

**Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase****Background/Instructions**

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**Background and Instructions**Background

Section 10-d of part A of chapter 56 of the laws of 2021, as amended by §5-b of part A of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, requires school districts receiving a foundation aid increase of more than 10% or \$10,000,000 to create plans on how these funds will be used to address student performance and need. These plans are required in advance of the 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24 school years. This is the final year that this requirement is in effect. Plans for the 2023-24 school year must be completed, submitted to the department, and posted to district websites by July 1, 2023.

Each district subject to this requirement is required to:

- Seek public comment from parents, teachers, and other stakeholders;
- Take public comments into account in the development of the plan;
- Include an analysis of public comments within the plan;
- Describe in the plan how the foundation aid increase will be used, including portions of the increase used to address the priority areas identified by law;
- Post the plan on the district website; and
- Submit the plan to the State Education Department in a form prescribed by the Department to be posted publicly.

This requirement does not replace any requirements under Contracts for Excellence. If your district is required to submit a contract for excellence, more information is available at this page.

The list of school districts that are required to submit a plan aligned with the increase in foundation aid may be found in the "*Foundation Aid Increase Notification Guidance*" memo located in the *Documents* library at the lower left of the application. It should be noted that this requirement does not obligate districts to spend additional foundation aid funds in specific ways, but does require district seek public comment and share plans on how they intend to spend these additional funds. Plans are required to cover only the foundation aid *increase*. The plan should *not* cover how the district intends to use its *entire* foundation aid amount. Describe in the plan how the foundation aid increase will be used, along with key goals, metrics, or ratios, and the community feedback reflected for portions of the increase used to address any of the following priority areas, as well as any additional areas identified by the district:

1. Increasing graduation rates and eliminating the achievement gap;
2. Reducing class sizes;
3. Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas;
4. Addressing student social-emotional health;
5. Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities; and students experiencing homelessness;

Instructions

- The *Foundation Aid Increase Survey* is due by July 1, 2023.
- Districts must complete all sections and are required to answer questions marked with a red asterisk. If a required question has not been completed, the business portal will highlight it in red and the section of the application will be flagged. The district will be unable to submit the application to NYSED for final review if a required question remains unresolved.
- The online application may only be submitted/certified by the chief school officer of the district. The designated superintendent or the chief executive officer, or board of trustees president are the only administrators with the submit/certify rights necessary to successfully submit and certify a completed application for NYSED review.
- Districts are NOT REQUIRED to send hard copies of survey materials to the Department.

**Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase**

## Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

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**Use of Foundation Aid Increase**

1. Please describe how the district plans to utilize funds provided by the foundation aid increase in the following priority areas.  
If these funds will not be used for one of the priority areas listed below, please respond with "N/A."

	Key Goals, Metrics, or Ratios (250 words or less)	Community Feedback Reflected (250 words or less)	New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$)
Increasing graduation rates and eliminating the achievement gap	Lyncourt is a K-8 District. Graduation rates do not apply.	N/A	0
Reducing class sizes	Lyncourt has consistent increasing enrollment. Our anticipated enrollment for the 2023-24 school year indicates a need to budget an additional a section in our primary grade level. Special education needs and more intensive service requirements also indicated the need for an additional Special Education teacher.	Community members are in support of maintaining current class sizes, and meeting needs of all students.	80000
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Lyncourt will use the foundation aid that has been released to us to afford our own Director of Technology and LAN tech for computer-aided instruction. Under frozen foundation aid the district has limped along for many years by sharing a DOT or obtaining part-time services for our student and staff technology needs through BOCES. The cyber security, compliance and student support has been lacking. We are thrilled to have this funding to have a full time DOT to enhance our technology and academic support resources. The funding of this DOT is a school wide enhancement. Tutoring set-aside also was included in the budget.	Community members expressed support of the new technology positions. Some cited vulnerabilities, including a recent cyber attack on a nearby BOCES (TST). These was also a feeling of need for more educational technology supports. The tutoring set-aside was seen as a requirement in the Governor's proposal at the time.	290052
Addressing student social-emotional health	The foundation aid increase was applied to several areas under the SEL heading. An increase of afterschool and summer programs, health services, SRO, as well as purchasing classroom supplies for students are all considered supports here.	The community feedback reflected strong support for these increases. Classroom supply purchases continue to be mentioned in positive light months after the budget vote.	98000
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Lyncourt has seen a steady increase to our ELL population over the past several years, increasing from 8% in 2017 to 15% in 2023. To support maintaining of required units of study, the increase of foundation aid funds will be used to hire an additional 0.4 FTE of ELL staffing for the district.	The community supports maintaining programs at the required level of services. With our ratios steadily climbing, this has been an annual change. The foundation aid increase will support this staffing increase and the community is in full support.	54000

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Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

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2. Please use the chart below to describe 'Other' priority areas not otherwise addressed in Item #1. Click on "Add Row" as applicable for additional priority areas.

Priority Area	Key Goals, Metrics, or Ratios (250 words or less)	Community Feedback Reflected (250 words or less)	New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$)
Facilities	It has been challenging to maintain a clean facility with inconsistent staffing in cleaning/maintenance. We are increasing our cleaners by 1.0 FTE to accommodate turnover and higher expectations for cleanliness. Additionally, we are initiating a new furniture replacement plan with the additional funding. There are many classrooms with out of date furniture and a steady replacement plan will ensure safe and functional furniture for our students.	During COVID, cleaning requirements and expectations from the community increased. Hiring a new cleaner will ensure we can meet those expectations. The community is also in support of maintaining safe and learning-friendly furniture for our students.	183,500
Reduction of Taxes	Appropriation of funds to reduce the levy on local taxpayers.	The community was in full support of this measure	184,654

**Use of Foundation Aid Increase (Cont.)**

3. Please describe your analysis of public comment from parents, teachers, and other stakeholders on the plan. This analysis should include the approach to outreach that was implemented and common recommendations or suggestions. For recommendations not reflected in the plan above, what limitations or rationale led to the decision to not include? (250 words or less)

This foundation aid spending plan was discussed with the 2022-2023 Budget Committee consisting of parents, staff, BOE and administration. Attendees were given opportunity to ask questions and provide comments, input. Board meetings related to budget were held January 10, February 14, March 14 and April 11. A public hearing was held during the budget vote process on May 9, 2023. The plan posted as part of our budget documents at public library, web and each building. Feedback from the Lyncourt community was consistently positive and supportive. The suggestion from Lyncourt parents specifically, was that there was no need for a Q&A to be added to the budget brochure and they were happy with the spending plan.