Afterschool STEM Takes Off

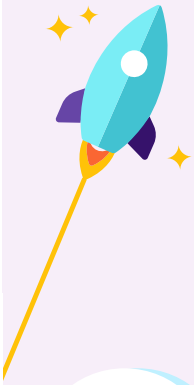
Programs Offer More STEM Than Ever, But Too Many Young People Still Miss Out

Greater Richmond After 3PM STEM

SEPTEMBER 2026

Afterschool programs in Greater Richmond have stepped up to engage kids in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

TODAY, MOST YOUNG PEOPLE IN AN AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM IN GREATER RICHMOND ARE ENGAGING WITH STEM.





88% of parents report that their child has access to STEM in their afterschool program

GREATER RICHMOND PARENTS WANT AFTERSCHOOL STEM OPPORTUNITIES FOR THEIR KIDS.

APPROXIMATELY 3 in 4 parents say they want STEM in their child's afterschool program

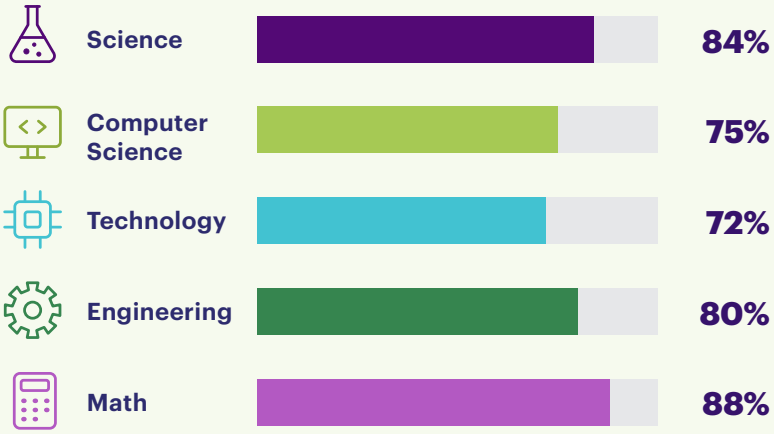
APPROXIMATELY 4 in 5 parents say afterschool programs help children gain STEM interests and skills



AMONG GREATER RICHMOND PARENTS WHOSE CHILD'S AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM OFFERS STEM, 73% SAY THEIR CHILD ENGAGES IN STEM AT LEAST TWICE A WEEK.

CHILDREN IN GREATER RICHMOND HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE WITH A RANGE OF STEM SUBJECTS IN THEIR AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM.

Percentage of parents reporting their child's afterschool programs offers the following topics:



AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS IN GREATER RICHMOND OFFER STEM IN A VARIETY OF LOCATIONS.

Top 5 locations:

1. Boys & Girls Club
2. YMCA
3. City or town facility
4. Private school
5. Public or charter school



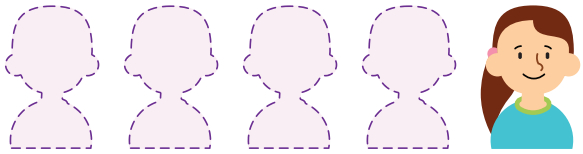
GREATER RICHMOND PARENTS VALUE SUMMER STEM.

When selecting a summer program, 72% of parents in Greater Richmond report that STEM learning opportunities are important.

But, only 12% of parents with a child in a summer program report that their child participated in a summer STEM camp.

AND ACCESS TO AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS IS STILL A CHALLENGE FOR MANY FAMILIES IN GREATER RICHMOND.

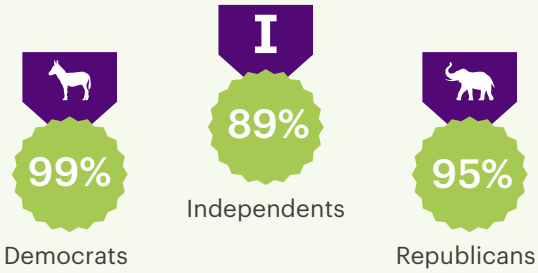
Approximately **4** in **5** Greater Richmond children are missing out on afterschool.



Parents of **81,929** children want afterschool programs—but **64,398** don't have access.

GREATER RICHMOND PARENTS SUPPORT ACCESS AND FUNDING.

Nine in ten Greater Richmond parents agree that all young people deserve access to quality afterschool and summer programs and more than 9 in 10 (93%) are in favor of public funding for afterschool opportunities. Across political affiliations, support for public funding is high.



What You Can Do

Learn more and see recommendations for action at **aa3pm.co**

About the Survey

America After 3PM is a national online survey of parents or guardians of school-aged children, with supplemental interviews conducted by telephone. Data were collected by Edge Research on behalf of the Afterschool Alliance. In Greater Richmond, Virginia, 269 households and 441 children were screened for this study. Child-level projections are based on total school enrollment from the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2022 5-year estimates.

Greater Richmond After 3PM was made possible with support from NextUp RVA.

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