

AFTER SCHOOL matters®

# Teen Intern Manual

Summer 2026



[afterschoolmatters.org](https://afterschoolmatters.org)

Dear **After School Matters** Intern,

Congratulations! You have been selected to participate in an After School Matters internship program. Whether this is your first time or your fifth, we are pleased to have you with us!

After School Matters is committed to providing quality programs that are both interesting and educational. Please take full advantage of all that your internship offers. By working with our expert Instructors/Site Supervisors, you will explore new areas and develop critical skills, including leadership, problem solving and life skills that will prepare you for work, college, and beyond.

We have created this manual to make sure you understand what you can expect, and our expectations of you while in an After School Matters internship. Please read it carefully. If you have any questions, please speak with your Instructor/Site Supervisor, or contact the number or email listed in each section.

This is a time to have fun, meet new people, and engage in what we hope is a life-changing experience! Enjoy and we look forward to your participation!

Sincerely,



Mary Ellen Caron  
Chief Executive Officer

# Quick Reference Guide



## Intern Expectations

- Work Ethic – be prepared, meet deadlines, understand responsibilities.
- Respect – be supportive of others, take care of equipment, develop good relationships.
- Safety – follow rules, cooperate to maintain safety, stay in your program area, unless your instructor gives you permission to leave.
- Be an Ambassador – be positive. Represent professionalism and excellence in all environments, remotely or in-person.
- All After School Matters interns must be at least 16 years old on the day that program begins. Anyone younger than 16 cannot participate in an After School Matters internship.



## Attendance Policy

- Interns must work according to the schedule designated by their Instructor/Site Supervisor.
- Interns will be paid only for hours worked.
- Absences from work require prior approval from Instructor/Site Supervisor.
- Unexcused tardiness (15 min late or leaving 15 min early) may result in parent/guardian notification.
- In the event an intern will be absent or leave early, they should notify Instructor/Site Supervisor as soon as possible.
- Unexcused absences without acceptable notice to or without justification deemed acceptable by Instructor/Site Supervisor will be subject to the Intern Behavior Modification process which could result in termination.
- **Three consecutive unexcused (no call/no shows) absences will be accepted as your resignation from your internship/program.**



## Wage Requirements

- Submit all required forms (I-9, W-4, etc.) within 3 business days after start of program
- Provide valid City of Chicago address and information for SSN to receive wages
- See the attendance policy on page 8 for more details



## Help Center/Contact Us!

Submit a request:  
Click [here](#) to fill out the form.

General Questions  
312-768-5200

Wage Information  
312-768-5199

Para más información en español  
312-846-7106

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# What can I expect from an After School Matters internship?

## Internship Overview

After School Matters programs provide teens with opportunities to explore and develop their talents, while gaining critical skills for work, college and beyond. Our programs will give you a hands-on experience through projects while working alongside skilled professionals to develop marketable job skills and expose you to rewarding careers. When you participate in an After School Matters internship, you can increase your confidence, build skills and professional values like excellence, leadership, teamwork, respect, commitment, and innovation. After School Matters strives to ensure that all internships are interesting, exciting, and relevant to the real world.

To ensure that we can maximize the number of teens we serve, teens can only participate in one program per session  
ASM Values: After School Matters values all teens and does not tolerate discriminatory behavior. Hate has no home here.

## Internship Components

Your Site Supervisor will provide you with the specific days and times your program will meet each week.

Internship Schedule	All Programs
Summer 2026 Start Date	Monday, June 22, 2026
Summer 2026 End Date	Friday, August 7, 2026
Summer 2026 Non-Program Dates	Friday, July 3: Independence Day



### **Orientation**

On the first week of your internship, your Instructor/Site Supervisor will **review this manual and other expectations and rules for the program.**



### **Field Trips**

Your **parent/guardian must sign a field trip permission form** for participation in each field trip. Unaccompanied youth (youth who are not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian) who are 18 and older may sign the form on their own behalf. Most field trips are part of program hours and are not optional.



