

Wisconsin Out of School Time Alliance (WOSTA) Course Calendar

2026 to 2027

July 2026						
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Aug 2026						
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Nov 2026						
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Jan 2027						
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Feb 2027						
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March 2027						
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April 2027						
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May 2027						
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June 2027						
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Course Key:

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

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. Fulfills initial Wisconsin DCF Chapter 251 requirement for group leader (assistant); part of the school-age program leader (lead) Alternative Pathway. (40 hours)

Introduction to the School-Age Care Profession is a self-paced, on-demand course. Register at any time, begin your work immediately, and work at your own pace. This course has rolling enrollment, and completions are pulled monthly to be added to the Registry.

Guiding Children’s Behavior in School-Age Programs - This hybrid course focuses on understanding personal behavior guidance styles and how they influence our interactions with children. It emphasizes relationship-building and introduces practical strategies for managing challenging behaviors and supporting youth in the development of self-regulation skills. Part of the Alternative Pathway (15 hours)

School Age Curricular Framework - In this hybrid course participants learn to design and implement intentionally designed programming tailored to Out-of-School Time (OST) programs. The course covers developmental principles, lesson planning, outcome setting, and the role of the environment in learning. 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.

Staff Supervision and Business Practices in School-Age Programs - This hybrid course is designed to equip Out-of-School Time (OST) program supervisors with essential skills for effective leadership and management. Participants will learn strategies for supervising staff, fostering a positive work environment, and implementing best business practices to enhance program quality. The course will cover key topics such as performance evaluation, conflict resolution, and financial management, ensuring that participants are well-prepared to handle the complexities of running school-age programs. (12 hours)

Youth Mental Health First Aid – This hybrid course is a skills-based training that teaches adults 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)

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

Trauma-Informed Care Approach to School-Age Programs - This self-paced, on-demand course introduces trauma-informed practices and explores how trauma affects child behavior and development. Participants learn strategies to create safe, supportive environments that promote resilience in Out-of-School Time (OST) programs. (15 hours)

Designing and Assessing Child Outcomes - This self-paced, on-demand course guides school-age program staff in developing and evaluating meaningful child and group outcomes. Participants will learn how to create SMARTIE-aligned goals, design activities that support those goals, and assess progress through effective documentation. The course emphasizes intentional planning and outcome-based programming to enhance child development in Out-of-School Time (OST) programs. (12 hours)

Positive Youth Development for Youth Work Professional - This self-paced, on-demand course explores the foundations of Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) as it relates to the Positive Youth Development Framework and its benefits for both youth and adults. Participants will learn how to integrate SEL practices into Out-of-School Time (OST) programs and provides practical strategies for fostering emotional intelligence and inclusion. (12 hours)

***Above-on-demand courses are offered in a self-paced online format. Registration closes on the 25th of each month, and participants begin coursework on the 1st of the following month.**

For more information and to register visit:

[Wisconsin Out of School Time Alliance - Continuing Education and Outreach](#)