Research shows that high quality afterschool programs can lead to increased Attendance, Behavior and improved Coursework. This means that students participating in a high quality afterschool program went to school more, behaved better, received better grades and did better on tests. These ABCs are critical factors to student engagement and achievement.

High quality afterschool programs are proven to accelerate student achievement:1

* All gains are compared to non-participating control youth.

![Bar chart showing improved attendance, behavior, and coursework](chart.png)

**About the Research**

Information based on a meta analysis of 68 research evaluations of afterschool programs conducted by Professors Joseph Durlak and Roger Weissberg. The two-thirds (41) of programs found to meet the SAFE criteria (sequential, active learning, focused time and attention and explicit definition of skills) showed significant improvements in attendance, behavior and/or coursework.

**A Base to Build On**

Many states and communities provide funding for high quality afterschool programs. At the federal level, the 21st Century Community Learning Center is a unique federal funding stream that has been successfully bringing together communities to accelerate student achievement through afterschool and summer learning programs for more than a decade. Unique for the emphasis it places on having communities at the table, this funding stream allows for local design and variation in providing engaging, proven, cost-effective afterschool and summer learning programming.

More than 1.6 million young people served2

10,466 school-based and community-based centers across the country

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE EXPANDED LEARNING & AFTERSCHOOL PROJECT AT WWW.EXPANDINGLEARNING.ORG.
