Background/Instructions

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Background and Instructions

Background

Section 9-a of part A of chapter 56 of the laws of 2021, as amended by §5-a of part A of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022 requires, on or before July 1, 2022, <u>every</u> local educational agency (LEA) receiving funding from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) act of 2021 to post on its website and submit to the New York State Education Departent (NYSED) an updated plan of how such funds will be expended and how the LEA will prioritized spending on non-recurring expenses as defined in section 9-a(1) of part A of chapter 56 of the laws of 2021. This updated plan must include:

An analysis of public comment;

Goals and ratios for pupil support;

Detailed summaries of Investments in current year activities; and

Balance of funds spent in priority areas.

In addition, 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 must create plans on how these funds will be used to address student performance and need. These plans must be completed, submitted to the department, and posted to district websites prior to July 1 of 2021, 2022, and 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 any of seven listed areas;

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.

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 and ARP Plan* <u>Notification Guidance</u>" 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, including portions of the increase used to address any of the following seven areas:

Increasing graduation rates and eliminating the achievement gap;

Reducing class sizes;

Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas;

Addressing student social-emotional health;

Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities; and students experiencing homelessness;

Goals and ratios for pupil support; and

Detailed summaries of investments in current year initiatives and balance of funds spent in priority areas.

Instructions

The State Budget Reporting and Foundation Aid Survey is due by July 1, 2022.

LEAs 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

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portal will highlight it in red and the section of the application will be flagged. The applicant 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 applicant LEA. The designated superintendent (public school LI or the chief executive officer, board of trustees president, or school employee designated by the board of trustees (charter school LEAs) are the only administrators with the submit/certify rights necessary to successfully submit and certify a completed application for NYSED review.

LEAs are <u>NOT REQUIRED</u> to send hard copies of survey materials to the Department.

Use of Foundation Aid Increase

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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	Since students who are not meeting state standards would thus be experiencing an achievement gap and be at risk of not graduating we have included these responses in question three.	Since students who are not meeting state standards would thus be experiencing an achievement gap and be at risk of not graduating we have included these responses in question three.	0
Reducing class sizes	Our enrollment has increased 30% over the last eight years. This budget will include funding for an additional PE teacher, an additional SS teacher and and additional elementary teacher as a result of our increasing enrollment.	Based on our survey this was the number one priority area among teachers.	241004
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	In order to further eliminate the achievement gap and provide supports for students who at risk of not meeting state standards we will be including two AIS teachers and and AIS TA in the budget.	Based on our survey this was one of the top priority areas among teachers and parents.	218613
Addressing student social- emotional health	Our students' social-emotional health is a priority and this budget includes the addition of a Social Worker and a School Psychologist Intern.	Based on our survey this was the number one priority area among parents	77933
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	This budget includes the addition of a Special Education teacher.	Based on our survey this was one of the top priority areas among teachers and parents.	54087

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 prioroty 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 (\$)
Operational Costs	Our health insurance costs went up 21.9%. This significant increase could have resulted in cuts across the board if the increase in foundation aid was not available.	Cuts to programs were not suggested by any of our respondents. Without this additional foundation aid we would have had to make significant program cuts.	344,000

Use of Foundation Aid Increase (Cont.)

Use of Foundation Aid Increase

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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)

We sent a survey directly to our stakeholders including parents, teachers, and other stakeholders. Seventy-four percent of our respondents were parents, nineteen percent were teachers and seven percent were other stakeholders.

ARP Spending Plan Reporting

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American Rescue Plan (ARP) Spending Plan Reporting

- 1. Have you made changes to your approved ARP ESSER application?
 - □ YES, the LEA has made changes to your approved ARP ESSER application.
 - ☑ NO, the LEA has not made changes to your approved ARP ESSER application.
- 2. Please provide an analysis of public comment for the updated American Rescue Plan (ARP) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding.

We performed stakeholder input sessions that resulted in us being able to identify our priorities. In addition to being open five days a week are stakeholders were concerned about learning loss, social-emotional support, and providing enhancements to our current programs.

3. Please provide a description of program goals and per pupil teacher ratios for priorities supported by ARP - ESSER funding. Click on "Add Row" as needed to include additional program goals.

Program Goals	Per Pupil Teacher Ratios (# : #)
Goal 1: To provide additional social-emotional support.	1:14
Goal 2: To provide additional academic support.	
Goal 3: To provide more specialized instruction.	
Goal 4: To support our special area programs and extracurricular classes.	

4. Please provide detailed summaries of investments in current year activities for ARP - ESSER funding. Click on "Add Row" as needed to include programs.

Summary of New Programs or Expansion of Existing Programs in Current Year	Investment (\$)
We were able to provide additional social-emotional support through the creation of a new social worker	482,548
position. We were able to provide additional academic support through two new positions in our AIS department.	
We were able to provide more specialized instruction with the funding of two classroom teachers at the	
primary level.	
We were able to support our special area programs through the funding of two special area teachers	
and the purchase of band equipment.	

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Spending Plan Reporting

5. Please explain how ARP ESSER funds will be expended by the LEA, by school year, for each of the priority areas in the chart below.

	2021-22 School Year (\$)	2022-23 School Year (\$)	2023-24 School Year (\$)
Safely returning students to in-person instruction.	0	0	0
Maximizing in-person instruction time.	0	0	0
Operating schools and meeting the needs of students.	273,552	286,230	258,189
Purchasing educational technology.	0	0	0
Addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on students, including the impacts of interrupted instruction and learning loss and the impacts on low- income students, children with disabilities, English language learners, and students experiencing homelessness.	118,324	123,888	129,548
Implementing evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental	68,632	71,021	56,989

ARP Spending Plan Reporting

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	2021-22 School Year (\$)	2022-23 School Year (\$)	2023-24 School Year (\$)
health, and academic needs.			
Offering evidence-based summer, afterschool, and other extended learning and enrichment programs.	0	0	0
Supporting early childhood education.	0	0	0
Other (please describe below)	22,040	0	0
Totals:	482,548	481,139	444,726

6. If 'Other' is indicated in the table above, please describe.

Enhance music education opportunities through the purchase of band equipment/.