

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	This includes increased teacher costs to maintain staffing, health insurance increases due to NYS increase, Overtime for summer construction to allow science lab installation	The District held multiple Board meetings including a workshop, a hearing and a budget review that was broadcast on Youtube. Further, it should be noted that NYS did not pass a budget until May 2, making many of these requirements difficult as notices had already gone out and workshops and public reviews completed.	971749
Reducing class sizes	This includes increased teacher salaries to maintain class sizes, increased utility bills necessary to operate all buildings, increased health insurance rates for teachers due to NYS increase	The District held multiple Board meetings including a workshop, a hearing and a budget review that was broadcast on Youtube. Further, it should be noted that NYS did not pass a budget until May 2, making many of these requirements difficult as notices had already gone out and workshops and public reviews completed.	1112749
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	This includes additional special ed teachers, additional monitors, private school transportation, BOCES transportation, Regular transportation, health insurance for teachers to teach these students, Special ed contractual expenses, CSE Maintenance expenses, Special ed BOCES tuition, purchase of a bus for wheelchair students	The District held multiple Board meetings including a workshop, a hearing and a budget review that was broadcast on Youtube. Further, it should be noted that NYS did not pass a budget until May 2, making many of these requirements difficult as notices had already gone out and workshops and public reviews completed.	1709175
Addressing student social-emotional health	The District added Security , BOCES Occ Ed, a Psychologist, portable restrooms (allowing outdoor recreation, supplies for parents, additional clubs,.	The District held multiple Board meetings including a workshop, a hearing and a budget review that was broadcast on Youtube. Further, it should be noted that NYS did not pass a budget until May 2, making many of these requirements difficult as notices had already gone out and workshops and public reviews completed.	866975
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	NY. Further, an additional ELL teacher was hired.	The District held multiple Board meetings including a workshop, a hearing and a budget review that was broadcast on Youtube. Further, it should be noted that NYS did not pass a budget until May 2, making many of these requirements difficult	163440

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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 (\$)
		as notices had already gone out and workshops and public reviews completed.	

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 (\$)
(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)

Our foundation aid increase (which is a misnomer because our foundation aid percentage was among the lowest in the State) was used to maintain teaching staff, boost security and pay for a massive increase in the Health Insurance rates put forth by NYSHIP. This use was reviewed in Budget Hearings and meetings. In addition, it was voted upon overwhelmingly by the voters of the School District, the ultimate voice of the people.