

**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   | N/A  | N/A  | 0   |
| Reducing class sizes  | N/A  | N/A  | 0   |
| Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas | Our goal is for all students in need to meet grade level expectations in core academic subject areas. For students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards, we provide focused instruction. The process involves developing a specific measurable academic plan for each student. The plan is developed collaboratively by the intervention teacher and classroom teacher. Specific academic goals are established with progress monitoring occurring at regular intervals.           | None Received.                                   | 275017  |
| Addressing student social-emotional health  | We recognize the importance of well-being and we believe that mental health is a component of overall health and well-being. We utilize school counselors, school psychologists and school social workers to support this integrated mental health and wellness model. Our mental health team utilizes their education and expertise to provide support to students, families, classroom staff and administrators.   | None Received.                                   | 80667   |
| Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness           | Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness is an ongoing focus. Specifically, we administer universal screening assessments in reading and math and other local assessments to identify students requiring additional supports. The data teams utilize the results to identify students that would benefit from supplemental instruction. Intervention teachers and ELL teachers work closely with classroom teachers to coordinate | None Received.                                   | 744037  |

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## Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

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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 (\$) |
|--|--|--|---|
|  | appropriate additional academic supports, and work collaboratively to be sure skills and strategies transfer across all instructional areas. |  |   |

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 (\$) |
|--|---|--|---|
| Retain Existing Staff                  | The district recognizes that experienced teachers/staff more effectively support students' learning. Foundation aid was used to support this goal through salary/benefit increases.   | None Received.                                   | 3,114,957   |
| Provide Transportation Services        | Student attendance is vital to successful learning. In order to assist students and their families attend school regularly, the district provides transportation to/from school. Foundation aid was used to support this goal by funding the increased cost of fuel and salary increases for drivers. | None Received.                                   | 504,000   |
| Provide an adequate school environment | In order for students to learn effectively, they need an environment that is conducive to learning. Foundation aid was used to support this goal by funding the increased costs of electric and natural gas utilities.  | None Received.                                   | 566,956   |

**Use of Foundation Aid Increase (Cont.)**

**Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase**Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

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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)**

Public comment was solicited from parents, teachers, and other stakeholders through the district's Budget Development Process. The district presented the increased foundation aid and other components of the budget to various groups as the budget was being developed. The district did not receive any feedback from parents, teachers, or other stakeholders with regard to the use of the increase in Foundation Aid.