

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	Ongoing training and support for the MTSS model throughout the district.	Teachers have shared the need to increase interventions to support our struggling students.	\$200,000
Reducing class sizes	Maintaining the additional staffing that was added during the COVID pandemic and the enrollment increases that occurred.	Staff voiced concerns and needs for our growing MLL population and to meet the needs of students struggling since COVID.	\$1,000,000
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	The district is continuing its implementation of the HMH curriculum for ELA and Mathematics in Grades K-8. This involves purchasing of curriculum, supporting material and teacher training.	Community and staff concerns were shared about supporting our students academic needs.	\$1,000,000
Addressing student social-emotional health	The district is continuing its commitment to the Leader in Me program in grades PK-12. The increase in aid will allow this program to continue to expand with additional programming such as assemblies, leadership courses, and field trips	Community and staff have shared the need to work with our students to help with mental health concerns.	\$200,000
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	The district has implemented a Newcomer Program to support the needs of the increased MLL population within the district.	Staff shared the need to bring the Newcomer program into the district instead of sending our students to a neighboring BOCES>	\$500,000

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 (\$)
Increasing Graduation Rate/Eliminating the achievement gap	The district is updating its 1-1 student devices in order to continue to provide every student in the district with a device and each classroom with the appropriate and necessary technology.	Students shared the importance of having devices to work on outside of the school day.	500,000
Social Emotional Learning	Ensuring student safety on school	Recent incidents and conversation with	500,000

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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 (\$)
	grounds by supporting the needs of our SRO's, providing more supervision within our buildings and upgrading facilities	the community has led to increase in funding for security.	
Providing Support for Students at Risk	Increasing the number of students who can participate in VOTECH or other additional BOCES offered programs.	Students, staff, and community members have voiced their concern about the need to prepare students for the world of work after high school.	500,000

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 our community forum that was held on August 18, 2023 we interacted with school community members to gather information. Throughout our conversations, the district communicated our Strategic Plan, updated curriculum, and safety and security project updates. Moreover, the district and the stakeholders discussed the importance of creating opportunities for our students and to ensure that we are providing equitable learning experiences that inspire success. In addition, throughout the 2022-2023 school year, the District conducted focus groups with students, staff, and parents/guardians. Throughout these meetings the school community members discussed the importance of providing support such as additional programming and experiences that create interest and career readiness. Also, during student and parent member focus groups students and families indicated that they desired rigorous opportunities. Also, the students and parents expressed a need for relevant curriculum and more extracurricular activities..