### **Showcases**

To celebrate the accomplishments that you and your peers have made during After School Matters programs, you may participate in a Showcase at the end of a program session. This event may include **an open house or a staged event where family, friends and other special guests are invited.** All teens are expected to be a part of the showcase as a participant and respectful audience members for other After School Matters programs.

### Site Visits and Media



Official representatives of After School Matters or other affiliated partners or agencies may visit your program at any time. You may be asked to talk with these representatives about your experience in the program and what you are learning. In addition, many media outlets and reporters are interested in After School Matters and our programming. The After School Matters Communications team may arrange media visits to your program throughout the program session.

If your Program Acknowledgement, Consent and Release form is signed by a parent or guardian, you are eligible to take part in media opportunities through After School Matters. You are expected to **wear your After School Matters t-shirt when you are participating in any media opportunities** unless your Instructor/Site Supervisor tells you otherwise.

### Survey



Your opinions and experiences are important to us! During the last week or two of programs, **you are required to complete an online survey** about your experiences in your After School Matters program. You are now able to access the survey via Cityspan, click [here](#) for further instructions. This information helps After School Matters improve the quality of programs. Your responses will also be given to your Instructor/Site Supervisor anonymously.

The survey will help you identify specific skills you gained through the program. Please write those skills down; you will need to speak about them in interviews for school or for a job.

### Final Product Policy



After a final product piece has been showcased on the [TEENMADE website](#) for 2 sessions, After School Matters decides if the item should be kept in inventory for future events or sales, such as a pop-up shop, exhibit, a specific promotion, or if the item can be returned to the teen artist. If the item is eligible for return, you will be contacted to set an appointment to pick the item up.

## Policy Modifications and Accommodations for People with Disabilities

After School Matters is committed to full inclusion of people with disabilities in our activities and services. We welcome teens with disabilities and seek to integrate them into our internships. For example, we can modify procedures for applying for internships, as appropriate, and we provide reasonable accommodations, such as sign language interpreters. If you are requesting a reasonable accommodation to participate in a program, please notify your Instructor/Site Supervisor and our After School Matters' People and Culture team.

## Internship Regulations



### After School Matters Programs Are Safe Spaces

- **Equal opportunities** – An Instructor/Site Supervisor is expected to foster an inclusive program for all persons without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, disability, pregnancy, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or belief, among other characteristics.



### After School Matters Prohibits:

- **Fees** - You do not have to pay a fee of any kind, at any time to participate in After School Matters. Instructors, Program Providers, and Site Supervisors should not request payment or a portion of your wages.
- **Religious/Political Work** - You should not be asked to engage in activities that are religious or political in nature.
- **Harassment** - Harassment of any program participant by a peer, Instructor/Site Supervisor or other representative of After School Matters is prohibited and will not be tolerated.

If you observe violations of these policies, contact People and Culture at [people@afterschoolmatters.org](mailto:people@afterschoolmatters.org)

# What does After School Matters expect of me?

## **Intern Responsibilities**

### **Work Ethic**

- Complete assigned tasks on time.
- Understand your responsibilities. Ask your Instructor/Site supervisor if you have questions.
- Keep a positive attitude; be willing to try new things and listen.
- Abide by your internship's dress code.
- Return any paperwork and forms by the stated deadline.
- Bring materials you need for your internship each day.

### **Communication**

- Be honest; dishonesty is unacceptable.
- Communicate with your instructor/site supervisor about any challenges you face relating to programming.
- Communication is verbal and non-verbal. Use proper words and body language with your Instructor/Site Supervisor and other teens. No inappropriate language will be tolerated.
- This experience is an opportunity to learn. Asking questions will help you get the most out of the program.
- Accept constructive criticism. Do not take constructive criticism as a personal attack. It will help to enhance your internship opportunity and improve your skills.

