Students who regularly participate in quality expanded learning opportunities demonstrate... 

**STRONGER ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE**

Afterschool and summer programs can increase student engagement with learning by providing opportunities for hands on learning and team building, attention from adult instructors, access to computer labs or educational technology, and fostering higher aspirations for educational attainment. Expanded learning opportunities also have the potential to reduce the achievement gap between students of differing races, ethnicities or socio-economic backgrounds.

- More time spent expanding learning in after school and summer programs is associated with:
  - Better work habits
  - Improved academic performance and GPA
  - Gains in self-efficacy
  - Increased attendance and fewer school absences

37% raise their math grades  
38% raise their English grades  
72% improve their homework completion  
67% improve their behavior in class

Annual teacher-reported performance data from 21st CCLC grantees across the country.

**BETTER SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL AND PHYSICAL WELL-BEING**

Youth face significant challenges to the growth and maintenance of healthy self-esteem and physical well-being. Those youth who do not participate in afterschool and summer programs are more likely to skip classes, abuse drugs, alcohol and tobacco and engage in sexual activity or delinquent behavior.

A number of 21st CCLC evaluations have found that students participating in afterschool programs see improvements in their ability to interact with others.

- Students participating in quality afterschool programs see significant increases in their self-perception, self-confidence and self-esteem.

- Afterschool programs have the ability to help students improve their behavior and avoid situations that negatively impact their academics and future aspirations. A number of studies have shown that students participating in afterschool programs have a decrease in school-day problematic behaviors.

1 Expanding Learning & Afterschool: Opportunities for Success, 2013; 2 Keeping Kids Safe and Supported in the Hours After School, Afterschool Alliance 2014
New research demonstrates that more consistent time in afterschool activities during the elementary school years is linked to narrowing the gap in math achievement at grade 5.¹

Youth participating in afterschool programs are half as likely to smoke, drink or use drugs, and one-third less likely to become teen parents, than their peers.

Research shows that afterschool programs can improve academic achievement and help prepare young people for the 21st Century workplace. Hands-on learning projects help youth develop critical thinking, leadership and team building skills—skills we need to be competitive in the global marketplace.²

New research by several state education agencies found that teachers report that students regularly participating in 21st CCLC programs show improvements in homework completion, class participation, and reading and math achievement scores.

An ever growing body of research points to the role afterschool programs play supporting students from elementary school through high school to make academic gains—including literacy—as well as improve engagement in school, which in turn can help school-day performance.³

¹ Expanded Learning & Afterschool: Opportunities for Success, 2013;
²Afterschool Alliance, 2013; ³American Institutes for Research, 2015;
⁴Taking a year round approach to literacy, afterschool alliance, 2016.