

The 21st Century Community Learning Centers Coronavirus Relief Act of 2020
Rep. Wild

Cosponsors: Reps. *Van Drew, Bonamici, Fitzpatrick, Don Young, Evans*

Endorsing Organizations: Afterschool Alliance, After-School All-Stars, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, Classroom, Inc., Girls, Inc., National Association of Elementary School Principals, Forum for Youth Investment, National AfterSchool Association

The bipartisan *21st Century Community Learning Centers Coronavirus Relief Act of 2020* expresses a sense of Congress that the flexibility needed in the 21st CCLC program for the 2020-2021 school year is provided through the Department of Education's recent notice in the Federal Register, which allows state education agencies to waive the definition of community learning center for implementation of services during “non-school hours or periods when school is not in session (such as before and after school or during summer recess).”

As a result of the health challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, many school districts will provide academic instruction through remote or hybrid learning models this school year. While these decisions are necessary to promote health and safety, they may leave families with school-aged children in need of educational support and supplemental care so parents can remain in the workforce. Estimates suggest that this Fall, nearly 24 million workers with children between the ages of 6 and 14 will have no at-home child care option.

The 21st CCLC program is the only federal funding source dedicated to supporting afterschool, before-school, and summer learning programs. Accordingly, this new flexibility will ensure 21st CCLC subgrantees can provide services virtually, in addition to school-aged child care during the workday to help meet the needs of students and families during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The bill expresses a sense of Congress that the flexibility provided to states through 21st CCLC waivers allows subgrantees to carry out the following activities:

- In-person or virtual programming, during school hours or when school is not in session.
- In-person care to support student learning during the regular school day when in-person instruction is not available.