



AfterZone Summer Scholars

Community Provider Proposal

Application Deadline: March 22, 2011

The Providence After School Alliance (PASA), Providence Public School District (PPSD) and the AfterZone Site Management Agency Partners are excited to announce the **2011 AfterZone Summer Scholars program!** The program will run from July 5-28; PASA is currently seeking interested STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) focused Community Providers to work as members of summer educator teams to plan and implement a four week summer experience for 200-300 Providence Middle School youth. Summer educator teams will lead a group of youth through their Summer Scholars experience, with the goal of providing hands-on learning experiences, enhancing critical thinking skills and combating summer learning loss.

Organizations whose proposals are selected to lead a cohort of youth for the Summer AfterZone Scholars program will receive a grant of \$5,000 to cover:

- Staffing at a rate of \$25/hour. (Estimated staffing time 45 hours for pre- program planning and 55 hours for programming and common planning time.)
- Any materials or incidentals needed to create a high- quality Summer Scholars experience

If your organization is interested in being involved, please read below for more information or attend our ***Information Session on March 14th from 1:00-2:00pm.*** The session will be held at PASA, located at 17 Gordon Ave. Providence, RI 02907.

The Summer Scholars educator teams each serving a cohort of 25 youth will consist of:

- A community educator from a STEM-focused community organization
- One PPSD Co-teacher
- One AfterZone staff member
- Two content specialist teachers (math and literacy)

These teams will work together to develop and implement a summer program curriculum for a group of 25 students, using the content focus of the community partner as a guiding theme for their group. Weekly program time will be equally divided between community field experiences (possible to the provider's offsite facility) and classroom time at the school site. Community providers will be involved from the beginning of the planning process in early April and will play a key role in planning and program implementation. PASA will be contracting with 4-8 Community Provider organizations.

Eligible Applicants

PASA is inviting only AfterZone endorsed programs and STEM Learning Community participants to submit proposals for the Summer Scholars Program.



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Providers who apply for a position with the AfterZone Summer Scholars program are committing themselves to participate fully in the following:

Orientation and Planning

- 45 hours of **orientation and planning sessions** from late April through mid-June. The dates and times for these sessions are listed below:

Friday, April 8, 2011; 1:30pm-6:00pm
Thursday, April 14, 2011; 8:30am-2:30pm
Wednesday, May 11, 2011; 8:30am-2:30pm
Friday, May 20, 2011; 3:00pm-6:00pm
Monday, June 13, 2011; 3:00pm-6:00pm
Tuesday, June 28, 2011; TBD

Introduction to AfterZone Summer Scholars
Second Planning Session: Curriculum Development 1
Third Planning Session: Curriculum Development 2
Fourth Planning Session: Integrating Math and Literacy
Final Planning Session
Site Walk-Through and Orientation

These sessions account for a portion of the mandatory planning time. Teams are responsible for scheduling the remaining project-specific planning time from May-June with their education teams.

Program responsibilities:

The STEM-learning organizations would be committing to providing a two-day program each week: either a Monday / Wednesday or a Tuesday / Thursday program. Organizations will be able to indicate their capacity to provide programming for more than one cohort of 25 youth. It is required that these program days take place at each organization's site or another appropriate community-based location; transportation for participating youth would be provided to and from the off-site location.

- Participate fully in all group activities Monday through Thursday, beginning Monday, July 4 through Thursday, July 29.

The daily schedule will include:

8:30am: Breakfast and camp welcome, students and educators together

9:00am: Learning program begins for the day

12:30pm: Learning program ends for the day; youth to lunch; planning team to daily check-in session.

1:00pm: Assist with getting students on to shuttle buses; day ends.

- Throughout the Summer Scholars program in July, the team will be responsible for developing and participating in weekly 2.5-hour large group debrief and planning, days TBD.
- An evening "family night" at the respective community field sites midway through the summer program, organized by the lead STEM organization for each youth cohort.
- A "16th day" program – a Family Day for all participants, to include youth showcases, family recreation, and a picnic.
- Proposals will be reviewed by a committee consisting of AfterZone and PPSD representatives. They will be looking for creative thinking, willingness to collaborate and commitment to outlined timeline for planning and implementation.



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- Contracted providers must provide PASA with proof of insurance before conducting programming. Insurance shall include, at minimum, an umbrella liability policy of \$1,000,000 for property damage and personal injury, where PASA is named as additionally insured.

