

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	Achievement academy - This is an after school program to address at-risk students' needs, emotionally and academically. Teachers assist students with coping skills and academic needs. Alternative HS - This is a new program that will assist HS students with academic and behavioral issues to attend core classes after school hours in order to meet graduation requirements. Alternative HS - This is a new program that will assist HS students with academic and behavioral issues to attend core classes after school hours in order to meet graduation requirements.	This was presented at the Board of Education meeting on May 9, 2023 with no feedback from the community.	510000
Reducing class sizes	The District plans on increasing our FTEs for Math (computer Science) and Special Education to ensure smaller class sizes and to introduce new curriculum for Computer Science.	This was presented at the Board of Education meeting on May 9, 2023 with no feedback from the community.	\$375,000
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	The District will continue to provide academic support for at-risk students with AIS teachers, and academic enrichment activities in the elementary levels. STEAM labs and technology upgrades assist with this goal.	This was presented at the Board of Education meeting on May 9, 2023 with no feedback from the community.	\$1,280,000
Addressing student social-emotional health	Initiatives to be continued in the classroom include responsive classroom, second step, peer mentoring, best buddies clubs, Varsity Leaders Club, Ambassador Club and New Comers Club.	This was presented at the Board of Education meeting on May 9, 2023 with no feedback from the community.	50000
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	The District will increase FTEs for ENL to provide support for our ELL population.	This was presented at the Board of Education meeting on May 9, 2023 with no feedback from the community.	92,000

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.

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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 (\$)
Safety and Security	The District will address the needs of safety and security by increasing security camera coverage and installing video communication devices throughout the buildings and visitor/student access system. Additionally, to secure entrances to our more vulnerable buildings, perimeter fencing will be installed.	This was presented at the Board of Education meeting on May 9, 2023 with no feedback from the community.	350,000
Capital Improvements	The district is addressing the capital improvement needs of its ageing buildings: a new roof in portions of the HS; new curbing at the high school where needed to prevent trips and falls; upgrade of bathrooms district wide, and district wide asbestos abatement, HS library renovation to support NYS K-12 computer science an digital fluency standards	This was presented at the Board of Education meeting on May 9, 2023 with no feedback from the community.	750,000
Other	The remaining funds address the contractual increases and increases of general operations including utility costs, health insurance, and increasing supplies costs for our academic and building maintenance needs.	This was presented at the Board of Education meeting on May 9, 2023 with no feedback from the community.	4,191,000
Transportation	The District will be purchasing 2 big buses and 5 vans to replace buses in the ageing fleet	This was presented at the Board of Education meeting on May 9, 2023 with no feedback from the community.	530,000

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)**

The plan was presented at our meeting on May 7, 2023 during our budget hearing with no community members in the audience. Afterwards, the Powerpoint presentation was posted on our website. We received positive feedback from teachers and administrators regarding our academic and infrastructure needs. Our feedback from the community consisted of a budget passing rate of 76%.