

Back-to-School Resources & Events

The following is a compiled list of back-to-school supply giveaways and family events across Central Ohio and Franklin county. These programs provide essentials like school supplies, clothing, backpacks, and more to help families prepare for the school year.

Note: Each organization may have specific requirements, limited supplies, or unique eligibility guidelines. Be sure to reach out directly to confirm hours, availability, and registration details before attending.

CCS Announces 2025 Summer Events



Back to School Fair on August 16, 2025

Come to one of the largest back-to-school events in Columbus.

- **Date: Saturday, August 16, 2025**
- **Time: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**
- **Location: Fort Hayes Campus**
- **Free Parking: Columbus State Community College (250 Cleveland Ave, Columbus, OH 43215). Shuttle bus pick-up at Columbus State Community College Mitchell Hall. [Click here for parking map.](#)**
- **FREE backpacks, books, and school supplies. Over 100 CCS departments and community partners will be available to assist with back-to-school resources, including health screenings, home safety, after-school programs, and social service information.**

[Click HERE to Register for the CCS Back to School Fair](#)

Franklin County

FRANKLIN COUNTY SCHOOL SUPPLIES, CLOTHING AND MORE:

- **Franklin County Job & Family Services Back-to-School Initiative**
Offers up to \$750 per child for clothing, supplies, and more.
 [View program info](#)
- **Charity Newsies**
Provides clothing, shoes, winter coats, and uniform vouchers for K–12 students.
 (614) 263-4300
 charitynewsies.org
- **Alicia's Closet**
Free clothing, backpacks, shoes, toys, and baby gear for foster families; includes Comfy Kits and support groups.
 (614) 398-2203
 aliciasclosetcolumbus.org
- **Bloom Free Store**
Baby clothes, shoes, diapers, and wipes for children ages 0–3.
 Vista Church: 7343 Worthington-Galena Rd
 Faith Church: 2578 Sullivant Ave
 bloomfreestore.org
- **Canal Winchester Human Services**
School supplies, emergency aid, senior support, and food pantry services.
 (614) 834-4700
 cwhumanservices.org
- **Center for Groveport Madison Human Needs (CGMHN)**
Connects families with school supply distribution, lunch programs, financial aid, and job referrals.
 (614) 586-4017
 gmhn.org
- **Columbus City Schools Project Connect**
Helps homeless youth with school enrollment, transportation, and supplies.
 (614) 365-5140
 ccsoh.us/Page/10778
- **Columbus Dream Center**
Meals, after-school help, and seasonal support for underserved families.
 Short North: 38 W Greenwood Ave |  (614) 547-3138
 Hilliard Clinic: 4390 Reynolds Dr |  (740) 816-6955
 columbusdreamcenter.org

- **Common Ground Free Store (Delaware County)**
 Free clothes, shoes, hygiene items, toys, and meals—open to everyone.
 193 E Central Ave
 (740) 369-3733
 commongroundfreestore.org
- **Firefighters 4 Kids**
 Free holiday toys for children ages 0–12 in Central Ohio.
 (614) 633-5259
 firefighters4kids.com
- **Goodwill Columbus**
 Career coaching, youth programs, disability services, and thrift clothing assistance.
 Main: (614) 294-5181
 goodwillcolumbus.org
- **Muslim Family Services of Ohio**
 School supplies, ESL classes, seasonal meals, and resettlement support.
 4900 Reed Rd
 (614) 470-2848
 mfsOhio.org
- **Neighborhood Bridges**
 Connects families with clothing, food, and local volunteers.
 Branches in Big Walnut, Gahanna, New Albany, Pataskala, UA, Olentangy, Westerville, Worthington
 neighborhoodbridges.org/state/ohio
- **Neighborhood Services (NSI)**
 Provides backpacks, holiday gifts, and tax prep in select zip codes.
 (614) 297-0592
 neighborhoodservicesinc.org
- **NNEMAP Food Pantry**
 Weekly food, baby supplies, hygiene items, and holiday gifts.
 (614) 297-0533
 nnemappantry.org
- **One Dublin (Formerly Welcome Warehouse)**
 Supports Dublin school families with school supplies, holiday gifts, and emergency household aid.
 Call/text: (614) 726-6958
 one-dublin.org

FRANKLIN COUNTY BACK TO SCHOOL EVENTS (Below)

FRANKLIN COUNTY BACK TO SCHOOL EVENTS

- **Westerville Kids Fest**

 Thursday, **July 18, 2025** |  5:00–8:00 PM

 Westerville North High School, 950 County Line Rd, Westerville, OH

 Bounce park, mini golf, magician, balloon artist, giveaways, and free school supplies for the first 200 kids

 [Event details & registration](#)

- **Pickerington Kids Fest & Bubble Run**

 Saturday, **July 20, 2025** |  9:00 AM–2:00 PM

 Pickerington Church of the Nazarene, 11775 Pickerington Rd, Pickerington, OH

 Bubble run, carnival games, petting zoo, pony rides, and free school supplies for the first 200 kids

 [Event details & registration](#)

- **Columbus Back to School Bash & Fam Jam**

 Saturday, **August 3, 2025** |  12:00–3:00 PM

 Goodale Park, 120 W Goodale St, Columbus, OH

 Free pizza, bounce park, art zone, superhero meet & greet, magician, and school supplies for the first 700 kids

 [Event details & registration](#)

- **Vineyard Back to School Bash**

 Saturday, **August 10, 2025** |  11:00 AM–1:00 PM

 Vineyard Columbus – Pickerington Campus, 333 Jericho Rd, Pickerington, OH

 Free backpacks, school supplies, health checks, eye exams, bounce houses, and mobile food pantry

 vineyardcolumbus.org/events/back-to-school-bash

- **Powell Kids Fest & Bubble Run**

 Saturday, **August 10, 2025** |  9:00 AM–12:00 PM

 New Hope Church, 4739 W Powell Rd, Powell, OH

 Bounce park, mini golf, petting zoo, pony rides, magician, and free school supplies for the first 200 kids

 [Event details & registration](#)

- **Grove City Kids Fest**

 Thursday, **August 15, 2025** |  5:00–8:00 PM

 Grove City United Methodist Church, 2684 Columbus St, Grove City, OH

 Bounce park, carnival games, mini golf, petting zoo, pony rides, and free school supplies for the first 200 kids

 [Event details & registration](#)