

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

Page Last Modified: 05/16/2023

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: 06/14/2023

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	N/A	Few comments, if any, from community regarding this priority area. Many felt that providing funding in the other priority areas would promote improvements in the achievement gap and graduation rates.	0
Reducing class sizes	N/A	See question #3 below	0
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Enhancements to our current AIS programs (salaries for AIS Math Teacher and 2 literacy specialists) Provide support for our MS/HS students via the afterschool Academic Learning Center.	The community rated this priority as high as they felt that providing academic support at a younger age would help to mitigate issues at the secondary level..	190,000
Addressing student social-emotional health	Continue to provide appropriate social-emotional supports for all K-12 students. Salaries for PreK-4 school psychologist & social worker, preK-12 behavioral specialist, and pre-K family support center counselor	This community ranked SEL needs as their highest priority.	301,500
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Hire 1.0 FTE ESL teacher and two 1.0 FTE 8:1+1 teachers for our special education students	The community supports more inclusive practices and opportunities for diverse learners	144,000

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 (\$)
Providing appropriate technology resources to enhance all student's academic experiences	Salary for Technology Director to spearhead technology enhancements, Chromebook Replacements in 5th and 9th grade, iPad Carts for UPK and Chromebook Carts for K	The community has been very vocal about technology enhancements, especially as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic when student reliance on technology increased exponentially.	295,785
Improving School Safety	AED Equipment, salary for Athletic Trainer, Potential increase in capital	Feedback was overwhelming positive in terms of increasing the safety of our	228,500

Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid IncreaseUse of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

Page Last Modified: 06/14/2023

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 (\$)
	outlay to address safety issues	students.	

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)**

East Aurora UFSD sent out a stakeholder survey via text and email blast to everyone on the District's distribution list. The survey asked stakeholders to rate the importance of the District investing resources into four categories: K-8 Academic Support, 9-12th Grade Offerings, Resources for Diverse Learners, and Social and Emotional Needs. There were a total of 150 respondents of which 98.7% came from parents and/or community members. This survey allowed respondents to submit further input via an open comment box to obtain additional ideas as to how to use the increase in funding. The results of this survey aligned with Board and administrative planning, signifying that all four objectives were priorities, as well as shedding light on two additional areas of need - technology and school safety. The results indicated that SEL and K-8 Academic Support led the polling so the committee shifted resources to address these goals more fully by investing in K-8 professional development, psychologists, social workers, and a family support center counselor. In addition, funding for literacy specialists and an afterschool Academic learning center are important. The District did not include "reducing class size" in the survey as we are years into a staffing increase plan to address this. Class sizes are now at a point where the other priorities take precedence so that we can round out the depth of our offerings.