

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	Provide students with additional educational programs that lead to graduation.	45% of community respondents expressed the need for increasing graduation rates and eliminating the achievement gap.	94,000
Reducing class sizes	Class sizes in our district are appropriate and a reduction is not warranted.	36% of community respondents advocated for reducing class size.	0
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Continue academic intervention courses, 7-12 reading course, and staffing at current levels to close the achievement gap and support students who are not meeting grade level standards.	77% of community respondents voiced support for supporting students who are not meeting or at risk of not meeting state learning standards in core academic courses.	361,200
Addressing student social-emotional health	Develop multi-tiered systems of support for students UPK-12. The district will partner with OCM BOCES to build the knowledge, foundation, and understanding to meet students physical, social, academic, and mental health needs.	71% of community respondents advocated for supports to address students' social-emotional health.	222,500
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	The district will continue to employ teachers of ELLs and students with disabilities at current levels. Programing and supports for students will continue in order to meet students where they are at.	42% of community respondents expressed the need for providing adequate resources to ELLs, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness.	303,300

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 (\$)
Enrichment Opportunities and Advanced Courses	Provide students and staff with devices that will enhance 21st century skills. Increase STEAM enrichment opportunities within the classroom.	Additionally parents/guardians and community members expressed the need for STEM opportunities, enrichment opportunities, and advanced course work for students to increase academic rigor and have foundations for college and career	124,000

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Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

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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 (\$)
		readiness.	

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)

In March of 2023, the district distributed the 2023-2024 Marathon CSD Foundation Aid Public Comment Survey to parents, teachers, students, and the community at large. State aid serves approximately 75% of the Marathon Central School District budget. The district requested community feedback, in a survey form, where the five state designated priority areas were identified as well as open comment for any additional areas the community felt were priorities. After the public comment period closed, the district's administrative team met to review the feedback from the community. The community priority areas were then analyzed to determine the percent of responses for each of the priority areas. Analyzed responses are outlined in the plan above. The analysis was completed to see where the highest level of need was expressed by the community. The administration in conjunction with the district financial planning committee created a budget that met the goals and focus of the district while also being cognizant of the communities feedback for areas to prioritize within our schools.