

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	Farmingdale schools will continue to ensure that our students have multiple pathways to graduation. We are committed to recognizing the needs of our students and helping all students succeed no matter what their academic path. Funds will be used to support the budget to fund various summer programs, Academic Intervention Services and other academic and support programs (ie. FHS LAUNCH and PREPARE programs).	As part of the 2023/24 budget process, we included in our presentations and discussions our plans for the additional foundation aid. Community members were provided with opportunities to ask questions regarding our use of foundation aid. Additionally, a ParentLink message was sent out to the community in a timely manner allowing the community 10 days to provide feedback.	482600
Reducing class sizes	When compared to neighboring districts Farmingdale's class size is comparable across grade levels. Farmingdale Schools will continue to ensure that our class sizes are comparable with neighboring school districts to maximize student performance. Funds will be used to maintain current staffing needs which aims at reducing the pupil to the teacher ratios resulting in reduced class sizes.	As part of the 2023/24 budget process, we included in our presentations and discussions our plans for the additional foundation aid. Community members were provided with opportunities to ask questions regarding our use of foundation aid. Additionally, a ParentLink message was sent out to the community in a timely manner allowing the community 10 days to provide feedback.	1363313
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Farmingdale schools will continue to use student centered, creative and innovative approaches to ensure students are motivated and feel a sense of belonging to their school community. Funds will be used for maintaining staff for academic support and summer programs district-wide. Key areas of focus include special education and ENL.	As part of the 2023/24 budget process, we included in our presentations and discussions our plans for the additional foundation aid. Community members were provided with opportunities to ask questions regarding our use of foundation aid. Additionally, a ParentLink message was sent out to the community in a timely manner allowing the community 10 days to provide feedback.	1763023
Addressing student social-emotional health	Funds will be used to continue our partnership with Northwell Health for community embedded behavioral health urgent care centers, to provide training and support for building administrators around supporting the Social Emotional Learning needs of all our students and continue to support our restorative justice program at Farmingdale High School.	As part of the 2023/24 budget process, we included in our presentations and discussions our plans for the additional foundation aid. Community members were provided with opportunities to ask questions regarding our use of foundation aid. Additionally, a ParentLink message was sent out to the community in a timely manner allowing the community 10 days to	532500.0

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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 (\$)
		provide feedback.	
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Funds will be used to support the current staffing and program initiatives. During the past several years, the district has noticed a dramatic shift in the needs of our students, specifically in the areas of special education and mental health related services. The additional state funding is being utilized to meet these growing student needs via instruction and instructional support salaries, professional services, and instructional supplies.	As part of the 2023/24 budget process, we included in our presentations and discussions our plans for the additional foundation aid. Community members were provided with opportunities to ask questions regarding our use of foundation aid. Additionally, a ParentLink message was sent out to the community in a timely manner allowing the community 10 days to provide feedback.	1888105

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)

A ParentLink notification was sent out with a link to a Google Form asking for feedback on the district's DRAFT 2023/24 foundation aid plan. The district reviewed responses to the Google Form. Recommendations included utilizing the additional funding for social/emotional support for students, additional support for students who are not meeting or are at risk of not meeting state learning standards and maintaining smaller class sizes. The district plans to allocate the additional funding towards maintaining and hiring instructional staff and instructional support staff, as well as, additional contracted and BOCES services in order to implement these recommendations. The decision was made to focus on recommendations that align with concerns that are a result of the pandemic.