

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

Page Last Modified: 05/30/2023

Background and InstructionsBackground

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

Page Last Modified: 06/28/2023

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	The addition of new staff in Science and AIS/SPED supports the district's priority of reducing/eliminating the achievement gaps for our SPED and ELL students: 1. By adding a science teacher to co-teach with our SPED and ELL students, we aim to close the achievement gap with specially designed instruction. 2. By increasing staffing in AIS/SPED at the elementary level, we aim to close the achievement gap in ELA and math by tailoring small group instruction with the principles of the Science of Reading.	Please see below answers.	included below
Reducing class sizes	NA	NA	NA
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	District Priority #1: We will address instructional learning gaps and focus on increasing academic achievement for all students. Action: Add 1.0 AIS/SPED Teacher grades 3-6 Goal: 80% of students in grades 3-6 on or above grade level as measured by Dibels, iReady, daily classroom performance and NYS Assessments.	The administrative team engaged the staff in a needs assessment district-wide. Each district area or department completed a form designed to collect the information and these were then followed up by meetings with directors and teacher leaders. The admin team prioritized the needs, and in this case, focused on elementary students who were struggling in math and ELA. The superintendent presented the needs and the corresponding data to the Board of Education at Board meetings in February and March. The public was allowed to comment and provide their input during the public comment part of the board meetings either in-person or by email since the meetings were livestreamed.	\$70,000
Addressing student social-emotional health	NA	NA	NA
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	District Priority #1: We will address instructional learning gaps and focus on increasing academic achievement for all students. Action: Adding a 1.0 Science Teacher to co-teach with a special educator to meet diverse learning needs. Goal: This	The administrative team engaged the staff in a needs assessment district-wide. Each district area or department completed a form designed to collect the information and these were then followed up by meetings with directors and teacher	\$100,000

Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase

Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

Page Last Modified: 06/28/2023

	Key Goals, Metrics, or Ratios (250 words or less)	Community Feedback Reflected (250 words or less)	New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$)
	will provide high-interest, hands-on approach to learning, while also accessing the general education curriculum and meeting graduation standards.	leaders. The admin team prioritized the needs, and in this case, focused on secondary Special Education students. The superintendent presented the needs and the corresponding data to the Board of Education at Board meetings in February and March. The public was allowed to comment and provide their input during the public comment part of the board meetings either in-person or by email since the meetings were livestreamed.	

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 (\$)
(No Response)	(No Response)	(No Response)	(No Response)

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)

There was unanimous support for the increase in staffing in both AIS/SPED and Science (co-teaching with SPED teacher) as both provide support to struggling learners as we continue to close learning gaps exacerbated by the pandemic. The approach to outreach was effective as we were able to gauge feedback from various stakeholders. It was reaffirming that the stakeholders were in agreement on the usage of the increase in Foundation Aid.