

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

Page Last Modified: 05/18/2023

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.

Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase

Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

Page Last Modified: 06/20/2023

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	As we move out of the period of time of educational discontinuity caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, students need a higher level of support and guidance. As educators, we must identify how to effectively support students in this current state. Students need interaction with faculty and peers to stay connected and to build community. We are committed to recognizing the needs of our students and helping all students succeed no matter what their academic path. Funds will be used to support the budget to fund various academic intervention services and other academic and support programs, to support additional career and graduation pathways for High School students, as well as the acquisition of technology-enhanced learning tools and additional academically based extracurricular activities.	Separate vocational counseling, not necessarily tied to college counseling programming. Also start exposure to vocational options at younger ages.; Find new courses that allow for graduation options. Give work study options. Kids who work in supermarkets deal with cash, stock, nutrition and other applications of every day life. These skills could be converted into lessons.; Collaborate world history with capacitive literature in English to reinforce and illustrate language with society.; more extra help that is targeted to what students are actually doing in class; More state money for after or before school extra help	852233
Reducing class sizes	Although distancing requirements have been eliminated, we continue to retain staff to maintain lower class sizes.	Hire more teachers; better scheduling of classes in secondary so classes are not so disparate (14 in one class and 28 in another); More state aid commiserate with the amount of taxes our district sends to Albany.; Not really needed my children were not in classes compared to when I was in school. 18 students compared to 30 on average for both.; I have no issue with class size. I had over 40 kids in each class in high school and everyone did well. The only way to reduce size in Massapequa is to utilize a new building.	1519437
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Funds will be used for the implementation of the MTSS plan, replete with academic and social and emotional universal screeners, the expansion of the K-8 SEL program, and the increase in extra-curricular clubs at all levels. Each school administration will increase the use of	Before school help with classes. Having the smart kids tutor other kids.; Proper classroom material for each child;BRING BACK TEXTBOOKS FOR MATH!!! ELIMINATE MODULES. Textbooks help parents help their children. Packets., Kahn academy and electronic resources lack the	823010

Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase

Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

Page Last Modified: 06/20/2023

	Key Goals, Metrics, or Ratios (250 words or less)	Community Feedback Reflected (250 words or less)	New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$)
	iReady to assess individual student progress to make informed decisions on providing additional supports.	ability to have people read and to only scan.; some way of teaching students what they need to learn, not just generic	
Addressing student social-emotional health	The mental health of our students is at the forefront of all our decision-making. Our teachers, school counselors, social workers, psychologists, and nurses are prepared to support our students' emotional needs. We recognize that this pandemic has been a traumatic and overwhelming experience. Whether students have been affected directly or indirectly by the virus itself, all of our students have experienced a loss of time with friends, missed celebrations, and are returning to school with varying levels of uncertainty and fear. Funds will be used to continue to support interventions and supports in place for students identified who may be at-risk for mental health concerns.	Counselors to be available more; A decompression period and tools to allow children to manage and cope with stressors, personal and educational.; More guidance counselors and psychologists; None. I don't believe in social emotional learning. Keep the kids in school with no masks and they'll be fine. Send the kids with issues to the school psychologist.	1159239
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	The Massapequa School District is committed to continuing to identify and serve English Language Learners. Whether in person or an alternative format, instructional and support staff will continue implementing TESOL strategies to address ELL students' academic and language needs. All SWD will be provided with the provisions of FAPE that coincide with the specific educational plan created for the Massapequa School District. Based on the design of each building (by grade level), our SWD will have equal programming. Funds will be used to support the current staffing and programs in place.	Improve handicap accessibility across schools and programming; Make sure they have the proper materials to learn; Develop a social services liaison program to incorporate county, state, and federal services with school based services; Why are special needs kids in the same category as homeless and non English speakers ? They should have their own category. Give them the support they need and don't lump in the less than 1 percent homeless and non English speakers with them.	1378239

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: 06/20/2023

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 (\$)
(No Response)	(No Response)	(No Response)	(No Response)

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 Massapequa School District posted our Foundation Aid Survey on the district homepage and encouraged constituents to prioritize the five priority areas identified by New York State and to provide specific ideas within each category. Participants ranked the five categories as follows:

For the priority ranked #1, Additional Learning Supports for Students, the district has increased the per pupil allocation for materials and supplies for all students K-12 and is providing additional professional development on differentiated instruction. For priority ranked #2, Resources for ELL, SWD and Homeless Students, the district is hiring additional special education teachers.

Feedback provided by the survey participants is consistent with the objectives identified by the Board of Education during the 23-24 budget process. The community passed the 23-24 budget on May 16, 2023.