All accepted applicants will be notified of their application status by March 25, 2011

Remaining questions may be addressed to:

Holly Spalt

STEM Program Coordinator
Providence After School Alliance

hspalt@mypasa.org

(401) 490-9599 x.113



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Critical Elements of Inquiry-Based Learning in Informal STEM Education Settings **Providence STEM Expanded Learning Time Learning Community**

Informal science education offers a unique opportunity for after-school providers to use the following elements of inquiry-based learning to bridge the relevance and rigor of both in-school and out-of-school learning. These elements are offered to help guide informal science educators in mentoring and being mentored by youth and other educators. They are also meant to guide the development and candid assessment of programs to improve the quality of learning experiences for youth. The hope is that these elements will help educators not only increase the content knowledge of youth, but more importantly, that they will strengthen the critical thinking skills of youth while deepening their interest and engagement in STEM fields.

Within Inquiry-Based Learning Contexts:

1. Youth guide, shape, and lead their own learning in partnership with educators.
2. Educators are facilitators of youth learning, not just transmitters of knowledge.
3. Learning is engaging and fun for youth and adults.
4. Youth engage in real-world applications and problem-solving which are personally meaningful.

Inquiry-Based Learning Processes:

5. Activate prior knowledge about particular topics.
6. Pursue questions posed by youth and educators.
7. Engage youth in hands-on practice and observation based upon these questions.
8. Encourage youth to record information, analyze data, and form conclusions.
9. Provide opportunities for youth and educators to reflect upon what has been learned.
10. Empower youth to publicly demonstrate and articulate their content and process learning.

Updated draft: 02/15/11



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Initial review of proposals to begin Wednesday, March 23, 2011. Accepted applicants will be informed of the decision by Monday, March 28th.

If you have any questions regarding this application please contact Holly Spalt at (401) 490-9599 x113 or via e-mail @ hpsalt@mypasa.org

Completed applications should be no more than 3 pages total. Feel free to attach a resume or other additional descriptive materials.

Organization Name:	Primary Contact (name and title):
E- Mail:	Organization Phone : Contact Cell Phone:
Organizational 501c3 or EIN:	
Clearly and concisely describe your organization's or project's mission. Given this, why would your STEM-focused program be a uniquely valuable part of the AfterZone Summer Scholars program? _____ _____ _____ _____	
STEM-related activities for the summer program would take place at your organization's location or other community-based sites. Please describe which location(s) you would use as part of the summer program and how they would enhance the program and the experience for youth. <i>Location(s):</i> _____ <i>Describe assets and amenities of the location(s):</i> _____ _____ _____	



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Please detail your preferences and capacity for leading AfterZone Summer Scholars programs for cohorts of 25 youth:

Which days could you provide AfterZone Summer Scholars programs: Mon./ Wed. _____ Tue./Thu. _____ Both _____

How many cohorts of 25 youth do you have the capacity to lead in a two-day summer program? _____

If you are able to serve multiple cohorts, could you serve them on the same day (i.e., 50 youth in two groups)? _____

Please share key details about staff who would lead this programming:

The attached "Critical Elements of Inquiry-Based Learning in Informal STEM Education Settings" document was developed with input from local community-based educators and Providence middle school teachers as part of the STEM Expanded Learning Time Learning Community. Please review these and reflect on how they relate to your own practice working with youth.

a) Choose one of the ten elements that you feel that your program is especially good at employing with youth and detail why.

b) What is one element that has proven to be a challenge for your program in the past, and how have you try to improve on that in your practice with youth?



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What specific skills will youth learn through this summer program? How will you emphasize or measure the success of this skill building in your program?

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What additional resources does your organization have that will be able to be tapped for the summer program? Include some details about existing curriculum resources you would be able to draw on to guide the development of the summer program.

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What areas of your program would benefit from working with a multi-faceted education team, including PPSD teachers? What do you think will be most challenging?



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Please return your completed application to:

Holly Spalt, STEM Coordinator

Providence After School Alliance, 17 Gordon Avenue, Suite 104, Providence, RI 02905

Phone: 401.490.9599 x 113 / Fax: 401.228.3915 / hspalt@mypasa.org

Applicants must submit the full proposal by 5:00pm on March 22nd, 2011. Applicants will hear from the Grant Review Committee no later than MARCH 25, 2011 regarding the status of the application.



PASA is an initiative of Mayor Angel Tavares, with major support from the Wallace Foundation, Bank of America, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Nellie Mae Education Foundation, RI Department of Education and the City of Providence

