

Preparing young people  
for the jobs of tomorrow



## This is Afterschool

### It's time to rethink CTE!

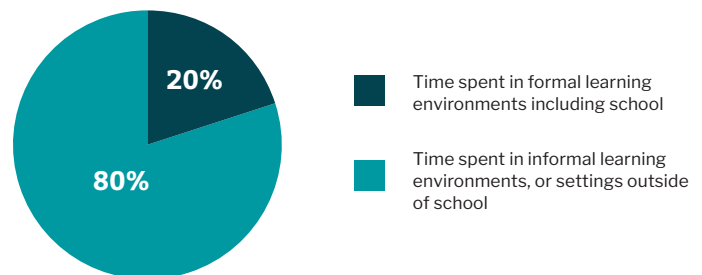
To address the nation's skills gap and prepare our emerging workforce for the changing economy, young people need access to expanded learning opportunities made possible by afterschool and summer learning programs. These programs are critical partners for Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs and help young people develop skills that employers need.

### Learning doesn't just happen in school.

For students in elementary through high school, **more than 80 percent** of their time is spent **learning outside of school**— at afterschool and summer programs, in libraries, museums, science centers, at home or in the community. **Fewer than 20 percent** of their 16 waking hours are **spent in school**.<sup>1</sup>

### Afterschool: An Ideal CTE Partner

Afterschool provides a flexible learning environment and has a proven track record for combining enrichment, academics and real-world experiences to serve more than 10 million young people in all 50 states. Afterschool programs have expertise leveraging resources from multiple community partners, including businesses, parents, libraries, schools, museums and health centers.



### Dunn PAL Career Readiness Program:

Career Readiness | Dunn, NC

The Dunn PAL Afterschool Career Readiness Program works with individual schools in Harnett County, NC to provide students on CTE pathways with 120 hours in internship credits through real, on the job, paid experiences in a connected local job choice. The Dunn PAL C&C Readiness works with students after school and on weekends to help youth gain knowledge and experience in the work various work fields. Through the program students develop leadership, employability and financial literacy skills. Students also earn an income and internship credit at their school, as well as a vested Equity Award for good attendance that they can access when they graduate for anything education or career related.

**State and local partnerships between CTE and afterschool have successfully leveraged resources to create comprehensive programs and curriculum that would not be possible working alone.**

## STEM Spotlight

Many CTE career pathways require STEM skills and interest. Afterschool STEM programs boost students' performance in math and science and put them on the path to pursuing a STEM or CTE career pathway. A study of afterschool STEM programs found that among participating students:<sup>2</sup>

**80%**

gained a deeper understanding of science careers

**78%**

increased their interest in STEM

**73%**

developed a "STEM identity," a personal belief that he/she can do well and succeed at science

**72%**

developed perseverance and critical-thinking skills

## Afterschool and CTE speak the same language

### Effective career exposure starts early and is diverse

Afterschool programs serve students along a continuum from Pre-K to high school using flexible, student-driven curricula that get kids excited about learning. Time in afterschool—about 1,080 hours per year—is used to help kids explore careers, build skills and learn by doing through hands-on projects.

### Employability skills matter

Kids who regularly participate in quality afterschool programs develop self-control, confidence and skills that employers demand. A majority of parents nationwide say afterschool programs help kids gain workforce skills, such as team work, leadership and critical thinking.

### Career learning means real experience and transferable skills and credits

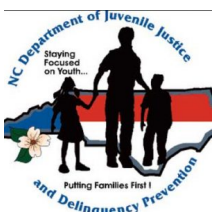
Afterschool programs partner with schools and businesses to help students gain credentials, earn college credits and participate in work-based learning opportunities. Kids in afterschool also are more likely to be promoted to the next grade and to graduate.

### For every occupation, our workforce and leadership can look more like our communities

Afterschool programs serve a significant number of young people from low-income and racially diverse backgrounds and can play a key role in tackling diversity issues in non-traditional and under representative career fields.

## How to GET INVOLVED

- Talk with your CTE Instructor at your local school
- Go to our website at [www.dunnpal.org](http://www.dunnpal.org)
- Stop by our Office: Dunn PAL 610 Fairground Road Dunn, NC 28334 and/or call 910-892-1873.
- We partner and refer to the Harnett County Schools CTE Program
- We partner and refer to the Harnett County Workforce Development Center
- We partner and refer to the Central Carolina Community College CTE Program.
- We partner with most local businesses and hire local people to work. We receive funding from Harnett County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council and The Golden Leaf Foundation.



Afterschool Alliance



July 2020