

**Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase****Background/Instructions**

---

Page Last Modified: 06/15/2023

**Background and Instructions**Background

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.

**Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase**

Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

Page Last Modified: 06/30/2023

**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	1) Sustain previously Federally funded staff positions; 2) Add four Teaching Assistants every year to provide more classroom supervision and supplemental instructional support; and 3) Continue to implement district's 1:1 device initiative to promote substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom teachers	Community feedback: Preserve and sustain the positions that had previously been funded with Federal Stimulus funds; Additional Teaching Assistants; Support K-12 Science curriculum work and implementation of State standards; Focus on RTI; Continue to grow prekindergarten to accommodate as many families as possible; and Move toward a one-to-one device for students, supported by Canvas Learning Management System.	1297146
Reducing class sizes	N/A	N/A	0
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	N/A	N/A	0
Addressing student social-emotional health	1) Sustain previously Federally funded staff positions; 2) Provide increased support for students' social-emotional and behavioral issues; and 3) Work towards a goal of having two Master Social Workers in every building	Community feedback: Preserve and sustain the positions that had previously been funded with Federal Stimulus funds; Increase the number of Master Social Workers and Counselors in each of the buildings; Consider student behavior issues and safety regarding transportation; and Continue to add Safety Resource Officers in schools.	1015481
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	1) Sustain previously Federally funded staff positions; and 2) Provide a continuum of supports and interventions to meet the needs of students with disabilities	Community feedback: Preserve and sustain the positions that had previously been funded with Federal Stimulus funds to support special education students' needs.	144582

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.

**Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase**

Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

Page Last Modified: 06/30/2023

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 (\$)
N/A	N/A	N/A	0

**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 district sought and analyzed feedback through multiple modalities to ensure that its Foundation Aid Increase plan addressed student performance and need. The district's annual budget process provided opportunity for community input beginning with the first meeting in November 2022 and culminating in the Board's adoption of the budget in May 2023. The budget development process included funds earmarked for the Foundation Aid Increase based on November meetings where Principals collected feedback from teachers and staff, and Directors collected feedback from their staff. This information was shared with the Assistant Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent for Business through a series of meetings in November/December 2022. The Assistant Superintendent included the topic on the March 15, 2023 District Admin Council meeting agenda for discussion and input from district leaders and Principals. At a March 16, 2023 Board meeting, the Assistant Superintendent for Business publicly announced the 10% increase in Foundation Aid as well as the requirements to seek public comment from various stakeholder groups in the development of the plan. The topic was also added to the March 23, 2023 District Parent Council meeting agenda for discussion and feedback from parents. Additional public comment was received and analyzed at a Board meeting on March 30, 2023. Recommendations considered but not reflected in the plan include the purchase of electric vehicles. The district considered but will not be purchasing electric vehicles at this point because costs are prohibitive. The district is awaiting guidance from NYSED and NYSERDA before transitioning to electric vehicles.