



Evidence-based tools and guidance
for delivering effective programs

PLANNING & MANAGEMENT
ACADEMICS & ENRICHMENT
STAFFING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
SITE CLIMATE
STUDENT RECRUITMENT & ATTENDANCE

summerlearningtoolkit.org



GUIDANCE FOR TIP SHEET: **PROMOTING PARTICIPATION AND EXPERIENCE**

This document provides guidance on how to use the Promoting Participation and Experience tip sheet available in the Summer Learning Toolkit. You can also access the tip sheet in the Student Recruitment and Attendance section of the Toolkit.

What is the **PROMOTING PARTICIPATION AND EXPERIENCE** tip sheet and how can you use it?

The tip sheet was developed by The Learning Agenda to help program and instructional leaders plan and implement a program that appeals to students and families. It provides tips to market the program effectively, create a warm and welcoming environment, and meet the needs of families.

Why is student participation and experience important?

RAND's research found that strong program attendance (at least 20 days per summer) produced ongoing benefits for students. After the first summer, high attenders benefited in mathematics in the fall and on spring assessments. After the second summer, students with high attendance benefited in math and language arts and those benefits persisted throughout the school year. The research also found that programs with a warm, welcoming environment and high-quality interactions between summerlearningtoolkit.org 2 staff and students appeared to promote regular attendance. Therefore, ensuring that site leaders know how to cultivate such an environment is important to maximizing student participation.

Who can benefit from this resource?

- District program leaders
- School-based program leaders