

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	The district has hired staff to identify post pandemic academic gaps in all students Prek-12 as the foundation of our plan. From there, we created targeted instruction for those students' learning gaps that are targeted by staff that were not possible prior to receiving these funds. This in turn, then increases graduation rate.	The majority of community member feedback according to our community	165800
Reducing class sizes	The reduction of class size provides more individualized instruction, which in turn supports the previous goal	The community had this as a priority according to our community survey	141000
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	The additional resources allow our directors and principals to focus their efforts on curricular and instructional supports for students. One example was the focus as a district to ensure the technology needs have been addressed. Although this was not the top priority according to our survey, we as a district understood and targeted the technology gap in our district. These funds enabled us to focus finances to ensure all families have a device and internet.	The community identified this as the 5/6 priority according to our survey. The district worked hard prior to the pandemic to provide internet and a device for every student PreK-12. These funds provided an opportunity to bring our equipment up-to-date.	159550
Addressing student social-emotional health	The district has increased our social/emotional staff to now include a social worker, added school psychologist, home school liaison, SRO.	The community listed this as their second priority according to our community survey. This district made this a priority prior to the pandemic and will continue to make this a priority.	331100
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	N/A	N/A	0

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 (\$)
Education Technology	Fillmore identified areas of need within the district related to technology. We utilized BOCES to help manage and purchase the devices.	Approximately 50% of the community surveyed listed this as a priority.	150,000
Staffing	Fillmore was able to hire staff to identify and target learning loss.	The community survey reflected this as a high priority.	153,400
Operations	Fillmore dedicated some funds to address the financial gap as a result of minimum wage increases.	Our community identified the expansion of after school programming.	524,630

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 used several strategies to receive community feedback in different manners. We incorporated this into our normal budget process of public board of education meetings, annual budget hearing and in the distribution on budget materials including a public notice (and the survey). The survey was distributed through social media, our "all-call" system and website. Additional supports for students, social emotional supports for students and additional supports for special education students were the top 3/6 priorities according to the feedback we received. In presenting this plan to our community there is glaring support for our plan.