

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 key goal is to improve the outcomes for struggling learners. The district will use a universal screener to identify students in need of support services in reading and math. The district will use benchmark assessments 3 times per year to evaluate student progress of those receiving services.	Agreed	\$211,912
Reducing class sizes	The key goal is to maintain small class sizes by not reducing the number of sections we currently have in place. The average class sizes for K-6 range from 15-23 students per class.	Agreed	\$478,967
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	The key goal is to improve the outcomes for struggling learners. The district will use a universal screener to identify students in need of support services in reading and math. The district will use benchmark assessments 3 times per year to evaluate student progress of those receiving services.	Agreed	\$514,375
Addressing student social-emotional health	The key goal is to help students build social-emotional skills like nurturing positive relationships, managing emotions, and setting goals so they can thrive in school and in life. The District will implement Second Step Curriculum and will provide lessons for all classes across the district via the Social Worker and School Counselor. The district will provide behavior intervention services by hiring a BCBA for each school. The key goal is a reduction in the number of referrals and need for 1:1 aides based on the success of behavior intervention plans through consultation with the BCBAs.	Agreed	\$439,996
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing	The District will hire 2 BCBA's. The key goal is to provide more immediate and direct support for students with disabilities	Agreed	\$222,094

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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 (\$)
homelessness	with behavioral needs. The District is also creating a new 8:1:2 class to support students with Autism and is adding a resource room as an appropriate option for added support. The District is providing professional development for classroom teachers and ENL teachers with a key goal of providing strategies for improving outcomes for multi-lingual students. The District is also implementing a new mass communication system with a key goal to support translations for all communication in every language to support our multi-lingual families and will develop a specific curriculum units of study for multi-lingual students.		

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 (\$)
(No Response)	(No Response)	(No Response)	(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 took several measures to ensure all stakeholders understood and provided feedback the Foundation Aid and the use of funds. The Central Administrators discussed this at length during several Strategic Planning Committee Meetings, during the budget development process, through our monthly PTA council meetings, and finally via a survey that we put out to the community. Recommendation and suggestions were taken into consideration when developing the plan. There are no recommendations that were not reflected in the plan above. There were no limitations to the feedback provided.