

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

Page Last Modified: 05/17/2023

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

Page Last Modified: 06/28/2023

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 District maintains a variety of Regents and AP academic supports at the high school level and math and ELA academic supports throughout the school day for eligible students. The District continues to operate an academic summer school program for grades 9-12 to assist with addressing academic needs and learning loss due to the pandemic.	No community feedback received.	2398397
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 District continues to operate an alternative learning program which allows for students who are not meeting or at risk of not meeting standards to continue their educational requirements in a setting that allows them to maximize their learning. Due to the increasing volume of students utilizing this program, the District plans to add a teaching assistant to support this program. The District funds the costs of salaries and benefits for staff directly responsible for implementing the RtI program.	No community feedback received.	326975
Addressing student social-emotional health	The District offers an assortment of clubs in an effort to support a variety of new, well-rounded, and accelerated learning and experiences. These clubs allow students to continue their learning in areas of interest while interacting with other students and staff.	No community feedback received.	355744
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	The District continues to operate summer education programs for English language learners as well as students with disabilities. These programs include daily education, field trips and activities designed to enhance student learning and address learning gaps. The District continues to fund a stipend for the homeless liaison, who acts to assist families experiencing	At the 3/21/23 Public Budget Forum, a community member asked: Will the District use Foundation Aid funds to hire additional special needs staff due to increased need?	109610

Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase

Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

Page Last Modified: 06/28/2023

	Key Goals, Metrics, or Ratios (250 words or less)	Community Feedback Reflected (250 words or less)	New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$)
	homelessness to provide support and resources needed. The District also intends to increase FTE's in HS Science and Elementary programs to support the English language learners.		

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 (\$)
N/A	N/A	N/A	0

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)

Budget presentations made to the public, district leadership team and PTA included the requirements of the foundation aid survey, including the obligation to seek public comment. Presentations were made on March 16, March 21, March 28 and April 19. In addition, the requirements of the foundation aid survey were posted to the District website on the Budget Development Page. <https://www.hewlett-woodmere.net/Page/13336> All presentations and the requirements posted on our website included an email address for any stakeholders to provide feedback.

The only public comment received from a community member refers to special education staffing as referenced above. District response: We continue to monitor the needs of our special education students and will provide the appropriate supports as required.