

**Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase****Background/Instructions**

---

Page Last Modified: 06/02/2023

**Background and Instructions**Background

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.

**Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase**

## Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

Page Last Modified: 06/27/2023

**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	Maintain the same number of CTE enrollment opportunities at the Southwest Tech Center by offsetting cost increases as well as continued support for summer school programming. Summer school offerings will address learning loss via elementary reading programs, a middle school core academy and high school core course/Regents support.	Throughout recent years, community members have expressed at budget meetings and other public forums that a return to schooling in a pre-pandemic format and addressing learning loss for students of all ages are key priorities.	86,528
Reducing class sizes	Additional classroom support will be provided in primary classrooms through the addition of aides. Small group and individualized instruction time will be increased through the addition of these classroom supports.	Throughout recent years, community members have expressed at budget meetings and other public forums that a return to schooling in a pre-pandemic format and addressing learning loss for students of all ages are key priorities.	123,286
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	A set of tutors will be hired for before and after-school programs to address learning loss for students in Grades 5-12. Programming and software will be implemented to address the transition to computer-based testing in grades K-8.	Throughout recent years, community members have expressed at budget meetings and other public forums that a return to schooling in a pre-pandemic format and addressing learning loss for students of all ages are key priorities.	149,162
Addressing student social-emotional health	Social-emotional learning and health was addressed through stimulus funding. Continued support of programming such as summer school, CTE programming through the Southwest Tech Center, and special education programming will address the social-emotional health of students across the district.	Throughout recent years, community members have expressed at budget meetings and other public forums that a return to schooling in a pre-pandemic format and addressing learning loss for students of all ages are key priorities.	0
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Addition of an ENL teacher and two special education teachers will be provided. Additionally, funds will be used to offset an increase in cost for outside district placements and special education BOCES programming.	Throughout recent years, community members have expressed at budget meetings and other public forums that a return to schooling in a pre-pandemic format and addressing learning loss for students of all ages are key priorities.	597,994

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.

**Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase**

## Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

Page Last Modified: 06/27/2023

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 (\$)
Support for Teaching Professionals	Increased investment in classroom technologies including viewboards and chromebooks. In-service training and BOCES training will also be included.	Throughout recent years, community members have expressed at budget meetings and other public forums that a return to schooling in a pre-pandemic format and addressing learning loss for students of all ages are key priorities.	217,906
Operations of the building	Funds will be used to offset increased costs to health insurance, maintenance and operations contractual work, bond anticipation notes, and the upgrade of equipment.	Throughout recent years, community members have expressed at budget meetings and other public forums that student learning is a key priority of the district. Using foundation aid to offset one-time operating costs will allow tax rates to remain low while supporting student learning.	887,974

**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 school district continually seeks public input and feedback regarding the school budget and student programs and services. The development of this plan and the 2023-24 school budget was informed by stakeholder engagement through the school reopening process in earlier years, input received at public budget meetings with time set aside for community feedback and input, as well as a variety of other district initiatives. Throughout recent years, community members have expressed at budget meetings and other public forums that returning to a pre-pandemic format and addressing unfinished learning are key priorities. A desire to maintain current staffing levels has also been emphasized. Specific public input mechanisms that include:

- Public budget meetings (February 16, March 2, 16, 29 and April 20, 2023) and budget hearing (May 2)
- Interactive school reopening processes (summers 2020 and 2021), including follow-up surveys