### **Respect**

- It is important to have a good relationship with your Instructor/Site Supervisor and other participants. It makes for a more supportive and enjoyable environment.
- Do not engage in disrespectful behavior towards others, including physical or verbal abuse, threats, theft, vandalism, and refusing to cooperate.
- Be positive. When you wear your After School Matters t-shirt, you should represent professionalism and excellence in all environments.
- Take care of equipment, supplies, desks, and other's property. Do not deface or intentionally destroy property.
- This program provides a safe space for everyone, regardless of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, disability, pregnancy, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or belief. Be attentive to the diversity of the group and be respectful toward one another.
- Harassment will not be tolerated.
- If you are not treated with respect by another teen, talk to your Site Supervisor to resolve your concerns.

### **Safety**

- Everyone's cooperation is necessary to maintain a safe program environment.
- Learn and follow the safety rules of your program. These rules are designed to protect you and others from injury.
- Stay in your internship area unless you received permission from your Site Supervisor to leave the area.
- If you are injured during your internship, you should inform your Site Supervisor IMMEDIATELY, even if you do not think you need medical attention. Your Site Supervisor will contact the person you listed as an emergency contact, as well as notify staff members at After School Matters.
- If you have reason to believe that there is a safety threat relating to After School Matters' programming, report it to your Site Supervisor or another ASM representative immediately!
- A Site Supervisor, Liaison, Volunteer, or anyone representing After School Matters should not transport you in his or her private vehicle for any purpose.

## After School Matters Netiquette

- I will practice internet safety (use trusted sources for research and keep my password and log-in information secure).
- I will report threatening or offensive materials to my instructor.
- I will be kind in my interactions with others online and create a positive digital footprint.
- I understand that it is inappropriate AND against the law for me to violate copyright laws; plagiarize; send, access, upload, download, or distribute explicit material.
- I understand that all my internet activity leaves a digital trail. I should NOT assume that all material or data on my device is private or confidential.
- I understand that inappropriate use, including cyberbullying and use of inappropriate materials may lead to dismissal from the program.
- I will use my voice and power to create a safe space.

## ASM Intern Participation Expectations

- I will be ready to start on DAY ONE with this program checklist:
  - Activate my ASM Google Account
  - Join my ASM Google Classroom
  - Verify my supply delivery with my Instructor/Site Supervisor
  - Sign my TEEN Program Consent and Acknowledgement Release
- I will use my ASM Gmail Account.
- I will participate in scheduled group sessions.
- I will complete and submit independent projects to Google Classroom.

## **Complaints or Concerns**

After School Matters has established the following procedure for teens to resolve any complaints concerning the internship. These complaints could relate to internship and Instructor/Site Supervisor quality, inappropriate behavior, unfair treatment, discrimination, fraud, requests for you to pay a participation fee, abuse, or harassment, among other complaints.

You may, but are not required to, raise your complaint first to your Instructor/Site Supervisor. If you are not comfortable bringing your complaint to them or do not feel they have adequately resolved your complaint, contact People and Culture at [people@afterschoolmatters.org](mailto:people@afterschoolmatters.org).

After School Matters takes all complaints seriously and will work with you to address them in a timely manner.

**Please Note:** If your complaint concerns the conduct of your **Instructor/Site Supervisor** and you are not comfortable raising your complaint directly with them, contact the People and Culture at [people@afterschoolmatters.org](mailto:people@afterschoolmatters.org).

## **Attendance Policy**

To ensure that you have a productive and enriching experience, we expect you to attend, and arrive on time, each day of internship.

