

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	For the 2023-24 school year the District is able to maintain sections of universal preK as a result of the additional foundation aid funds.	Throughout the year the District hears from parents, teachers, administrators, Board of Education members and other stakeholders via phone, in-person and virtual meetings and incoming and outgoing emails. These items have been discussed publicly during our budget process this year. The District has been providing in-district prek for several school years and has seen the benefits for students in K-6. The community and parents have increasing expressed interest in this program.	150,000
Reducing class sizes	An additional classroom teacher will be hired to reduce class size in kindergarten.	Throughout the year the District hears from parents, teachers, administrators, Board of Education members and other stakeholders via phone, in-person and virtual meetings and incoming and outgoing emails. The addition of a classroom teacher was publicly discussed at budget workshops, the budget hearing, PTA meeting and public Board meetings. Stakeholders also reached out via email and phone call conversations.	119,400
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	The District will provide evidence-based strategies to support students who are not meeting or are at risk of not meeting state learning standards. Various supports will be added, expanded or continued such as academic intervention services, professional development for teachers, outside consultants, new core curriculum and integration technology into curriculum.	Throughout the year the District hears from parents, teachers, administrators, Board of Education members and other stakeholders via phone, in-person and virtual meetings and incoming and outgoing emails. These items have been discussed publicly with the community during our budget process and with the PTA this year. Teachers and parents expressed that these services have been beneficial to student success.	486,800
Addressing student social-emotional health	The District will expand mental health support services and professional development to continue to support student social and emotional needs.	Throughout the year the District hears from parents, teachers, administrators, Board of Education members and other stakeholders via phone, in-person and virtual meetings, incoming and outgoing emails and CSE meetings. The District works closely with parents, mental health providers, teachers	120,330

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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 (\$)
		and other service providers to provide appropriate support for students and their social-emotional health needs.	
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	The District will be adding additional special education, ELL, occupational therapy and speech services to provide additional support to ELL students and students with disabilities.	Throughout the year the District hears from parents, teachers, administrators, Board of Education members and other stakeholders via phone, in-person and virtual meetings, incoming and outgoing emails and CSE meetings. The District works closely with parents, teachers and service providers to provide appropriate resources for students with disabilities. The resources needed to service these students has increased. The addition of special education staff was publicly discussed at budget workshops, the budget hearing, PTA meeting and public Board meetings. Stakeholders also reached out via email and phone call conversations. Additionally, the district also heard from parents through the CSE process. As a result, for 2023/24, the District will be adding additional resources to meet the needs of ELL and special needs students.	296,700

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.)

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- 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 analyzed public comments received from parents, teachers and other stakeholders. The approach that was implemented included presentations during budget workshops, the budget hearing, PTA meetings and public Board meetings regarding the growth in enrollment and in the number and cost of providing services to special needs and ENL students. These meetings included opportunities for the public to address the Board and administration regarding the need for the proposed increases. The District also received feedback during phone calls from parents and other stakeholders, PTA and other community meetings and emails received. The analysis of these public comments was a factor in decision making regarding the additional kindergarten section for 2023/24 and additional resources to address the needs of general education, ENL and special needs students was a common recommendation from the public. As a result the additional Foundation Aid will be used by the District to increase teaching staff to address the needs of our students related to class size, AIS services, ENL and specials needs while continuing to maintain and increase all other programs and staffing.