

Wisconsin Out of School Time Alliance (WOSTA) Course Calendar 2025-26

July 2025						
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Jan 2026						
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Feb 2026						
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March 2026						
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May 2026						
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June 2026						
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Course Key:

An Introduction to the School-Age Care Profession - On Demand - OPENS
Guiding Children's Behavior in School-Age Programs
Positive Youth Development for Youth Work Professionals
School Age Curricular Framework
Trauma-Informed Care Approach to School-Age Programs
Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA)
Designing and Assessing Child Outcomes
Staff Supervision & Business Practices in School-Age Programs



Marshfield Clinic
Health System



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WOSTA Course Descriptions

An Introduction to the School-Age Care Profession – This foundational course introduces the core principles of working with school-age children in group or family childcare settings. Participants explore the value of Out-of-School Time (OST) programs, key philosophies, and the goals of high-quality care. The course also covers relevant regulations and provider responsibilities. Introduction to the School-Age Care Profession is a self-paced, on-demand course. Register at any time and begin your work immediately and work at your own pace. Fulfills initial Wisconsin DCF Chapter 251 requirement for group leader (assistant); part of the school-age program leader (lead) Alternative Pathway. (40 hours)

Guiding Children's Behavior in School-Age Programs – This course explores our individual understanding of behavior guidance and how our experiences and philosophy influence how we guide the behavior of children. The importance of relationship building with children as an essential component to behavior guidance is explored. This course shares multiple strategies for dealing with challenging situations and the many techniques available to help children gain the skills to regulate and monitor their own behavior. Part of the Alternative Pathway (15 hours)

School Age Curricular Framework – School-age Curricular Framework defines and explores curriculum within the context of after school programs and helps staff develop the resources necessary to create developmentally appropriate intentional learning experiences and activities to support both academic and social-emotional learning of school age children. Participants gain an understanding of key elements and developmental concepts that go into creating a framework for curriculum and develop strategies for activity and lesson planning. Part of the Alternative Pathway (15 hours)

Alternative Pathway Courses

The **Alternative Pathway** has licensing approval to meet entry level requirements for the position of program lead and combines the **Introduction to the School-age Care Profession** with **Guiding Children's Behavior in OST Programs** and **School Age Curricular Framework**. Additionally, the *Introduction to the School-age Care Profession* is recognized to qualify staff for the position of group leader.

Trauma-Informed Care Approach to School-Age Programs – Trauma is one of the key leverage points that can underlie serious behavioral health problems and contribute to problematic behaviors, life circumstances, and community consequences for many children. Participants will understand the wide spectrum of adverse childhood experiences and the impact these have on the development and behavior of children in afterschool care as well as understand brain development in early childhood through adolescence and the impact of trauma. Strategies and resources available to afterschool providers will be explored that can be immediately and effectively implemented within the context of the afterschool program. (15 hours)

Designing and Assessing Child Outcomes – This course is designed to provide 12 hours of training experience to help program staff understand the importance and benefits of focusing on child outcomes, how to identify and develop relevant outcomes, how to translate outcomes into effective program activities and document and evaluate the attainment of outcomes that support the positive development of each child. (12 hours)

Youth Mental Health First Aid – This course that is a skills-based training that teaches parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health and human services workers and any other citizen how to identify, understand and respond to an adolescent (ages 12-18) who may be experiencing a mental health or substance use challenge. (6.5 hours)

Positive Youth Development for Youth Work Professional – The 12-hour training is designed for independent learning, reflection, collaborative discussions, and live online sessions that provide participants with foundational information and best practices for implementing SEL into any OST setting. Participants will understand how to implement SEL tools in multiple OST environments, learn the importance of communicating these skills to staff and how to embed this learning into pre-service and in-service training. (12 hours)

***All courses are offered in a virtual format that combines independent work with live virtual meetings.**

For more information and to register visit:

<https://www3.uwsp.edu/conted/Pages/Wisconsin-Out-Of-School-Time-Alliance-Courses.aspx>