

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	N/A	N/A	N/A
Reducing class sizes	N/A	N/A	N/A
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Additional teacher staff focused on literacy, reading and math in conjunction with the additions of evaluative technology enhancing the District's assessment, intervention and learning capabilities.	None Received	1021247
Addressing student social-emotional health	Maintenance of staff, social workers and psychologists. School resources officers will be retained. The SRO's have become vital links to students and established strong relationships within the school community.	None Received	1891990
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	N/A	N/A	N/A

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 (\$)
Support for Students with Disabilities	Additional special education programming at the elementary and middle school levels, creation of district level assessment team.	None Received	1,343,969
Support for Students with Disabilities	Additional tuition to public and private schools for outplacement tuition, supporting the specific needs of students with disabilities.	None Received	2,246,400
Building environment, health and	Needed building and vehicle repair,	None Received	1,097,933

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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 (\$)
safety	maintenance and equipment. Improved HVAC controls. Cellular signal boosters to improve communication access.		

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 established an email link to take public comment in April, 2023, which still is in effect as of June 26, 2023. The budget presentation of April 18, 2023 detailed the Foundation Aid Increase Plan as required and promoted the email address for public comment. This was reiterated at the May 2, 2023 budget hearing, again promoting the public comment through the email address. No public comment was received concerning the Foundation Aid Increase Plan.

Internally, the Foundation Aid Increase Plan was formulated via budget discussion and prioritization involving teachers, building leaders, instructional leaders and department heads working to continue to address the impact of pandemic related social emotional, academic and environmental, combined with a series of public presentations at Board of Education meetings. Priorities addressed with the additional Foundation Aid funding include: addition of 6 new special education self contained programs with related services support, creation of additional special education administrative support for the expanded programming and a district wide assessment team to deploy resources equitably, maintenance of mental health staff including social workers, psychologists and school resource officers based on identified needs, additional teaching positions to address focused efforts on literacy and math, and needed environmental upgrades to the building sttings.