



STARS Youth Survey for Afterschool Programs

We are so glad that you are taking the time to incorporate youth voice and youth's feedback into your afterschool program! We have created this *optional* survey for you to use. Feel free to use it as-is or modify it to add specific questions relevant to your program.

Goal of this Youth Survey and how it connects to your STARS CQI: Afterschool programs use youth voice as part of their STARS Continuous Quality Improvement process by inviting youth to participate in a survey or focus group. The questions in the survey are framed to elicit feedback from youth in a way that captures feedback specifically related to the [STARS Elements of Quality](#) and the [Vermont Guidelines for Afterschool, Summer and Youth Development Programs](#). **If you choose to create your own survey, it should include questions that captures feedback to give you information about strengths and areas for improvement for meeting both of these.**

How to distribute to youth in your program: You know the youth in your program best, so we encourage you to distribute this survey and engage youth however you think it would be most meaningful. Examples of this are:

- Hold a focus group(s) where you ask these questions in a group setting and engage youth in open conversation. It can be helpful to have a facilitator and recorder for this so you can fully engage in the conversation with youth, while also recording responses from youth.
- Have the surveys readily available at pick-up time for families to support their child in completing before leaving the program.
- Send out via an electronic survey, asking families to take a couple moments to complete the survey with their child.
- If your afterschool program serves youth who can complete the survey on their own, you could hand it out during programming for youth to complete.
- A hybrid of the above examples.

Youth Voice offers an opportunity for youth in your program to share about their experiences in programming, empowering them to know their voice matters, while giving providers valuable insight into where to create goals for continuous improvement to best support the development of youth **and** shines light on the strengths of your



program where youth are able to engage in choice and youth leadership, feeling seen, heard, and engaged!

Remember, if you'd like to change language or modify the survey to make it more personalized to your program, we created this survey so that you can do that (or use it as is).



Afterschool Youth Survey

We want to hear from you about your experience at afterschool! The questions in this survey will help us to identify strengths and growth areas for afterschool from your point of view and experiences. Help us to continue to make our afterschool program as great as it can be for you!

Name (optional): _____



Grade: _____

Responsive Classrooms (Programming & Activities, Youth Leadership & Engagement, Cultural Competency, Responsiveness & Inclusion)



In your program, do you...?	Not very often or never 😞	Sometimes	Yes 😊
Enjoy the activities you're doing			
Have chances to help decide things like what activities to do			
Participate in activities that give you joy and energy			
Get to be part of planning activities			
Do projects or activities where you get to learn by doing it			
Get to choose to do activities based on what you're interested in			
Learn skills like teamwork to resolve conflicts with other kids peacefully			
Get to share part of your family culture with your peers and staff at afterschool			
Get to share any special traditions with your peers and staff at afterschool			
Learn about other kids in your classroom			
Feel like when you're upset that your program staff help you to do something to calm yourself, like take deep breaths or squeeze a ball			
Feel like when you're feeling frustrated that your afterschool staff listen to hear your point of view and what you're feeling			



Adult-Child Interactions (Relationships)

During afterschool, do...	Never 	Sometimes	Very Often 
Adults encourage you to do your best			
Adults tell you they are proud of you when you do something well			
You feel like your staff takes time to get to know you and your interests			
Have people at afterschool you can talk to about something important			
Feel respected			
Feel safe			
Know where to get help if you're having problems with another kid			
Have an adult that you feel like you can talk to when you need help			
Feel like you can share your feelings and ideas			
You feel welcomed			
Feel like program staff notices when you're doing a good job and lets you know about it			

Family & Youth Engagement (Family, School & Community Connections)

How often in this program do ...?	Never 	Sometimes	Very Often 
Your program staff let your parents know when you work hard on something at afterschool			
Your parents get to see what you do at afterschool			
You get to show your parents your favorite parts of afterschool			
Do things in your community?			



In your own words, please tell us:

1. What kinds of things do you enjoy doing at afterschool?
2. Is there anything you wish we did or that you want to do more of at afterschool?
3. How do your teachers help you learn what is okay to do and not okay at afterschool?
4. Is there anything you wish your program staff at afterschool knew about you to help you have fun or be feel part of the community at afterschool?