- You are expected to attend your internship every day, for the entire duration of the internship time.
- Interns are only paid for hours worked.
- Please contact your Instructor/Site Supervisor if you're going to be late or absent.
- Absences from work require prior approval from Instructor/Site Supervisor. If there are unexcused absences, Intern may be subject to the Intern Behavior Modification process, which may result in termination. For more information on time off, including Paid Leave, please see below.
- Unexcused tardiness (15 min late or leaving 15 min early) may result in parent/guardian notification and the Intern Behavior Modification Process.
- If your Instructor/Site Supervisor cancels an internship day, he or she will make every effort to notify you and your parent/guardian in a timely manner.
- If the internship day is rescheduled, you should be available on the rescheduled day
- **All participating teens must sign in upon arrival and sign out at departure each program day using the ASM Attendance Sheets.**
- **Instructors will review the sheets daily to confirm accurate completion for each participant.**
- **Absences from work require prior approval from Instructor/Site Supervisor. If there are unexcused absences, Intern may be subject to the Intern Behavior Modification process, which may result in termination. Three consecutive unexcused (no call/no shows) absences will be accepted as your resignation from your internship/program.**

**Return to work:** If you have been absent for three or more consecutive work days due to sickness, then, before you return to work, you may be required to provide medical certification that you are able to perform the essential functions of your job with or without reasonable accommodation.

## Teen Dress Code

- Teens should dress to prepare for future professional or work experiences (e.g., pants, skirts, jeans, button down or collared shirts, polos, t-shirts). No short shorts (length shouldn't be shorter than their fingertips when their arms hang at their sides), no halter tops or cropped belly tops where abdomen or stomach are visible, T-shirts with explicit or offensive languages, low hanging pants that show undergarments should not be worn.
- Teens should abide by their program's specific dress code (e.g., helmets, safety goggles, theater and performance costumes, dance shoes, protective gloves, aprons, etc.).

## Teen Contact and Intimacy in Theater Programming

Rules around intimacy or contact in theaters (fighting, kissing, embracing, etc.) involving teens should be handled sensitively, with the need for careful orchestration:

1. Teens should not be required to participate in intimate acts with which they are uncomfortable.
  - a. If a teen expresses discomfort with a proposed act, Instructors should present alternative ways to express the sentiment with which the teen is comfortable, which may involve avoiding physical contact.
2. Teens and their parents/guardian(s) should always be made aware of any intimacies/physical acts in which they will be involved. Written and/or verbal consent must be given, including acknowledgement of teen's boundaries before performing intimacies. These boundaries should be respected during rehearsal and in performance.
  - a. Instructors should encourage any teen(s) who feel uncomfortable with such intimacies being performed that they can withdraw their consent at any point and choose to not participate in the act.
3. Teens and instructors, as well as any other parties involved, should always maintain a clear line of communication regarding what intimate acts may take place and if everyone is comfortable or uncomfortable with the performance.
4. **All intimacy is to be choreographed and documented.** Have a plan B and rehearse this option in the event that a teens' boundaries change.

## Intern Behavior Modification Process

The [Intern Behavior Modification Process](#) applies to the After School Matters' internship day when teens are traveling to and from their internship, during internship hours, and at any After School Matters related event. If you engage in unacceptable behavior, you may be subjected to the Intern Behavior Modification process and/or terminated from the internship. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to:

- Physically, verbally, and/or sexually abusing or harassing any program participants, Site Supervisors, Liaisons, or ASM staff members in person or via the internet
- Engaging in violent or threatening behavior
- Being disruptive, disrespectful, or uncooperative
- Using curse words, sexual, or vulgar language
- Stealing or destroying property
- Using or possessing any illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages
- Possessing a weapon
- Engaging in gang activity and/or recruitment
- Leaving the premises during internship hours without Site Supervisor permission
- Knowingly using a social security number that is not your own
- Falsifying your attendance logs or other forms
- Not performing the job for which you were hired

**Please Note:** You must also abide by the rules and regulations that exist for the internship site (i.e., if your program meets at a school that does not allow gum chewing, you cannot chew gum in the internship).

- Refusing to participate in work activities
- Any other misconduct that negatively impacts the internship
- Insubordination, including refusal to follow instructions or directions of management personnel and failure to promptly perform on a directive of an Instructor/Site Supervisor
- Absences without acceptable notice to or without justification deemed acceptable by Instructor/Site Supervisor
- Excessive unapproved absenteeism, tardiness or early leavings; excessive and overlong breaks, or not returning from a break as scheduled

If you are engaging in unacceptable behavior, your Instructor/Site Supervisor may issue you verbal or written warnings, or may terminate you, depending on the conduct at issue. Instructor/Site Supervisor may notify your parent or guardian, as appropriate.

