

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

---

Page Last Modified: 05/16/2023

**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

Page Last Modified: 07/02/2023

**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	N/A	N/A	N/A
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	N/A	N/A	N/A
Addressing student social-emotional health	A full time social worker was added to our high school to help meet the increased social emotional needs of our students.	This position was discussed during public board meetings and during the budget development process. This was also shared with the district advisory committee.	152935
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	An additional ENL teacher was added to next year's school budget. This individual will support both our elementary and middle school students.	Our intentions to hire this additional staff members was shared throughout our budget development process, including budget development workshops and public board meetings.	152935

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 (\$)
Collective Bargaining Agreements	Settle fair collective bargaining agreements with both our Civil Service and Teacher's unions. Salary increases are necessary to remain competitive and attract talented candidates to apply for open positions.	Collective bargaining laws prohibit public discussion regarding ongoing negotiations.	1,265,000
Health Care Cost	The district has experienced a rapid increase in our health care costs over the past several years. As we seek to increase employee contribution levels, the district must meet the escalating costs for health insurance.	The district has shared detailed information regarding the increased costs associated with health insurance. This information was shared during budget development workshops and during public board of education	450,000

**Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase**Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

---

Page Last Modified: 07/02/2023

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 (\$)
		meetings.	

**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)**

The district has renewed its commitment to engaging our entire school community. Each of our buildings has renewed their building steering committees, comprised of teachers, support staff, and parents. A district advisory committee was established and met throughout the school year, this committee was comprised of administrators, teachers, support staff, and parents from across each of our buildings. Surveys were shared with our staff and our committee seeking input on how funds should be allocated. Throughout the budget development process, small group workshops were offered to community members who wanted to participate in that process. Public board meetings and public comment periods also provided an avenue for the district to collect and share information regarding our projected spending plans.