

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

Page Last Modified: 05/16/2023

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.

Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase

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	Additional staff will be hired including athletic trainer, bi-lingual elementary teachers, HS technology teachers, Special education Reading Specialist, Special education Teaching assistant, bilingual Special education teachers, 3 teacher aides, public relations staff member, director of student equity, 1/6th family consumer science teachers, summer curriculum, Occupational and physical therapy increases, SPED tuition, SPED BOCES, Conference SEL presenters, pool supplies (new program) lunch monitor, driver's education car for new program	Community feedback reflected full support of the planned use of funds	2,311,711
Reducing class sizes	Same as above- total \$ in first priority reflects this and subsequent priorities	Community feedback reflected full support of the planned use of funds	0
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Same as above and increase in residential placements for students	Community feedback reflected full support of the planned use of funds	570,000
Addressing student social-emotional health	Same as above	Community feedback reflected full support of the planned use of funds	0
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Same as above	Community feedback reflected full support of the planned use of funds	0

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 (\$)
Maintaining of existing staffing and programming	Each year, teacher salaries and other staff benefits increase. The district is	No negative feedback was encountered.	790,000

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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 (\$)
	committed to maintaining existing staff in order to provide students with adequate supports for optimal learning,		
Student Transportation and fuel	Support increased costs for standard student transportation to and from school	No negative feedback was encountered.	550,000
Settling of teacher's contract	maintain and increase teacher to student ratio	No negative feedback was encountered.	272,433
Prepayment of Debt Service	payment of debt	No negative feedback was encountered.	105,000
Reduction in tax levy	avert tax increases	No negative feedback was encountered.	109,302
Increase in fuel oil, cleaning supplies, maintenance supplies	maintenance of facilities and grounds, heating and cooling	No negative feedback was encountered.	341,000
Increase in health insurance	maintain staffing and contractual	No negative feedback was encountered.	465,250
SRO present at board meetings	to provide a safe place for board meetings to occur and encourage community involvement	No negative feedback was encountered.	10,223
Scoreboards	Fallsburgs sports programs continue to engage students at increasing levels.	No negative feedback was encountered	101,000
increases due to inflation and supplies	prices continue to increase and there is a greater demand for supplies	No negative feedback was encountered	1,284,585

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 Fallsburg Central School District provided four Budget presentations in the spring of 2023, which described the proposed use of the additional foundational aid. These presentations were (and are) available for review on the district website and were open to public comment until the budget vote in May. District residents voted to accept the budget, inclusive of this increase in aid. No other comments were received.

The link to the Fallsburg website with district budget information can be found here: Budget and Tax Information - Fallsburg Central School District (fallsburgcsd.net) https://www.fallsburgcsd.net/district/budget_and_tax_information