The Intern Behavior Modification Process ‘warning steps’ are as follows (each action will be documented, and the Program Specialist, People & Culture, and intern’s parents/guardians will be notified):

- Verbal coaching from Instructor/Site Supervisor
- If behavior doesn’t change, Instructor/Site Supervisor loops in Program Specialist for verbal warning
- If behavior doesn’t change, Intern Behavior Modification form is completed with input from People & Culture
- If behavior doesn’t change, intern is terminated with assistance from People & Culture

*\*Disclaimer: Certain situations may fall outside the scope of this process, and After School Matters may remove teens from the program without warning. For example, this may occur if a teen threatens or perpetrates violent acts or jeopardizes the safety and wellbeing of ASM teens, staff, or others.*

## Artificial Intelligence (AI) – What Teens Need to Know

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### ◆ What Is AI?

AI is any app, website, or tool that creates or changes text, images, video, audio, or decisions using computers. Many AI tools save information after it is entered.

AI can be very useful, but only when it is used the right way.

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### ✔ AI Quick Rules

#### ● Protect Privacy

- Never put names, photos, videos, voices, or personal information into AI tools,
- This applies to **your information and others’ information**

#### ● No AI Recording

- AI recording, transcription, voice, or monitoring tools are **not allowed** during After School Matters programs
- These tools may only be used if written approval is given

#### ● AI Does Not Replace People

- AI cannot be used to judge, evaluate, or make decisions about:
    - Other teens
    - Attendance, behavior, or performance
  - Instructors and staff—not AI—make program decisions
-

## Not Allowed (Serious Violations)

The following uses of AI are **never allowed**:

- **Deepfakes or fake content**  
Creating or sharing fake images, videos, or audio of real people
  - **Impersonation or deception**  
Using AI to pretend to be someone else or trick others
  - **Harassment or bullying**  
Using AI to threaten, embarrass, or harm others
  - **Unauthorized images or audio**  
Creating or editing images, videos, or audio of teens or staff without permission
  - **Cheating or plagiarism**  
Using AI to do your work for you or misrepresent what you created
  - **Inappropriate or illegal content**  
Any AI content that breaks the law or After School Matters rules
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## Limited AI Use (Ask First)

You may use AI **only for basic inspiration or brainstorming** if:

- No personal or program-related information is entered
- AI does not create your final work
- Other teens are not required to use it
- Your instructor allows it

If you're not sure—**don't use the tool. Ask your instructor.**

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## Consequences

Misusing AI may lead to:

- Loss of stipend eligibility
- Removal from the program
- Additional consequences under the GROW Plan

Using AI outside program hours or on personal devices **does not excuse rule violations.**

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# What should I know about intern pay?

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## Pay Eligibility



To be eligible for a wage and receive it on time, here are the guidelines:

- **Interns are paid for the hours they work.** See attendance policy on page 8 for more details.
- Submit all required forms (I-9 and W-4), projects, and other assignments on time.
  - Teen interns are given 3 business days after first day of program to complete the I-9 verification.
    - For example, if a teen began work on Monday, they must complete I-9 verification by Thursday of that week.
  - Teens with incomplete I-9 will be terminated from their internship.
  - After termination, teens can join a stipend-based program.
- Complete all required trainings.
- Provide valid City of Chicago address and information for SSN.
- Submit the Program Acknowledgment Consent and Release (PACR) Form, signed by you and your parent or guardian. An exception to this: unaccompanied youth (youth who are not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian) who are 18 or older may provide written consent on their own behalf.

## Pay Distribution

Interns will be paid via two options: direct deposit or Wisely Pay by ADP Card.



