

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

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**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

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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	The district set aside funds for student supports at each of the districts buildings	Parents continue to request services to address learning gaps.	713000
Reducing class sizes	The district continues to experience an increase in enrollment in the special education classes as well as some elementary level classes. In addition, the district had to add some elementary classroom teachers in certain grade levels in order to maintain less than 30 students per classroom and whenever possible, less than 25 per classroom.	Parents concerns over larger class sizes have been addressed by maintaining classrooms between 20 students and up to 28 students for regular classes.	160004
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	The district increased the number of AIS teachers in our middle school, in order to provide support to students that are not meeting state learning standards in math and ela. Use of I Ready program to measure student learning and growth.	The district used CRRSA (ESSER 2 and GEER 2) to fund these needs. The district moved these positions to the general funds after communication with staff and parents.	682635
Addressing student social-emotional health	An additional psychologist was added district wide	Parents are looking for help with social emotional needs of their children.	110000
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	The district is increasing the number of special education and English Language Learners teachers, speech teachers, psychologists, support staff and nurses to address the increase in enrollment for these students. Additional tuition money is budgeted for placements outside of the district.	Students with needs are to be placed in the least restrictive environment and the district works to ensure this.	1618550

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 (\$)
Reduce Reliance on Fund Balance	Eight percent of the districts revenue	Budget meetings were held both	4,069,944

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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 (\$)
and Reserves	was built with the use of one time funds. The governor guards against the use of one time funds as it leads to fiscal stress which in turn can lead to layoffs and reduction of student supports.	internally and externally to discuss. Only positive feedback was received and limited questions.	

**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 implemented the use of surveys to parents and staff in order to determine needs for the students. Common findings were concerns with that learning loss experienced during covid and remote periods still remains an issue. Social emotional well being is also continuing to be an issue presented by many teachers and parents.