

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.

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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	The Poughkeepsie City School District sets the following annual increases in graduation rates: increase 2% - cohort graduation rate; increase 5% - students with exceptionalities; increase 5% - English language learners	The community feedback on the district's goal for increasing graduation rates has been welcomed. In 2019 the district's graduation rate was 54% in 2022 it was 60%. The graduation rates for each of the subgroups mentioned has risen by 14% since 2019.	approx. 3.5 million
Reducing class sizes	N/A	N/A	N/A
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	In 2019, the Poughkeepsie City School District lacked a plan and supports for providing AIS to students K-8 in reading and math. The district short term goal is to provide multi-tiered supports for students through increasing the number of AIS teachers provided to schools and utilizing Americorps members as a supplement.	The community feedback on this strategy has been welcomed particularly at the elementary levels as the state test results speaks volumes to the success rate of 3 - 6 students.	approx. 3.5 million
Addressing student social-emotional health	Goals: Strengthen the District's impact on positive youth development. 2. Align internal and external supports and resources to better meet the needs of students. 3. Develop strategies with community partners and students collaboratively to address student need. 4. Provide professional development/capacity building opportunities to staff, parents, students, and community partners.	The community feedback on this strategy has been highly welcomed. Stakeholder input has noted a notable difference in students' social and emotional stability.	approx. 2 million
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Goal: Increase the investments made to address the needs of ELL, students with exceptionalities and students experiencing homelessness.	Given, that the graduation rates for these subgroups have historically been low, community stakeholders are welcoming of the district's strategy to provide more supports to these groups.	approx. 2 million

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 (\$)
Extended Learning Opportunities	The district focus on providing students with meaningful extended learning opportunities remains a priority in its 5-Year Strategic Plan. The goal is to increase the number of students participating in extended learning programs by 20%.	The community supports this goal as it is recognized that students need more academic instructional time and opportunities.	1,500,000

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)**

Public feedback has been ongoing on the district's strategy to strengthen its impact on student academic, social, emotional, and wellness. Feedback from the community has been taken to shape and inform the district's direction and investment in this work. This has afforded greater opportunity for the district to engage community partners and parents in the transformational efforts of the Poughkeepsie City School District.