- Teens with a verified SSN will be automatically enrolled on a Wisely Card and it will be mailed to the address on the application.
- Your Wisely card will be sent to the address submitted on your application and delivered via USPS. You will receive an email from Teen Stipends confirming your Wisely enrollment and can expect to receive the card 7-10 business days from the date of that email.
- Teens who do not have a SSN # on file cannot be enrolled onto the Wisely card.
- When you receive your Wisely Pay by ADP card you must activate it right away at <https://www.activatewisely.com/> or by calling the number on the back of your card. For instructions on how to activate your Wisely card, please click [here](#).
- You will receive your Wisely card with a voucher that looks like a check. The checks that come in your Wisely kit are for emergencies only. They provide access to your money in case your card is lost or stolen.
- If your Wisely card is lost or stolen, you may receive one free replacement by calling Wisely at **866-313-6901**. If you lose your free replacement card, you will be charged \$6.00 to receive a new one.
- If you signed up for direct deposit, your direct deposit goes through a verification process. The deadline for direct deposit is **Friday, July 31, 2026**. If your account information is not verified, you will be enrolled to receive all future payments through the Wisely card.
- Direct Deposit Form link: [HERE](#). Teens with a personal bank account can submit a direct deposit form. All teens without submitting a form will be paid via Wisely card after form closes on **Friday, July 31, 2026**.
- If you've had a change of address, please alert your Site Supervisor of the change as soon as possible so that it may be updated in Cityspan and your Wisely card or check can be delivered to the correct address.

## Summer 2026 Intern Pay Schedule

You will receive your wages in the form of Wisely Pay card or Direct Deposit. Payments are provided separately for six periods.

**IMPORTANT: All After School Matters interns must be at least 16 years old on the day that program begins. Anyone younger than 16 cannot participate in an After School Matters internship.**

WAGE-BASED PROGRAMS	
Internship	\$17.05 per hour

Pay Period	Period Dates	Deadline to Enter Forms/SSN	Deadline to Enter Attendance in Cityspan	Pay Date
P1	June 14 – June 27	Wednesday, June 24, 2026	Sunday, June 28, 2026	Friday, July 2, 2026
P2	June 28 – July 11	Wednesday, July 8, 2026	Sunday, July 12, 2026	Friday, July 17, 2026
P3	July 12 – July 25	Wednesday, July 22, 2026	Sunday, July 26, 2026	Friday, July 31, 2026
P4	July 26 – August 8	Wednesday, August 5, 2026	Sunday, August 9, 2026	Friday, August 14, 2026
Corrections	June 14 – August 22	Wednesday, August 19, 2026	<b>Friday, August 21, 2026</b>	Friday, August 28, 2026

Cityspan attendance locks on **Friday, August 21, 2026**. No changes permitted once locked.

## Teen Dashboard now available in Teen Application

You can now confirm your internship status and manage your wage eligibility. This resource will provide you with an overview of the following:

- Enrollment Status
- Google Classroom Information
- Teen Pay and Status (is my checklist complete?)
- Ventra Information (summer only)
- Program Application Status

You can confirm if you are on track to receive an intern wage. If you are missing information, the Teen Pay and Stipend page will provide you with a list of what is missing and a link for you to submit information or documentation. In addition, this resource will also provide clear instructions to follow if you are not enrolled in a program. **You will need your Application ID to access this Teen Dashboard page within the teen application** at <https://afterschoolmatters.org/apply/>. The Application ID was provided in the enrollment notice provided to you and the parent/guardian email on file. If you need your Application ID, please visit the Help Center and submit a request form [here](#) and someone from our support staff will contact you.

## Tax Information

If you were in both an internship and apprenticeship during the same year, you will receive a W2. This is a tax form that you may give to your parents.

After School Matters must report to the government (IRS: Internal Revenue Services) money totaling \$600 and above that you received. Your wages and additional income from an internship may affect any benefits, government or financial assistance that your family receives.

