

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.

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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	Increased graduation rate through creation of a learning lab to provide academic intervention to high school students, the addition of a middle school math intervention/enrichment class for all 6th grade students, and the addition of a Social Studies teacher to reduce class size, provide support classes, and enable teachers to provide more support to students working toward graduation requirements.	The community supported the addition of staff in these areas to assist with learning recovery following the pandemic.	503000
Reducing class sizes	Additional staff in a variety of subject areas including but not limited to World Languages, Math, and Science were hired at the high school to reduce class sizes.	The community supported reducing class sizes wherever possible to provide more individualized instruction for students.	363744
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Additional interventionists were hired and interventions provided to elementary students through the MTSS process and a math intervention teacher was added to the middle school to assist students who were not meeting state learning standards.	The community supported providing these intervention services.	483744
Addressing student social-emotional health	A school counselor was added at the elementary level to provide counseling and direct instruction in social emotional learning and self management strategies. A Social Worker was added to the middle school to assist with supportn gstudent social and emotional needs.	The community supported increasing clinical services for students impacted by the pandemic.	239224
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	We added 1.5 FTE of ENL teachers and created an ENL Coordinator to provide better oversight to our ENL program due to a growing number of students.	Administration and teaching staff raised this as a need as enrollment increased about 50%.	172000

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.

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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)**

Public feedback was sought through a variety of methods including use of Thought Exchange, Google forms, email notifications, posting on the website, discussion at Board of Education meetings, public comment at Board of Education meetings, inclusion in budget presentations and discussions/work sessions. All communication tools went to both staff and parents/community so all stakeholders could be engaged. On the whole, feedback reflected that the proposed expenditures demonstrated student centered investments that complimented our other programs. They felt the expenditures demonstrated sound stewardship and strategic thinking responsive to the needs of the community and families.