

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

- 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	Eliminating the achievement gaps by having more teachers and staff. We are hiring in many areas we need to help support student achievement.	School community concerns over staffing areas that help students receive additional support and improve learning. English Language Arts, Technology, Elementary, Special Education.	398,713
Reducing class sizes	Expand Staffing to reduce class size. Adding an additional part-time Teacher and a Teacher to reduce ratio from 1 Teacher and 1 Assistant for 31 students to a ratio of 1.5 Teachers and 1 Assistant will make the class size reduced in half for core subjects of ELA and Math.	School community concerns over large Kindergarten class. We are hiring a retired Kindergarten teacher 3 days per week and having an AIS teacher split the class so all students will get learning environment they need to be successful.	125,000
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Expand Staffing in Academic Intervention Services. Add 2 additional teachers to serve students not meeting, or at risk of not meeting standards. We currently have 2 AIS teachers. We will double our population of students served and expand services to include more middle and high school subjects. Services for 50 students will now expand to approximately 100. Hire curriculum coordinator to assist all staff with support to meet learning standards. Purchase materials needed to do so!	School community concerns over students not meeting or at risk. Expressed the need to have more support staff.	174,000
Addressing student social-emotional health	Expand Counseling Services. Purchase additional days of Counseling Services from The Prevention Team. We added 2 days per week last year and will move to a model with Services on a daily basis to our students. Our ratio of students being served for their social-emotional help with double in number! We will expand from a ratio of 1 counselor for 321 students to 1 school counselor and 1 outside agency counselor.	School community requested additional services for social-emotional health of our students.	60,000
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Expand School Resource Officer Services	Purchase additional days for an SRO to be on site for all students. This resource helps preserve the safety and security of our learning environment. The number of	60,000

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	Key Goals, Metrics, or Ratios (250 words or less)	Community Feedback Reflected (250 words or less)	New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$)
		positive contacts will increase by 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.

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)

An analysis of our public comment from parents, teachers, and other stakeholders on our plan to use additional foundation aid increase includes many avenues. Initially, we solicited budget ideas and suggestions from teachers and staff in December 2022. Our outreach to parents and other stakeholders was multiple budget meetings and board meetings. First was at the January 17, 2023 Board meeting an Agenda Item for Budget Ideas / Suggestions. Followed by Budget Meetings on February 14th, March 21st and April 18th. In addition, we added an Agenda Item at each Regular Board Meeting in March, April and May for our entire school community outreach regarding Foundation Aid Increase Expenditures. Our forms of communication included surveys, online agendas and public meetings. Our response was widespread among members of our school community that we need MORE Staff, MORE AIS and MORE Counseling. We have advertised several positions and have filled most of them. We are purchasing additional counseling and school safety services in the coming year. We look forward to expanding our staff and services to meet the needs of our students in all of the priority areas listed above.