As an intern, After School Matters will withhold taxes from your paychecks (as required by law), and you will receive a W-2 regardless of the amount you receive during the year (January 1-December 31).

W-2 wages are also reported to the government (IRS: Internal Revenue Services).

After School Matters will mail your tax form (1099 or W-2) next January, provided you include your name and date of birth. To inform After School Matters of your new address. Please visit the Help Center and submit a request form [here](#) and someone from our support staff will contact you.

*If you or your family have questions about how to handle the information on your tax form, you should consult a tax advisor. To find resources for free tax assistance, call City Services at 311 or visit <https://www.taxprepchicago.org/>.*



All Other Stipend  
Questions: Please call  
the Teen Stipend Hotline:  
**312-768-5199.** We are  
open Monday through  
Friday, 9am to 5pm.

## INTERN I-9 REQUIREMENTS

United States Federal law requires every employer who recruits, refers for a fee, or hires an individual for employment in the U.S. to complete Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification for each employee.

### **Teen I9 Verification Deadline (Only Applicable to Teens 16+ That Are Paid as Interns or Program Assistants).**

Teens who accept an offer to participate in an ASM Internship are required to complete the I-9 employment eligibility verification process to verify their identity and employment authorization.

It is highly recommended that the I-9 verification process be completed ahead of the start of programs but no later than three business days after starting the program (Example – Thursday for programs that start on Monday). Failure to complete the I-9 employment eligibility verification process in accordance with federal law, will impact teen internship program placement up to cancellation of enrollment.



#### **HOW TO GET PAID:**

**TO RECEIVE PAY, YOU MUST COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

##### **First Time-Interns**

Attend on-site I-9 Employment Verification with the People & Culture Team **before** your first day of program. **Proper Employment Verification Documents are Required.**

Turn in electronic W-4 forms on ADP Workforce Now.

Clear IRS and address verification.

**New and updated SSN/IRS Verifications will be processed every Thursday.**

##### **Returning Interns**

Submit a signed Parent Program Acknowledgment, Consent and Release Form (**PACR**).

Submit a completed Teen Program Acknowledgment, Consent and Release Form (**Waiver**).



#### **WHAT IF I DIDN'T GET PAID?**

If you did not get paid on payday because of missing teen checklist items, please check your dashboard at [afterschoolmatters.org/teens/apply](https://afterschoolmatters.org/teens/apply).



#### **NEED STIPEND HELP?**

Call 312-768-5199 or scan the QR code to submit your question.



# What additional skills do I gain through my After School Matters program?

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## **The MHA Building Blocks**

The MHA (Means and Measures of Human Achievement) Building Blocks are a common set of easy-to-understand 21<sup>st</sup> century skill targets deemed most critical for college, career, and life success. As you participate in After School Matters programs, spend time noting the technical skills you've learned and your progress in achieving these skills and consider using these key words to build your resume.

### **Personal Mindset**

#### **Accepting**

Adaptable to Change  
Agile  
Careful  
Conscientiousness  
Dedicated  
Dependable  
Diligent  
Driven  
Durable  
Flexible  
Focused  
Independent  
Motivated  
Persistent  
Resilient  
Restrained  
Self-Directed  
Self-Sufficient  
Tenacious

### **Planning for Success**

Ambitious  
Aspirational  
Assertive  
Decided  
Goal Oriented  
Goal-Setter  
Motivated  
Multi-Tasker  
Ordered  
Organized  
Planner  
Prepared  
Prompt  
Punctual  
Ready  
Self-Reliant  
Structured  
Time Manager

### **Collaboration**

Accommodating  
Accountable  
Conflict Resolver  
Contributor  
Cooperator  
Dependable  
Helpful  
Interactive  
Participatory  
Reliable  
Responsible  
Supportive  
Team Player  
Trustworthy

### **Social Awareness**

Adapts to Situations  
Agreeable  
Caring  
Code-Switching  
Compassionate  
Considerate  
Courteous  
Culturally-Competent  
Cultured  
Diverse  
Empathetic  
Ethical  
Friendly  
Grateful  
Open  
Perceptive  
Sensitive  
Thoughtful

