

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	The additional foundation aid will enable the district to help eliminate the achievement gap. The district budget includes: 1. During the 2020-21 and 2022-23 school years, the district refined the MTSS process to monitor and analyze student performance data to provide targeted supports in the area of reading and mathematics. In the 2023-24 school year, this work will continue and will incorporate additional work in writing. Next steps in writing will be based on an analysis of student work from the 2022-2023 school year. A comparative study will measure the effects of new curricular work on student achievement in writing. 2. Additional data collecting and analysis measures and services to identify target areas for remedial and enrichment instruction (i.e., NWEA,). 3. Instructional technology tools to support struggling learners, to provide for multiple pathways to learning, and support students with additional cognitive, developmental, and academic resources, applications, and devices for use at school and at home. (i.e., Chromebook replacement and applications).	Parents expressed a desire for the district to use a multi-tiered approach for student data analysis which aligns with the state standards. We will also be adding Linkit as data review and analysis. Teachers are confident the NWEA and other diagnostic tools are a valuable resource in evaluating and assessing student performance. Parents, teachers and administrators provided feedback on technology and use in the classroom. The uniformity of the 1:1 device is imperative to ensure all students have the same classroom experience. We are also replacing Smart Boards for greater reliability and access	944450
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	The additional foundation aid will enable the district to provide support to students who are not meeting and or at risk of not meeting the state learning standards in core academic subjects through a variety of means. The district budget includes: 1. Allocations for new math academic resources for students in grades K-5. The allocation also provides for intensive professional development for teachers aimed at addressing closing instructional deficits, and targeted, focused, academic	The district formed a committee to analyze math, writing and science resources for use in the classroom. The committee included parents, teachers, special education educators and other subject matter experts. Feedback was that classroom materials must foster broad thinking and problem-solving development. Feedback on professional development support was positive from community and staff.	326611

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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 (\$)
	interventions. 2. During the 2023-24 school year there are resources budgeted to support the writing curriculum using a Comprehensive Approach to Writing. There are also allocations for targeted professional development and other resources. 3. There are also allocations to support changes in the elementary science curriculum as the district continues to adapt to new science standards and prepares students for new exams in grades 5 and 8 and new Regents exams, use of instructional space, and expansion of classroom libraries including decodable books.		
Addressing student social-emotional health	The additional foundation aid enabled the district to direct more resources toward addressing student social-emotional health. The district budget includes: 1. During the 2020-21 school year, we added a partnership with Northwell to address ongoing mental health needs. For the 2023-24 school year, we will be continuing these services. These supports include expedited psychiatric evaluations for students and families in a friendly clinic atmosphere. Northwell will continue to provide extended clinical resources to families and schools, as well as provide individual counseling services. 2. A social emotional screener was purchased for all high school students and students on transitional grade levels. 3. The district used ARPA grants to fund an additional social worker. This expense has been moved to the general fund budget and will continue for the 2023-24 school year.	Feedback from parents and clinicians has been excellent. Parents share that the facility and services are friendly, inviting, professional and well received by our students. Feedback from students and staff on SE screener has been very positive. Students appreciate that we consider their mental health and staff finds it valuable information.	246758
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	The additional foundation aid will enable the district to provide additional resources to special education students. The district budget includes: 1. This aid allows the district to expand our continuum of services to special education students. 2. Assistant Director of PPS moved to a 12-month employee. This allows for the assistant	Parents, staff and teachers comment that our increased staffing with administrative support, psychologists and other clinicians has been invaluable to student success	193000

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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 (\$)
	<p>director to work over the summer which will provide better coordination for the upcoming school year. This is a valuable resource for parents as they plan to transition their child to the next school year.</p> <p>3. The budget also has an allocation for additional nurses on buses to ensure educational access and health monitoring for our neediest students. 4. There is an allocation to fund Redcats for our classrooms to aid with student engagement for students with disabilities. This sound amplification system improves all students' abilities to hear and access instruction. It is especially vital for students with disabilities.</p>		

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 (\$)
Security	<p>The additional foundation aid will enable the district to increase our focus on safety and security: 1. The district has allocated funds for 7 Supervisory Aide positions to assist with security and safety in each building. These staff members all have a background in law enforcement and are key participants in carrying out the district's safety plan. 2. There is an allocation to replace a security vehicle and increase camera coverage throughout the district.</p>	<p>Parents, staff and teachers have provided positive feedback on the increased security measure in the district. The safety measures help foster an environment where students can be ready to learn and engage with their peers</p>	703,735

Use of Foundation Aid Increase (Cont.)

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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 plan items stated above were discussed at the Board of Education Meetings on February 13, 2023, March 14, 2023, March 21, 2023, and April 18, 2023.