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	Alternative education placements for varying paths to graduation. Investment in guidance function to strengthen scheduling and monitoring. Maintain at least 95% graduation rate.	No applicable feedback received.	245080
Reducing class sizes	Adhere to K-6	No applicable feedback received.	2437536
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	New enrichment instructor at 9-12 to accompany parallel SEL investment by way of ARPA funds. All students have access to full suite of social-emotional professionals whilst also being instilled in daily culture and curriculum.	No applicable feedback received.	80517
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	New ELL staffing positions to further services to population. Increase in YOY tuition costs for students that are differently abled.	No applicable feedback received.	864456

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	Community Feedback Reflected (250	New
	words or less)	words or less)	Foundation
			Aid Funds
			to Support
			Initiative (\$)
(No Response)	(No Response)	(No Response)	(No
			Response)

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)

Feedback for public comment on the draft plan was requested at a regular board meeting on June 7th with instructions to contact the Assistant Superintendent at public email address or by phone with any and all commentary on the draft plan. The draft plan document was posted online for said meeting and a presentation slide at said meeting also summarized the proposed utilization of new foundation aid funds. Feedback was explicitly welcomed and encouraged. There was no feedback received by the requested due date associated with the draft plan and posting deadlines.

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.

Public comment was sought from District stakeholders through an open community survey from July 29, 2021 to August 7, 2021. There were 1,171 responses to this survey! Families and community members comprised 83% of answers, followed by District employees at 15% of respondants, and then students made up the third largest group of responders. District administration analyzed the commentary to align stakeholder voice with requirements associated with the ARP legislation. Feedback from the survey was shared in a public board meeting to display overarching themes from the stakeholder feedback: program interventions to mitigate "learning loss", social and emotional supports, air quality, technological resources, and professional learning for staff. These themes were then reflected in the grant application approved by the State.

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 (# : #)
There have been no explicitly stated goals for staff:student ratios for priorities supported by ESSER	See narrative.
funding. In accordance with guidance and best practice, the funds dedicated from ESSER 3 were	
specifically targeted toward one-time interventions that supplement the existing academic program, not	
simply spending from current practcies and thus detracting from the valuable opportunity associated with	
this grant. With that, there are implicit ratios herein associated with budgeted dollars for new programs in	
the planned domains of summer, afterschool, tutoring, and 5.0 new FTE grant-funded positions. For	
summer work, there is alignment to existing ELA and math "camps" which will call for a ratio of	
staff:student between 6:1 and 10:1, dependent upon student interest. For the new tutoring initiative, this	
will be a 2:1 ratio. For the new FTE positions, the 2.0 social workers will be dedicated to a K-5	
elementtary building, roughly providing a ratio of 490:1 now at each of our four elementary buildings.	

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 (\$)
The dollars expended in the current 2021-22 school year for ESSER3 were HEPA air purifiers deployed in every classroom and common space disrict-wide in furtherance to the urgency of the safe return of in-	401575
person learning this school year.	

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.	401,575	703,547	0
Maximizing in-person instruction time.	0	0	0
Operating schools and meeting the needs of students.	0	0	0
Purchasing educational technology.	0	25,000	0

ARP Spending Plan Reporting

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Totals:	401,575	1,746,198	392,571
Other (please describe below)	0	0	0
Supporting early childhood education.	0	0	0
Offering evidence-based summer, afterschool, and other extended learning and enrichment programs.	0	600,270	0
Implementing evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs.	0	348,129	392,571
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.	0	69,252	0
	2021-22 School Year (\$)	2022-23 School Year (\$)	2023-24 School Year (\$)

6.

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

(No Response)