

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 district will provide instructional support based on an MTSS Framework of varying levels of intensity and duration, based on student need to increase graduation rates and eliminate any achievement gaps.	The community and stakeholder feedback was received as part of the Board of Education and Curriculum Committee presentations and discussions. Stakeholder input indicated support for this initiative.	256145
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	Academic Intervention Services are provided to all students who are identified at risk. These services are provided 2-3 times per week based on targeted student needs gleaned from multiple measures of formative and summative assessments. The District is implementing a MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports framework (MTSS) to provide a graduated process of interventions.	The community is in support of utilizing funds to support programs and services targeted to addressing learning gaps and ensuring the needs of all learners are addressed.	683054
Addressing student social-emotional health	Social emotional well being continues to be identified as a priority. The District will continue to provide support to students through Pupil Personnel staff, inclusive of Social Workers and Psychologists. In addition, we are expanding our wellness and mental health offerings and restorative practices programs across the district.	The community is in support of utilizing funds to address the social emotional well being of students.	426909
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	The District will continue to provide adequate resources to our growing population of English Language Learners, Special Education population and students who are experiencing homelessness. Integrated Co-teaching, resource room and models that support the least restrictive environment are in place. An additional ENL teacher has been placed at the elementary level to maintain class size limits optimal for effective instruction. Analysis and review of programming, resources, and staffing are done on an on-going basis to ensure the needs of our most vulnerable populations are being met.	The community is in support of utilizing funds to provide resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students who are experiencing homelessness.	341526

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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)

During the budget process, the District held public discussions regarding the increase to foundation aid and how to best utilize the additional funds. There have been several Board of Education presentations and opportunities for public comment and discussions. Stakeholder comments and input have been aligned with the District's overall purpose of addressing the needs of the whole child, academically and emotionally. This is inclusive of additional staffing to maintain effective ratios of teacher to student, maintenance of class sizes, additional courses to explore pipelines to career options, dual language programs and adequate resources to improve and enhance teaching and learning across the district.