

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	Funds will be used to support the budget to fund various summer programs, after-school tutoring, and other academic programs, such as foreign language instruction. The increase in Foundation Aid will ensure that these initiatives will continue into future years.	The community has requested additional information regarding the use of such funds and is in support of funding after-school tutoring and summer support programs.	100000
Reducing class sizes	The district will use foundation aid funds to hire additional teachers with the intention of maintaining reduced class sizes at our elementary schools and increasing special area sections in art, music, and physical education.	The community has requested additional information regarding the use of such funds and is in support of reducing class sizes and increasing the number of special area sections.	225000
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Funds will be used to support the budget in funding additional AIS instruction and other academic programs, such as robotics. The increase in Foundation Aid will ensure that these initiatives continue into the future.	The community has requested additional information regarding the use of such funds and is in support of increasing AIS services and adding additional academic programs for students, such as robotics.	720000
Addressing student social-emotional health	The 2023-24 budget includes the funds to maintain and increase services that address the social-emotional health of students	The community has requested additional information regarding the use of such funds and is in support of using such funds to address the social-emotional health of students through after-school mindfulness clubs, partnerships with outside mental health providers/organizations, professional development for teachers and staff in responsive classrooms, and mental health classroom instruction	550000
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Funds will be used to hire full and part time staff to address the learning loss of students with disabilities and English language learners; support the private and public placement of students with disabilities; provide appropriate transportation as needed for special education students; and provide all necessary resources to maintain the educational requirements, mandated services, and advancement for all student	The community has requested additional information regarding the use of such funds and is in support of using funds to support students with special needs and English language learners.	485951

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	Key Goals, Metrics, or Ratios (250 words or less)	Community Feedback Reflected (250 words or less)	New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$)
	sub-groups.		

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 (\$)
NA	NA	NA	(No Response)

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 was provided feedback from parents, teachers, staff, and community members during the budget development season and at monthly budget and board meetings regarding the need for additional AIS support for borderline (at-risk of not meeting standards) students; reduction in class sizes; support for students with disabilities, ELL students, and students experiencing homelessness; and the need to address the social-emotional wellness of students post Covid. The district prepared its budget allocation of the additional foundation aid to address these areas, and will continue to re-evaluate such funding during the school year. The district maintains open lines of communications with all stakeholders in an effort to receive continuous input regarding these areas.