

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	N/A	N/A	N/A
Reducing class sizes	N/A	N/A	N/A
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Goal: To increase the use of data through screening assessments in order to identify priority standards. Metric: To ensure one Tier 2 and 3 AIS teacher support in elementary ELA and Math.	Early Intervention Services is an important step in supporting students so that they are set up for future success. Ensuring the continuation, as well as increasing these supports is a priority of the community	\$235,787
Addressing student social-emotional health	Goal: To have individual SEL support plans for all students within district. Metric: To ensure the ratio of one school counselor for every 200 students. Metric: To ensure continued full-time and part-time social/behavioral/mental health supports through school psychologist and social worker positions.	Social and emotional health is incredibly important for students of all ages. It is essential for students to have access to resources and support to help them develop healthy coping skills, build strong relationships, and manage their emotions. Schools should provide a safe and supportive environment for students to learn and grow, and should offer programs and activities that promote social and emotional health. Additionally, schools should provide access to mental health professionals and resources to help students who are struggling with their mental health.	\$233,500
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	N/A	N/A	N/A

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 (\$)
Providing learning opportunities in the	Goal: To provide music and art	The arts is that they are an incredibly	291,639

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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 (\$)
arts and extra-curricular activities	instruction opportunity for all students within the district. In addition, the goal is to grow student participation in the MS/HS to 20%. Metric: To ensure one vocal and one instrumental music teacher within the district. Goal: To ensure the extra-curricular activities in the arts and athletics.	important part of creating well-rounded students and can support both the academics of the school and social/emotional health if well engaged. There should be an increase to the quality and quantity of arts education, as well as more programs for advanced students, especially in younger grades. Music departments, marching bands, and drama clubs can bring the community together, and social and economic development culture events can help students develop diversity and respect for other cultures.	

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 used a Thought Exchange open-ended survey to gather the thoughts of parents, community members, and school staff based upon the priority areas that were listed above. The survey was open for 7 days with periodic reminders for participation. There were three distinct areas of focus based upon the results: The importance of music and the arts, early intervention supports, and social/emotional supports. Using this feedback, the district has developed a plan to allocate the foundation aid increase toward these areas to ensure the continuation and improvement of the programming.