

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	Ensure the district is supporting the increased interest in Career and Tech Education (CTE) by increasing the number of paid slots for HS students. (19-20 there were 24 students, 20-21 there were 31 students, 21-22 there were 59 students, and this year 61 students participated in a CTE program. We had 100% of the CTE program concentrators graduate in 2022. There has been an increase in Alternative Education enrollment. The district will continue to support enrollment for students who are at risk and require a different program to assist them earn a diploma.	There was a BOE update from the counselors in June 2022 outlining the increased number of participation. Feedback from the BOE was to continue to provide funds to support CTE programs. Community also has shared their support for these programs offered by BOCES. In a survey to the community in March 2022, about 72% of families reported that the district provides assistance for students who are struggling to achieve. A comment from a respondent was	465775
Reducing class sizes	Four full time instructional aides are funded to provide student support in Kindergarten and 1st grade classrooms.	The community never mentioned class sizes or the need to make adjustments.	74600
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	There has been an increase in Alternative Education enrollment. The district will continue to support enrollment for students who are at risk and require a different program to assist them earn a diploma. Three times a year, teachers in grades 2-8 will administer a Diagnostic Screener (math and reading). Increase in summer school staff and support staff for students K-6. We added Physical Education and teaching assistants to support students over summer. Increase opportunities for students to access courses from Accelerate U. From 2013-2016 there were only 6 students who took an online course. From 20-23, we have had about 60 students participate and complete an Accelerate U course.	In a survey to the community in March 2022, about 72% of families reported that the district provides assistance for students who are struggling to achieve. Feedback from parents is that having many options is helpful. Screening data assists with cut off scores for academic support. Elementary summer school assists with regression. Accelerate U is an option for those who have packed schedules or need flexibility with course completion. A comment from the community,	203920
Addressing student social-emotional health	The district will purchase new resources to support students' well-being and engagement which will be utilized by staff. Also, the staff will continue an annual well-being screening of our 3-12 students to	In the March 2022 survey, 68% of respondents reported that the district provides students with social and emotional support. Additionally, there were presentations to the BOE regarding	37660

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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 (\$)
	determine strengths and areas of support. Continue to provide Tier 1 social-emotional instruction to all students and additional Tier 2 and Tier 3 supports and resources to students in need of more intensive remediation. Continue to support our growing Fine Arts program by funding an Orchestra teacher Addition of modified lacrosse Lastly, there will be a new contract with the Council on Alcohol and Substance Abuse (CASA).	students' reflection of their well-being and the BOE commented on continuing to support students in this area.	
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Support release time for ESOL teachers to plan and review data with each other and co-teachers. Increase professional learning opportunities for Special Education teachers and ESOL staff. Lastly, provide adequate resources such as language supports, to our ELL and their families.	The community commended on communication with families whose primary language is not English. There were not any surveys in Spanish completed.	5000

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 (\$)
School Safety	Employ a full time School Resource Officer and the addition of full time network specialist.	There were 86 open ended comments from the March 2022 survey and safety and security was mentioned as an important area of improvement. Technology was a focus area and turned into a Strategic Planning Goal area. Community identified with the increase in 1:1 devices and technology, an additional staff member is necessary to support this focus area.	153,906
Adequate Resources for Students with Disabilities	Continue to staff the elementary special class to meet the unique needs of our students with disabilities who would otherwise be placed out of district. This year we had over 10 high need students enter our district and	Comments about special education were shared. One was	155,862

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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 (\$)
	some were already participating in out of district placements. These unplanned expenses are challenging to prepare for since they are not part of the budget.		

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 shared a community survey that was developed and scheduled to be shared from March 1 - March 25, 2022. The District ended up keeping the survey open for extra time. This survey to the community was to assist the District with pinpointing focus areas. The survey was widely advertised online, hard copies were made available for residents in different ways and at different venues. The survey was also available in Spanish. Then the District conducted an "exit poll" on the day of the Budget Vote in May 2022 to get feedback regarding the focus areas of financial support, communication, social and emotional support, and college and career preparation.

A subcommittee of staff, students, parents and community members reviewed the survey results to develop recommendations for the Strategic Planning Committee as well as for determining how to allocate funding. In July 2022, the community and staff were invited to be a part of work groups with focus areas scheduled for 8/29/22 and 8/30/22.

Additionally, this year, the District added a link to the Linkages this school year to gather input for the district to review the plans and consider revisions. We encourage all stakeholders to review the current plans and applications and provide feedback at any time. The LEA continues to collect public comments through thought exchanges and surveys to ensure all stakeholders have a voice into revisions and adjustments to the plans.