

The Latest in OST With BOOST



COMING SOON TO OUR WEBSITE:

Quality Self-Assessment Tool

Quality Self-Assessment Tool

This past school year, many out-of-school time (OST) providers had to rethink, retool, and refocus their programming. But how did those changes affect the quality of your programs? During the month of May, we encourage you to take our confidential and free Quality Self-Assessment Survey to measure how well you integrated the seven characteristics of quality programs into your out-of-school time programming.

The online Quality Self-Assessment Survey is meant to help OST providers monitor the [quality characteristics](#) that gauge the program's ability to integrate appropriate structure, community involvement, skill building, safety, positive social norms, supportive relationships, and youth involvement into OST programming.

The results from this self-assessment will help providers measure their organization's current state and future progress at incorporating and providing programs with the positive youth development approach.

The tool will be available May 1- 28, 2021 on the BOOST Network website.

For any questions, please contact Enrique Garcia via email at egarcia@unitedwayelpaso.org.

Kids on the Go!



[Sun Metro](#) and [United Way of El Paso County](#) are offering free bus passes to youth enrolled in summer programs. This is a great benefit for your participants. Through the Kids on the Go! Initiative, youth ages 6 to 18, who are enrolled in a qualifying youth summer program are eligible to receive a free Sun Metro transportation pass. The pass is valid June 1 – August 31, 2021 and is available through eligible OST Providers.

In order for your OST program to qualify, you must be located in El Paso County, fill out an [interest form](#) through United Way of El Paso County, and attend an orientation session to learn the process for receiving bus passes. If your organization is interested, please email [BOOST](#), for more information.

Member Highlights & Activities

Nerd Nights: Getting Outside EP

Have you ever wondered what kinds of outdoor activities exist for your participants? Have you ever considered how you can make a difference in your local environment? Did you know there are several local organizations that work diligently on preserving open spaces so community members can continue to enjoy natural landscapes? Join [Insights](#) for this next [Nerd Night](#) to get the answers to all these questions, learn about volunteer opportunities, explore ways that you can contribute to scientific research and more! [Click here to register!](#)



Select Libraries to Reopen for In-Person Browsing

Starting Monday April 5th, select [El Paso Public Libraries](#) branches will reopen for in-person browsing with limited capacity and will feature self-checkout machines. Library staff will also be available for assistance.

More information can be found by [clicking here](#).



Kids Can 2021 Summer Camps

Join [Kids Can](#) in their Business Builders #lifeissweet Lemonade Stands summer camps. The camps can be attended virtually or in a hybrid setting. Register for their camps [here](#) and find references to their lemonade stand events on their [Facebook page](#).



Professional Development & Funding Opportunities



**national summer
learning association**

National Summer Learning Week

Mark your calendars, [National Summer Learning Week](#) is July 12-16, 2021! This nationwide celebration is dedicated to elevating the importance of keeping kids learning, safe, and healthy every summer and ensuring they return to school in the fall ready to succeed. This year, the [National Summer Learning Association](#) (NSLA) is bringing back [theme's](#) that your programs can use to highlight activities during the celebration, including instructions on [creating proclamation language](#) that your organization can use to encourage your local government officials to proclaim Summer Learning Day, Week or even Summer Learning Month in your respective communities. How will your organization participate?

NSLA also offers free webinars to help OST providers get ready for summer programming. Check out the [Voices of Summer webinar](#) series and register for one or both sessions that are scheduled for April.



Advancing Young Women in STEM Scholarships

Back in March, in conjunction with Women's History Month, [NMOST](#) announced a call for applications for the Fourth Annual Advancing Young Women in STEM Scholarships. This scholarship is designed to assist and encourage young women pursuing a STEM career by providing financial assistance. Applications are due May 28th and can be filled out electronically, [here](#).

Engaging Families: Live Virtual Workshops

The [Search Institute](#) is offering a live virtual workshop that focuses on how OST providers can make developmental relationships with families a priority in order to strengthen youth development. The four-hour workshop spans over two days with available dates in April and May. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

Connect with Us!

