

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	Reduce turnover of administrators through increased pay; Address chronic absenteeism through MTSS Tiered interventions training.	Find a way to hire effective, caring administrators and keeping them. Identify learning gaps. Compare with current curriculum. Align topics, texts and assignments.	\$100,000
Reducing class sizes	N/A	N/A	0
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	MTSS consultant work, training and development for all teachers Tier 1 and provide resources for Tiers 2 and Tier 3	trained. We have to streamline our data collection so everyone is on the same page. Providers want to collect data, they have not been trained on how to.	\$50,000
Addressing student social-emotional health	Incorporate a reward and recognition system/program into a PBIS framework for all students and staff that reinforces the values and attributes of the district. Purchase SEL curriculum and PBIS related resources, Purchase DESA and DESA mini conduct needs assessment at twice once per year	More focus on SEL at younger primary grades. The pandemic has had an outsized impact on mental health of students, staff and faculty and should be a priority.	\$50,000
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Hire 4.0 FTE Teaching Assistants, Hire additional 2.0 FTE Special education teachers, hire additional 0.6 FTE speech, training and PD for Instructional Coach, Teach curriculum	Need to integrate special education children into regular classrooms for more peer interaction	\$600,000

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.

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 (\$)
Community Connection	Develop a communication plan to improve communication with stakeholders including faculty and staff; to more effectively communicate and collaborate to improve student	Communication has been lacking parents shouldn't be the last to know. How can we better coordinate between the school and the larger community. A small school can have	0

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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 (\$)
	achievement; to inform parents of student progress and needs and supports available to them. Work with Building Leadership Teams to find ways to collaborate and involve parents more..	BIG ideas - but only if everyone's voice (all stakeholders) is encouraged and respected- not just formal leaders of titles.	

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 conducted an online survey of stakeholders utilizing Thought Exchange in March 2023. The comments were analyzed and three (3) priority areas were identified: 1. Academic Excellence. 2. Supportive Environment. 3. Community Connections. The district then held a meeting and invited all stakeholders. In May 2023, a mixed group of 30 stakeholders reviewed the priority areas and began the process of creating a list of proposed action items to meet these goals. This informed the goals and metrics listed above along with decisions and feedback from the NYS Education Department (Special Education), results of an Impartial hearing (Special Education) and NYS testing and other diagnostic testing data. Not all items such as Community Connections will be addressed with additional funding and will be addressed in low cost ways such as developing a communication plan and implementing it. all three areas will be reviewed next year and at that time, it will be considered whether or not to devote additional funding.