

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	Employ an Assistant Principal at the Jr./Sr. High to help monitor graduation rates, and help review data to address the achievement gap. Sustain high school opportunities and extra-curricular opportunities for students to maintain student engagement.	Stakeholders expressed a post pandemic concern regarding student engagement.	175000
Reducing class sizes	Adding two academic support teachers and two AIS Teachers will allow for smaller group sizes and more focused delivery of academic support.	Teachers expressed a need for smaller and better aligned intervention to overcome learning loss and overall academic deficits.	225000
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Adding a secondary science teacher to allow for additional sections for students in need of smaller sections and additional instruction.	Teachers and administration expressed the need to support students who struggle with secondary science subjects.	75000
Addressing student social-emotional health	Implement Connected Community Schools and Ready 4 Kindergarten to provide additional community supports for instructional readiness and social-emotional health. Contract for additional school psychologist support.	Stakeholders expressed a need to navigate all the support and intervention services available to students. These expenditures are intended to help with this process.	250000
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Contract for an English as a New Language (ENL) Teacher, a Speech Therapist, and Speech Improvement Services. Employ two new Special Education Teachers in the district.	Teachers and administrators expressed a need to address SWD needs in a more robust way. Post pandemic needs require a more robust SWD Program.	275000

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 (\$)
Safety & Security	Implement measures including upgrading security cameras and phone	Parents, Teachers, and Administrators expressed a need to provide a safe	175,000

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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 (\$)
	systems, provide emergency classroom lockdown supplies, and institute L.E.A.D. Education program by our School Resource Officers.	and secure environment for our students.	
Technology Upgrades	Provide additional funds for technology upgrades and instruction.	Teachers and administrators noted that the use of technology as a learning tool has greatly increased post pandemic. Investing in technology will support this increased use.	200,000
Athletics	Provide additional funds to support athletics and to provide ADA access for spectators through the purchase of a golf cart for spectator shuttle services. Hire an additional physical education teacher.	Athletic provide a release for student stress and help increase student engagement. Parents have expressed a desire to support a quality physical education and athletic program.	110,000
Adequate Facilities & Equipment	This aid increase will allow the district to maintain adequate facilities and the equipment necessary to provide a positive learning environment. Planned expenditures include the local share of building improvements at the local BOCES, equipment purchases including a new school vehicle, a maintenance truck, and planned in-house maintenance projects.	The community through the support of recent building projects has expressed a desire to maintain high quality facilities and equipment in order to provide a positive learning environment. The district has identified building needs through its Five-Year Capital Plan and an active Facilities Committee.	576,085
Maintain Existing Programs & Stabilize Local Tax Levy	The Foundation Aid Increase will help the district maintain its existing programs and services while keeping local tax levy increases below the calculated tax levy limit.	The community, through overwhelming support of local budget votes, has expressed a desire to maintain a high quality education program that is affordable to the local taxpayers.	855,081

Use of Foundation Aid Increase (Cont.)

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- 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)**

The district discussed the planned Foundation Aid increase at several public board meeting and budget work sessions during the budget development process. Teachers and administrators were encouraged to provide feedback both at the budget development sessions and directly through email and staff meetings. This group provided the bulk of the suggestions received. These priorities are reflected in the above spending plan. Parents and community members provided informal feedback through board members, teachers, and administrators. These priorities also aligned with the above spending plan.