

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

Page Last Modified: 05/25/2023

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: 06/30/2023

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 | Funds will be appropriated for the acquisition of instructional technology-enhanced learning tools (including devices and software), as well as for the staffing to support the expanded technology. In addition, funds will be provided for Curriculum development projects designed to enhance student experiences and eliminate achievement gaps.address | Parent surveys, teacher input and technology surveys have been used to guide funding decisions. | 559400 |
| Reducing class sizes | Our goal is to retain/ hire staff to maintain elementary class sizes at or below 22 students. To do so will require the addition of three elementary teachers | Our community desires to continue to keep the elementary classes | 750000 |
| 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 to enhance/ retain instructional support teachers primarily in the areas of reading and math. | Parent surveys, teacher and administrator input and benchmarking tools have guided the decisions to enhance reading and math instruction districtwide. | 625000 |
| Addressing student social-emotional health | Funds will be for new staff as well as for staff retention including a psychologist, and an elementary counselor to help address the social and emotional needs of our students. Funds will also be used to continue our partnership with Northwell Health which continues to provide support to students and families in crisis | The community supports the efforts to provide more access to counseling and mental health educational opportunities. | 344185 |
| Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness | Funds will be used for additional special education teachers to ensure that all SWD will be presented with the provisions of Free Appropriate Public Education in accordance with their IEPs. Funding will also be use for the addition/ retention of ENL staff to address our growing population of English Language learners. | our community has always supported the needs of students with disabilities and English Language Learners. Support for growing enrollment in both these areas is evident from our budget discussions | 575000 |

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: 06/30/2023

| 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 (\$) |
|---|--|---|---|
| addressing health and safety concerns and maintain compliance with CDC and DOH guidance | The district has hired additional nursing staff to maintain compliance with the testing, tracing, and reporting requirements. andards and to perform the continued testing and reporting | Residents are still concerned about how COVID- 19 is impacting school operations. | 100,000 |

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)**

Parent/Community surveys and public comments during open program updates are used to help guide the goals of the district. Teacher and Administrator meetings help guide the implementation of the initiatives. Discussions of our programatic plans during public budget meetings have indicated that our community strongly supports our progress toward the goals as presented above.