### **Verbal Communication**

Active Listener  
Articulate  
Attentive  
Coherent  
Convincing  
Eloquent  
Expressive  
Eye Contact  
Listening  
Negotiator  
Persuasive  
Presenter  
Pronunciation  
Speaking  
Talking  
Vocalizing

### **Problem Solving**

Calculated  
Conclusive  
Creative  
Critical Thinker  
Decision Maker  
Information Manager  
Innovative  
Inquisitive  
Investigative  
Judgmental  
Logical  
Methodical  
Premeditated  
Problem Solver  
Process Oriented  
Results oriented  
Strategic Thinker  
Troubleshooter



### **Internship Forms**

To participate in After School Matters internship, teens must have a signed Program Acknowledgement, Consent, and Release (PACR) form, I-9, W-4 on file. If you are a new participant, you must e-sign the PACR form as part of your program application and have your parent or guardian e-sign the form as well. Notify your instructor immediately if you have any questions about the forms.



### **Teen Artwork Purchasing Form**

All work that you produce in your After School Matters program belongs to After School Matters. Your work may be sold on the online After School Matters [TEENMADE website](#), or at an After School Matters TEENMADE pop-up location. All revenue from the TEENMADE art and products is used to fund future After School Matters programs. You may purchase your own work at a discounted rate. Moreover, if your item does not sell within two program sessions, it may be returned to you.



### **Help Center/Contact Us Form**

Has your mailing address or email address changed? Keep us up to date so we can reach you regarding important program information and easily locate you to return unsold work, etc. Please visit the Help Center and submit a request form [here](#) and someone from our support staff will contact you.



### **Wisely/Teen Pay Resources**

How to activate your Wisely card?: [HERE](#)  
What is Wisely One Pager: [HERE](#)  
General Wisely FAQ: [HERE](#)  
Summer 2026 Teen Pay Option: [HERE](#)  
ADP Account Registration Guide: [HERE](#)  
I-9 Employment Verification Information: [HERE](#)  
Are You Cleared to be Paid Flyer: [HERE](#)  
Wisely Event Flyer: [HERE](#)  
Direct Deposit Guides: [HERE](#)



### **Program Acknowledgement, Consent, and Release Form (PACR)**

**This form is required for all participating teens and must be signed by both the teen and a parent or guardian.** Please go to your [Teen Dashboard](#), review your checklist, and complete the PACR. If there are any special circumstances and you need to sign a paper copy, please have your instructor email [pqc@afterschoolmatters.org](mailto:pqc@afterschoolmatters.org).



After School Matters is a nonprofit organization that provides free after-school and summer programs to teens in every Chicago neighborhood. Teens explore their passions, develop new skills, and enhance their sense of self while being taught by expert instructors.

Teens earn a stipend/wage while participating in programs in the arts, communications and leadership, sports, and STEM. Over the past 35+ years, ASM has served hundreds of thousands of Chicago teens.

### Wage Schedule for Internships

Pay 1	Thursday, July 2
Pay 2	Friday, July 17
Pay 3	Friday, July 31
Pay 4	Friday, August 14
Corrections	Friday, August 28

#### Summer 2026 Program Card



MY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MY SCHEDULE

<input type="checkbox"/> MONDAY	<input type="checkbox"/> TUESDAY	<input type="checkbox"/> WEDNESDAY	<input type="checkbox"/> THURSDAY	<input type="checkbox"/> FRIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/> SATURDAY
TIME: _____	TIME: _____	TIME: _____	TIME: _____	TIME: _____	TIME: _____

[afterschoolmatters.org](https://afterschoolmatters.org)

afterschoolmatters

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Phone: 312.768.5200

#### Questions?

Scan the QR code or visit [afterschoolmatters.org/contact](https://afterschoolmatters.org/contact) to get in touch with us.

