

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

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**Background and Instructions**Background

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	During a time of unprecedented uncertainty amidst the post COVID-19 pandemic, students need a higher level of support and guidance. As educators, we must identify how to effectively support students in this current state.	Our current graduation rate is 96%, but there is always room for further improvement. Inequities are being addressed, as noted by community input.	\$4,161,135
Reducing class sizes	No funds will be utilized in this area due to existing class size limits and the lack of available space.	NA	NA
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Developmental research finds that the presence of a caring trusted adult in a child's life contributes to engagement in school and resilience in the face of adverse circumstances. Strengthening bonds with students-and forging connections with those signaling they are at-risk. School staff will use creative, informal modes of outreach-students who struggle in school may have difficulty dealing with traditional schooling models. Schools must create innovative approaches to motivate student participation-online instruction of complex academic topics can be daunting and dull. Find ways to excite students to participate.	The community is supportive of our tradition of efforts to meet this need. While there are some community members who question costs, the predominance of opinion is supportive.	\$3,126,931
Addressing student social-emotional health	Programs will be developed to assist with increased social emotional student needs. Programs will be inclusive of music, art, physical education, cultural, outdoor, and academic areas.	The community is very supportive of our music and art programs. Sports is also considered to be a vital component of East Meadow Schools.	\$387,274
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	All SWD will be provided with the provisions of FAPE that coincide with the specific educational plan created for the East Meadow School District. Based on the design of each building (by grade level), our SWD will have equal programming. Funds will be used to hire additional ENL and AIS staff to assist with learning loss for ELL and students with special needs. This will occur both inside and outside of the	As our district becomes more diverse the value of these programs, and the value of diversity in general, will obtain more support. The community is in transition and there are descending voices.	\$250,000

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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 (\$)
	school setting. Examples include ENL K Readiness, ENL Family Nights and ENL Summer Camps.		

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 (\$)
Pre-K expansion	Identify vendors to seat 176 additional students	Pre-K is vital to parents for both educational and childcare purposes	1,200,000
Integrated Co-Taught Model and	Identify least restrictive environment for all students	Special Education parents are overwhelmingly in support of this program. There are some who do not yet support this change.	672,000

**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)

While consensus is difficult in our current paradigm, parents are concerned about meeting the needs of all students and preserving minimal increases in the local contribution to education. Pre-K has become a major program which has contributed to our increasing enrollment. Our ICT program has enabled us to better meet the needs of our students.