

**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	Our district will address the achievement gap and increase graduation rates by providing academic assistance after school each day. Students of all grade levels will have access to certified teachers who will provide assistance in all subject areas.	All stake holders feel that students need academic support. Many caregivers feel that they are unable to understand the materials or how the homework is to be completed. They feel lost when the students ask for help. Having access to a certified teacher to provide them with assistance is a great resource .	21000
Reducing class sizes	Our district will use Foundation Aide funds to reduce class sizes in k-2 grades. We will split the classes in half to enable the teaching staff to provide more one on one time and attention to our students in the critical years at the beginning of their educational journey.. Over the past few years our district has noticed that our students are not as educationally mature as they were in the past. We do provide a half day PreK program that does help prepare our students. It is felt that reducing the class size, as well as providing a shared Teaching assistant in these grade levels we will ensure that the students are being provided the time and attention that are required to learn the materials that they are being taught and retain the information to help them become successful students as they build their educational foundation.	Our stake holders have expressed their concerns regarding the class sizes in the aforementioned grade levels. It is felt that the more direct one to one interactions that students have with the teaching staff the more successful they will be. A reduction in class size will allow our teaching staff to have a greater impact on our students.	246000
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Our district will use designated Foundation aid funds to address student inability or risk of not meeting state learning standards by utilizing a Curriculum coordinator as well as a data consultant. The Curriculum Coordinator will work closely with teaching staff as well as the data consultant to drill down into our test scores from previous years and the standards that are being taught	Our stake holders have expressed their concerns regarding our students that are at risk for not meeting the state learning standards. They are afraid that the students will fall further behind each year that they are unable to master these standards. Our district will employ a Curriculum Coordinator to assist teachers and Data Consultant to help identify areas of weakness and assist the teaching staff with addressing the areas that require additional work. The Curriculum Coordinator will also	71000

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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 (\$)
		ensure that our teaching staff fully understands the standards and are teaching them in an effective manner.	
Addressing student social-emotional health	The district will use designated Foundation Aid funds to address our student's social emotional health by providing a prevention counselor in the building full time. The counselor will be available to serve students in grades K-12 as needed. The counselor will provide prevention counseling to students regarding current student needs. They will also provide push in education pertaining to mental health issues, self-esteem, self-awareness, peer relationships and psychosocial education.	Our stake holders as well as our board members, teaching staff and administration have expressed their concerns regarding the impact that the isolation of COVID has had on our students and their social emotional health. It is felt that our student are not as mature socially as they were prior to the shut down because they were unable to have face to face contact or relationships outside of their homes. This caused a lack of the ability to maintain healthy social relationships and navigate the social emotional aspects of everyday life successfully.	45000
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	The district will use designated Foundation Aide funds to assist in funding a classroom designated to address our students with disabilities. The students with the most significant needs will have this classroom as a resource to meet their educational and social emotional needs in a more suitable environment. This classroom will help assist the aforementioned population with educational, behavioral and life skills as needed based upon their specific disabilities and IEP/504.	Our stakeholders in the community as well as our board members, teaching staff and administration feel that this classroom will be beneficial for students in our community and will also serve students from surrounding areas. It is imperative that we meet the students needs in the least restrictive environment as well as a classroom that can offer the intensive support necessary for this population to thrive.	48000

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 (\$)
Provide after school programming for students in grades 4-6	Our stakeholders feel that our students in middle grade levels such as 4-6 would benefit educationally, socially and emotionally from receiving some for of after school programming geared	Our stakeholders feel that our students need to have more academically challenging fun activities offered after school to help them academically and socially.	8,711

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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 (\$)
	towards Math and Science. It is felt that we should try to interest our students in Math and science at an early age to help the find interest in fun learning activities that keep them stimulated and provide them with critical thinking skills.		

**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)**

A meeting was held with administrators, business manager, a community member and staff from each building level as well as the IT coordinator. The meeting was to discuss the cocerns that our distriuct has regarding the aforementioned issues. The IT coordinator presented the attendees with the compilation of data from the survey that was sent to parents via Parent Square. Administrators also discussed the board members concerns that had been discussed. The plan that our district has set in place directly reflects the information that was discussed and the best plan moving forward to address these concerns. The common recommendations were utilizing our staff to the best of their ability. Our district will be doing so with providing after school help and also with the planning and implementation of the recommndations of our Curriculum Coordinator. The foremost concern was addressing learning loss and filling the educational gaps that we noticed since the shut down. We feel that the plan that we have will have a positive impact in bridging these gaps.