

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

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**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

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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	NA	NA	NA
Reducing class sizes	BCS has hired additional elementary teachers to create two sections at every gradeK-6.	Of the people completing the community survey 63.04% strongly agreed and 17.39% agreed with hiring additional teachers with increased foundation aid.	212890
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	BCS has hired an additional 7-12 math teacher and speech therapist to provide additional supports for students at-risk of not meeting state learning standards.	Of the people completing the community survey, 26.09% strongly agreed and 30.43% agreed that hiring an additional math teacher is a priority; 28.26% strongly agreed and 34.76% agreed that hiring additional speech support is a priority for the additional foundation aid.	117897
Addressing student social-emotional health	BCS hired a full-time social worker during the 21-22 school year. Additional foundation aid allowed the salary to be from grants into the district's budget.	Student and staff mental health concerns were expressed. Ensuring support for services in the general budget is a priority of the district.	71459
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	NA	NA	NA

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 (\$)
Educational Technology Support	BCS has requested additional technology support through Erie I BOCES to help manage devices and the District's network.	Of the survey respondents, 17.39% strongly agreed and 32.61% agreed that hiring educational technology support was a priority for the district.	135,000
Full Staffing	BCS is able to return to full staffing levels with all positions in the general budget through the increase in	Of the proposed positions in the community survey, all but one was supported by respondents.	331,035

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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 (\$)
	foundation aid.		
Operations	BCS will utilize increased aid to address contractual obligations and increases to minimum wage.	Survey respondents identified pay increases as areas of need for the district.	214,212

**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)**

Support for small class sizes has been brought to the district administration and Board of Education by teacher and community members, and was supported through the community needs survey. Additionally, it was a priority of the administration to ensure all district positions are fully funded through the general budget, including positions added through federal stimulus funds.