

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 | N/A | no comment | N/A |
| Reducing class sizes | Goal: Class sizes of 22 or less. Use additional support staff and faculty to reduce class sizes and to provide in class academic support to faculty when class sizes are greater than 22. . | It is important to the community that students receive targeted instruction, in the smallest groups possible in order to maximize learning and learning time.. | 114,996.50 |
| Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas | Goal: Provide timely supports to students who have been identified as not meeting grade level expectations. Metric: Ensure all grade levels have have a tiered level of support for struggling learners throughout the school year. Ratio: Increase the number of students who are meeting grade level expectations. | It is important to the community that all learners have access to academic support in order to increase the likelihood of meeting expectations. | 114,996.50 |
| Addressing student social-emotional health | Goal: Provide each student with access to social emotional support via a variety of ways (mental health counselors, academic planning, mental health programs) Metric: Ensure all students have access to mental health counselors and assistance. Provide mental health programs throughout the school year to address specific needs. Ratio: Reduce counselors caseloads to 20 or under | It is important to the community that students find a positive path to recovery, especially as it relates to the COVID 19 pandemic. | 114,996.50 |
| Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness | Goal: Provide English Language learners, SPED students and students who are homeless with access to resources that will assist with meeting grade level and social emotional expectations. Metric: Provide all students in this category with access to additional faculty support Ratio: All students in this category would receive this support | It is important to the community that all learners have access to an academic program that provides individual, needs based support. | 114,996.50 |

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.

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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 (\$) |
|---------------|---|--|---|
| (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)**

Public comments were analyzed as they were received, typically during and after Board of Education meetings. Providing our students with an academic program that is accessible to all learners were important suggestions received by the public. They see the importance of closing pre and post COVID learning and social emotional gaps and would like the District to provide these supports in the most cost effective ways.