

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	Continue to close the achievement gap by providing additional supports in the areas of a new K-5 writing curriculum, technology supports, curriculum review and building based substitutes	The community supported the improvements seen at Manor Intermediate School and requested similar efforts district-wide. There was also a request for additional academic supports	\$378,920
Reducing class sizes	The district projected an enrollment increase for the incoming Kindergarten class, which will be offset by the addition of a new elementary teacher	Universal support for an additional elementary teaching position	\$85,403
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Support varied student needs by providing students with summer tutoring, virtual tutoring support, teacher training and professional enhancements, teacher mentors, student enrichment opportunities and student interventions	Significant discussion throughout the budget process. The community supported increased student interventions and enrichment opportunities	\$648,987
Addressing student social-emotional health	Provide supports in the form of a new, district-wide universal screener, a district-wide float nurse, additional student support partners and participation in diversity, equity and inclusion practices	Community voiced concerns over student social-emotional health and requested additional district-wide supports	\$310,256
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Provide additional supports and resources to students through the funding of a 1.0 position to supports the PPS department, providing CSE support and increasing ENL support	Strong support from mental health community members and staff	\$127,370

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)

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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 held a series of public budget meetings between January-March 2023 where each school and department discussed their budgets, program and goals. During these meetings, principals and key school staff asked for input and feedback regarding the increased foundation aid and how it could be used to best support students. Members of the community, school board members and district staff engaged in open dialogue and question and answer sessions. After each meeting, feedback was provided to the school board and department leaders to help inform their budget decisions. Additionally, the District formed a Program Budget Advisory Council (PBAC). This group of community members met five times during the budget process. At each meeting, a separate school or program budget was discussed. The PBAC asked questions, provided feedback and collaborated with district leaders on the best use of our increased foundation aid dollars. In late March, the PBAC presented a report to the school board detailing their budget priorities. The board ultimately adopted a budget that included all of the PBAC recommendations, many of which are represented in the table above. Information about the District's budget process, timeline and public meetings was posted online, sent to the community via social media postings and through various district and school communications. The District also maintains an active budget webpage that makes all budget materials, presentations, goals and objectives, videos and recommendations available to the public.