working on behalf of school age children. Their mission is to advocate for and educate school age professionals throughout Ohio. <http://www.ohioafterschool.org>

OAN – Ohio Afterschool Network- The Ohio Afterschool Network supports children, youth, families, and communities by advocating and building capacity with a unified voice for sustainable investments in safe, healthy, and nurturing afterschool experiences. OAN's website is a great source for the most current



knowledge, resources, and information regarding afterschool programs.
<http://www.ohioafterschoolnetwork.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=5>

OAN's Afterschool Program Quality Guidelines – OAN PQG tool can be used to set benchmarks for providers to use for self-assessment and quality improvement; and for program funders, both public and private, to use in evaluating programs and/or quality-improvement initiatives for funding purposes.
http://www.ohioafterschoolnetwork.org/associations/10110/files/OAN_QualityGuidelines.pdf *(please copy and paste the link into your browser)*

OCCRRA – Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association- promotes the positive development of all children, especially those in out-of-home learning environments. OCCRRA's membership consists of resource and referral agencies providing services to families, early childhood professionals, and communities throughout Ohio. Each member agency maintains a regional database of child care providers, provides families with information on how to select care, increases the quality effectiveness of providers by offering professional development opportunities, and provides information to policy and decision makers.
<http://www.occrra.org>

ODE – Ohio Department of Education- <http://www.ode.state.oh.us>

ODJFS - Ohio Department of Job and Family Services - Develops and oversees programs that provide health care, employment, economic assistance, child support, and services to families and children. <http://jfs.ohio.gov>

Ohio Quality Assessment Rubric - O-QAR, created through collaboration between the Ohio Department of Education and The Ohio State University, College of Social Work, can be utilized by 21st CCLC grantees to monitor program quality and create a strategic plan for improvement. http://www-old.csw.ohio-state.edu/cayci/21stcentury_resourcesandtools_oqar.htm *(please copy and paste the link into your browser)*

Parent Involvement Resources – Visit the following links to find more information related to parent involvement:

- ODE's Best Practices for Parent Involvement in Schools
<http://education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=1161&ContentID=80852&Content=81184> *(please copy and paste the link into your browser)*
- Pennsylvania State University's After-School Programs Parent Involvement Plan <http://cyfar.cas.psu.edu/PDFs/Parent%20Involvement%20Plan.pdf>
- Community and Youth Collaborative Institute
<http://csw.osu.edu/cayci/pastprojects/occmsi/occmsitools/>
- Afterschool Alliance: *Afterschool: Supporting Family Involvement in Schools*
http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/issue_briefs/issue_parent_involvement_3_2.pdf *(please copy and paste the link into your browser)*



PASE - Partnership for After School Education- A child-focused organization that promotes and supports quality afterschool programs particularly those serving young people from underserved communities. <http://www.pasesetter.com>

PEAR - The Program in Education, Afterschool & Resiliency (PEAR) is dedicated to making meaningful theoretical and practical contributions to youth development, school reform and prevention. <http://www.pearweb.org/index2.html>

SEDL – Southwest Education Development Laboratory- SEDL researches promising practices in afterschool programs through a rigorous review process that includes on-site assessments of afterschool sites across the country. <http://www.sedl.org/>, also visit their online database at <http://www.sedl.org/afterschool/guide/literacy/>

TASC – The After-School Corporation- a nonprofit organization which supports comprehensive after-school programs in New York City, with the goal of enhancing the quality, availability and sustainability of programs in New York and the nation. <http://www.tascorp.org/>

USDA Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs - The Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs has been expanded, providing an updated design, including color-coded tabs for each section, pictures, new charts and graphics, as well as hundreds of new food items and much more. <http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/Resources/foodbuyingguide.html>

Wallace Foundation Knowledge Center - The Foundation provides several learning research, articles, tools and resources to effectively develop and sustain high-quality out-of-school learning programs. <http://www.wallacefoundation.org/KnowledgeCenter/Pages/default.aspx>

What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) – The Institute of Education Sciences’ WWC online tool provides access to a variety of publications and works to connect educators with evidence to make informed decisions. <http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/>

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