Community schools (also referred to as full-service community schools) are increasingly recognized as a valuable strategy to improve educational outcomes for underserved students. There are about 8,000-10,000 community schools in more than 100 districts and cities in the United States. Implementation of the community school strategy benefits from blending and braiding public and private funding sources.

1. **Community schools are funded mostly through public sources** (e.g., federal, state, district, and municipal agencies) but **private sources are also important** (e.g., businesses, nonprofit organizations, and local and national foundations).

   2010 report indicates that **72%** of community school funding is from **public sources** and **28%** is from **private sources**.


2. State investment in community schools **is increasing and ranges from $3 million to $3 billion**; these allocations are authorized through state legislation and generally administered through competitive grants.

3. **Backbone organizations** such as United Way, Children’s Aid, and Communities in Schools assist some districts with mobilizing and coordinating community school funding.

4. Federal monies from at least **5 Title funds** (totaling an estimated **$18B annually**) can be used to implement and sustain **community school programs and services**. Additional federal funding sources include Medicaid and food/nutrition programs, among others.

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