

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

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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.

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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	We plan to use approximately \$40,000 of this additional state aid to support our Academic Intervention Services programs in mathematics and reading which are designed to eliminate the achievement gap and increase graduation rates by providing all students with the literacy skills they need to master course content. This includes programs such as Read 180, Wilson Reading Program, the STRIVE program at the High School, Response to Intervention (RTI), AIMS Web Plus for mathematics and LETRS. We will provide professional development to teachers and staff in order to address eliminating the achievement gap and increasing graduation rates. Additional funds of \$200,000 are being used to purchase new Chromebooks for all Kindergarten students and replacing Chromebooks for seventh grade students..	We gathered input at a Stakeholders meeting through Zoom on May 23, 2023 at 11:30am, with invitations to union reps, parent associations and administration. Since that time our plan has remained unchanged in its programmatic and fiscal focus. No additional comments were received. We continue to gather input through email and in person communication with our stakeholders. As substantive revisions are made to the plan, we will formally solicit public comment.	\$240,000
Reducing class sizes	n/a	n/a	n/a
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Aside from the Academic Intervention Services programs mentioned above, we will be providing compensatory services to children with special needs who have suffered from the interruption of learning due to the pandemic. We will provide professional development to teachers and staff in order to address students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas. To date, there are several students with special needs who are on home instruction. They were unable to attend school due to their vulnerable medical state. Currently, we are still seeking appropriate instruction to enable them to engage in learning and behavioral supports We anticipate accessing approximately \$150,000 of the	We gathered input at a Stakeholders meeting through Zoom on May 23, 2023 at 11:30am, with invitations to union reps, parent associations and administration. Since that time our plan has remained unchanged in its programmatic and fiscal focus. No additional comments were received. We continue to gather input through email and in person communication with our stakeholders. As substantive revisions are made to the plan, we will formally solicit public comment.	\$150,000

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	Key Goals, Metrics, or Ratios (250 words or less)	Community Feedback Reflected (250 words or less)	New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$)
	additional Foundation Aid to pay for compensatory education for our most delicate student population being impacted by the pandemic.		
Addressing student social-emotional health	We plan to use approximately \$125,000 of the additional Foundation Aid we have been promised to continue to provide all of the services outlined above as necessary beyond the resources available through Title Grants, including but not limited to Mental Health Services, MissionBe, Responsive Classroom. We will provide professional development to teachers and staff in order to address social-emotional health.	We gathered input at a Stakeholders meeting through Zoom on May 23, 2023 at 11:30am, with invitations to union reps, parent associations and administration. Since that time our plan has remained unchanged in its programmatic and fiscal focus. A comment was received to request that offer this professional development to support staff as well as instructional staff. We continue to gather input through email and in person communication with our stakeholders. As substantive revisions are made to the plan, we will formally solicit public comment.	\$125,000
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	We plan to use approximately \$20,000 of the additional Foundation Aid received to provide additional services to English Language Learners and students with disabilities during both the summer academic support program and the regular school year program. This includes the PACT (Parents and Child Together) after-school literacy program for English Language Learners. We provide technology solutions to assist students with special needs and ELLS and are providing cellular hotspots for families in our community who do not have wireless access for \$1,000. We plan to use approximately \$30,000 to provide students with disabilities software and hardware that are determined by technical evaluators through PPS.	We gathered input at a Stakeholders meeting through Zoom on May 23, 2023 at 11:30am, with invitations to union reps, parent associations and administration. Since that time our plan has remained unchanged in its programmatic and fiscal focus. No additional comments were received. We continue to gather input through email and in person communication with our stakeholders. As substantive revisions are made to the plan, we will formally solicit public comment.	\$51,000

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 (\$)
Reduction of Tax levy	We plan to use \$700,000 to reduce the impact of the Tax Levy on the Community. this will reduce the impact of the tax levy on our homeowners as the taxes are the main source of revenue for the district.	We gathered input at a Stakeholders meeting through Zoom on May 23, 2023 at 11:30am, with invitations to union reps, parent associations and administration. Since that time our plan has remained unchanged in its programmatic and fiscal focus. No additional comments were received. We continue to gather input through email and in person communication with our stakeholders. As substantive revisions are made to the plan, we will formally solicit public comment.	700,000
Facilities Upgrades	We plan to use approximately \$1,220,237 to maintain and enhance district facilities and to cover unanticipated costs. In addition we plan to use this money to ensure the health and safety of staff and students	We gathered input at a Stakeholders meeting through Zoom on May 23, 2023 at 11:30am, with invitations to union reps, parent associations and administration. Since that time our plan has remained unchanged in its programmatic and fiscal focus. No additional comments were received. The community also had the opportunity to give input into the plans to improve and upgrade our buildings and grounds which plans were discussed at several board The community also had the opportunity to provide comment during public board meetings throughout the school year..We continue to gather input through email and in person communication with our stakeholders. As substantive revisions are made to the plan, we will formally solicit public comment.	1,220,237

Use of Foundation Aid Increase (Cont.)

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- 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)**

Stakeholders were invited to attend a meeting on May 23, 2023 at 11:30am via Zoom to review the the plan for use of additional foundation aid monies for the 23-24 school year. The stakeholders invited included representatives from our staff including members from administrators, teachers, custodians, bus drivers, food service,teacher aide/teacher assistant and clerical groups as well as parent groups. The session was open for comment .As the revenue side of the budget included the foundation aid, the voters/community members also had the opportunity to attend all board meetings at which the budget was discussed. The community at large also had the opportunity to comment at every board meeting relating to the budget. The budget meetings were held to review the districts proposed budget on February 16 , March 23 and April 18 as well as the boudget hearing held on May 4, 2023. The voters/community indicated their approval by voting affirmatively to pass the budget on May 16, 2023..