



# INVEST IN AFTERSCHOOL AND SUMMER LEARNING FOR MASSACHUSETTS FAMILIES

## WHY AFTERSCHOOL AND SUMMER PROGRAMS?

- Afterschool and summer programs play a vital role in the lives of thousands of Massachusetts children, particularly those from low-income families. They provide a safe and positive environment where children can engage in academic enrichment activities, develop social skills, and build crucial life skills.
- Research demonstrates that afterschool and summer learning programs help close the achievement gap for students from low-income families.

## THE CHALLENGE

- The median cost of afterschool programs accounts for 10-12% of a family's household budget (Dept. of Labor), putting programs out of reach for many low-income families.
- With cuts in federal dollars, afterschool and summer program providers may be at risk of reducing their services and leave thousands of children without access to the critical support they need.

## THE SOLUTION

We ask you to support line items **7061-9611** and **7061-9814**, which provide funding to these afterschool and summer programs to help them meet the rising demand from low-income families and address the recent cuts in federal funding. With state support, these programs can continue to reach thousands of children and working families.

### **7061-9611** After-School and Out-of-School Grants

Grant funding to support the enhancement and expansion of access to afterschool and summer learning programs by public schools, nonpublic schools, and private community-based organizations. \$10.9 million appropriated. [Detailed summary here.](#)

### **7061-9814** Summer Learning

Grant funding to support the development and expansion of high-quality, enriching summer learning opportunities to students in districts with high concentration of low-income students. \$3 million appropriated. [Detailed summary here.](#)