

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	SJCSD intends to hire a Secondary Technology Teacher, which will provide more opportunity for career-focused pathways leading to more tracks for graduation	Yes, community feedback was sought. The Board reflected on this as part of the budget development process. (see analysis of public comment below).	83636
Reducing class sizes	SJCSD will retain 5 Teaching FTEs which were initially funded to address Learning Loss and will be funded through foundation aid once ARP federal funding is exhausted	Yes, community feedback was sought. The Board reflected on this as part of the budget development process. (see analysis of public comment below).	424449
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Recognizing increased need for student intervention in core subject areas SJCSD intends to hire and retain the following positions and curricular support products: 2 Elementary Math Specialists 2 Middle School FTEs for small group instruction or specialized instruction The purchase of and training/support with a new elementary math curriculum	Yes, community feedback was sought. The Board reflected on this as part of the budget development process. (see analysis of public comment below).	460034
Addressing student social-emotional health	Recognizing increased need for the student social-emotional and mental health support, SJCSD intends to hire and retain: 1 Elementary School Counselor .5 PIVOT Counselor Social/Emotional Programming and support to implement with students in grades PreK-12	Yes, community feedback was sought. The Board reflected on this as part of the budget development process. (see analysis of public comment below).	120221
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Add 1 Occupational Therapist Based on students' needs, SJCSD intends to increase some part time 1:1 aides to full time status Based on students' needs, SJCSD must plan for residential placement for students whose needs cannot be met in District	Yes, community feedback was sought. The Board reflected on this as part of the budget development process. (see analysis of public comment below).	534760

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 (\$)
Goals and ratios for pupil support	SJCSD intends to transition our school psychologists from ARP grants once federal funding is exhausted	Yes, community feedback was sought. The Board reflected on this as part of the budget development process. (see analysis of public comment below).	186,656
Other	SJCSD intends to transition the Human Resources and Grants Administrator once federal funding is exhausted Continue to support District operations Plan for and implement long-term District fiscal stabilization	Yes, community feedback was sought. The Board reflected on this as part of the budget development process. (see analysis of public comment below).	2,802,864

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 use of Foundation Aid and analysis of public feedback is part of the budget development process. This begins with principals and department supervisors reviewing needs with the Board and community during public planning sessions as part of the regular board meetings January - April. Budget development and Foundation Aid discussion took place on March 8, March 22, April 4, and April 17. All dates had public community forum for questions and comments on the budget development. The superintendent, business administrator, and board reviewed the considerations and any public comment made during these sessions. Additionally, the District created a dedicated email address for anyone wanting to ask questions about the budget. Feedback and comments were taken into consideration by the district and a final budget was presented at the Budget Hearing on May 8th. On May 9th all budget documents were posted to the District website on the Budget Information page covering the Foundation Aid increase and key budget ideas. The Foundation Aid plan summary is posted to the District website on the Budget Information page. The Foundation Aid increase was also included in the Budget newsletter. Data indicating the community input was heard was a positive voter turn out and the budget approval for 23-24.