

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	Implement a balanced assessment system to provide timely and authentic feedback about student growth, instructional practices, interventions, and communication with parents.	The District held a public hearing on 6/14/2023 to gain community feedback on the use of the additional Foundation Aid.	7000000
Reducing class sizes	The district cannot reduce class size due to the history of failed budgets and the lack of increases in primary funding taxes. Also, the district has increasing enrollment.	The District held a public hearing on 6/14/2023 to gain community feedback on the use of the additional Foundation Aid.	0
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	The District will administer four cycles of the Renaissance Star Early Literacy, Reading and Math, the district-wide universal screener and benchmark assessment for K-8 students.	The District held a public hearing on 6/14/2023 to gain community feedback on the use of the additional Foundation Aid.	9658333
Addressing student social-emotional health	Ensure that staff meet with students and families to engage in two-way dialog about the student's academic and social emotional progress, using district-wide developmentally appropriate protocols to ensure consistency and coherence.	The District held a public hearing on 6/14/2023 to gain community feedback on the use of the additional Foundation Aid.	6000000
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Educate parents about how to access school and community resources that support family health and wellness, and behavioral and life success for students	The District held a public hearing on 6/14/2023 to gain community feedback on the use of the additional Foundation Aid.	7000000

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 New York State Education Department (NYSED) increased the amount of Foundation Aid the district will receive in fiscal year 2023-2024 by \$29,658,333, which is a 52.9 percent increase from the 2022– 2023 Foundation Aid allocation. Foundation Aid is the largest unrestricted aid category supporting public school district expenditures in New York State. The East Ramapo Central School District will use this additional Foundation Aid to support the goals and strategies of the district's strategic academic plan updated for public hearing on July 11, 2023, and Board of Education approval on August 1, 2023. The Long Term Strategic Academic and Fiscal Plan discrete action steps consider input from the community as obtained at the public hearing (6/14/23), recommendations from New York State Education Fiscal and Academic Monitors, and receives Commissioner approval. Specifically, the additional Foundation Aid will be used for the goals and objectives shown in Table I: Foundation Aid Goals and Strategies.