

U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin's

## **Afterschool and Workforce Readiness Act**

*Learning does not end when the school day ends*

The vital resources of afterschool programming funded by the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC) program have served high-need rural, urban, and suburban communities for over twenty years. Both before and after traditional school hours, 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC programming keeps children safe, healthy and engaged, while improving their academic performance.

We can build upon the success of this program by enabling it to help meet our national challenge to ensure that every student is college and career ready upon graduation from high school.

### **The Afterschool and Workforce Readiness Act will amend 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC by:**

- Involving local businesses and workforce boards as partners with 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC programs to improve college and career readiness and help immerse high school students in real-world work experiences
- Helping high school students think about planning their futures by encouraging 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC programs to focus on college and career readiness in addition to academic excellence
- Ensuring that afterschool programming offers a wide array of learning opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields as well as in career and technical education (CTE) subjects
- Aiding States in identifying workforce-critical subjects in order to align their limited resources toward community needs and provide students the knowledge they need to get good jobs or pursue higher education

### **In Wisconsin:**

- 121,469 students participate in an afterschool program
- Currently, 30 percent of 9-12<sup>th</sup> graders are unsupervised afterschool – a need that can be met with increased 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC funding and career exploration opportunities
- 82 percent of Wisconsin parents support public funding for afterschool programs

*Endorsers of the Afterschool and Workforce Readiness Act include: Association of Career and Technical Education, AHRAE, the National Association of State Directors of Career and Technical Education, National Association of Workforce Boards and The STEM-ED Coalition*