

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	1. Address behavioral and academic obstacles for students in grades 9-12. 2. Provide a school within a school option for students that have had a history of chronic absenteeism for a variety of reason. 3. Fully implement an in-house summer school program from students in grades 9-12 to support learning and preparing for August Regents.	Community concerns with the perceived increase in behavioral issues; improving overall graduation rates; and addressing the need for alternative options for students with social-emotional challenges.	467,500
Reducing class sizes	1. Maintaining class sizes of 22 or fewer in grades k-2. 2. Maintaining class sizes of 25 or fewer in grades 3-5.	Maintaining smaller class sizes to address learning loss and behavioral issues.	274,500
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	1. Increasing access to academic intervention services in K-5. 2. Continued support for Middle School Instructional Teachers Leaders in all core content areas.	Address the learning loss through specific interventions and supports at the Tier 1 and Tier 2 level.	325,500
Addressing student social-emotional health	1. Providing school adjustment services to students identified as needing assistance at the k-5 level. 2. Provide increased access to a school social worker for students and families in grades 9-12.	Improve access to social-emotional supports for students in post-pandemic schooling.	119,000
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	1. Increase the options/supports in the district's continuum of services for SWDs. 2. Offset the out-of-district tuition costs for SWDs by creating an in-district program for k-5 students diagnosed with autism.	Improve access to general education curriculum for students in special education programs; provide additional co-teaching options in grade 6-12; and help address the growing population of students diagnosed with autism.	325,400

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 (\$)
Protecting student data; student	1. Strengthening our IT systems,	Strengthen our student data security	400,000

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Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

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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 (\$)
equipment replacement	security, network access.. 2. Replacement of obsolete technology (Chromebook). .	and maintaining the district's 1:1 Chromebook initiative.	
Implementation of International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program Frameworks	1. Faculty in grades 6-8 will continue to develop cross curricular units to ensure grade by grade alignment to Next Gen Standards using the MYP Frameworks.	A desire for students to be more involved with community projects.	91,300

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)**

A common theme across all stakeholder groups was maintaining our current levels of service and programming. Multiple presentations to the Board of Education were made in preparation for the development of our expenditure plan. This included four community forums where stakeholders were able to ask questions and provide feedback. Each presentation was posted to our district website with full access to all groups. Updated plans continued to be posted and reflect the feedback received from stakeholder groups.