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	Clarkstown Central School District received 6.1M increase in foundation aid for 2022-23 school year. This increase was used to maintain existing programs. The District unfortunately had to fund several CVA lawsuits with a potential loss of more than \$9M	Community meeting were held on 3/16/2022, 318/2022, 3/24/2022, 4/12/2022 & 5/5/2022 to discuss the proposed budget and the use of the increased foundation aid. The community feedback was very positive regarding our ability to maintain current programing and current reduced class size	6100037
Reducing class sizes	Clarkstown Central School District received 6.1M increase in foundation aid for 2022-23 school year. This increase was used to maintain existing programs. The District unfortunately had to fund several CVA lawsuits with a potential loss of more than \$9M	Community meeting were held on 3/16/2022, 318/2022, 3/24/2022, 4/12/2022 & 5/5/2022 to discuss the proposed budget and the use of the increased foundation aid. The community feedback was very positive regarding our ability to maintain current programing and current reduced class size	6100037
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Clarkstown Central School District received 6.1M increase in foundation aid for 2022-23 school year. This increase was used to maintain existing programs. The District unfortunately had to fund several CVA lawsuits with a potential loss of more than \$9M	Community meeting were held on 3/16/2022, 318/2022, 3/24/2022, 4/12/2022 & 5/5/2022 to discuss the proposed budget and the use of the increased foundation aid. The community feedback was very positive regarding our ability to maintain current programing and current reduced class size	6100037
Addressing student social- emotional health	Clarkstown Central School District received 6.1M increase in foundation aid for 2022-23 school year. This increase was used to maintain existing programs. The District unfortunately had to fund several CVA lawsuits with a potential loss of more than \$9M	Community meeting were held on 3/16/2022, 318/2022, 3/24/2022, 4/12/2022 & 5/5/2022 to discuss the proposed budget and the use of the increased foundation aid. The community feedback was very positive regarding our ability to maintain current programing and current reduced class size	6100037
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Clarkstown Central School District received 6.1M increase in foundation aid for 2022-23 school year. This increase was used to maintain existing programs. The District unfortunately had to fund several CVA lawsuits with a potential loss of more than \$9M	Community meeting were held on 3/16/2022, 318/2022, 3/24/2022, 4/12/2022 & 5/5/2022 to discuss the proposed budget and the use of the increased foundation aid. The community feedback was very positive regarding our ability to maintain current programing and current reduced class size	6100037

Use of Foundation Aid Increase

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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 (\$)
(No Response)	(No Response)	(No Response)	(No Response)

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)

Community meetings were held on 3/16, 3/18, 3/24., 4/12 & 5/5 to discuss the proposed budget and the use of the increased foundation aid. The community feedback was very positive regarding our ability to maintain current programing and current reduced class. The year over year increase to salary and benefits is in excess of \$6.7M. Having to fund a number of CVA lawsuits has resulting in us needing the dfoundation aid increase to maintain programming and staffing.

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.

The Clarkstown Central School District invited the entire community to participate in a survey that was widely distributed via facebook, twitter, and personalized emails. The essential question that we asked was, "What do you feel are the most important academic, social emotional, and/or mental/physical health supports that our schools should provide to serve all students using these federal funds?" The survey had 926 respondents ranging from community members, staff, parents, administrators, and students. After the survey closed, the District administrators conducted meetings with administrators, the Clarkstown Teacher's Association, Parent Teacher Association, and members of the Board of Education to share and analyze the results to develop a plan representative of all stakeholders. The District also presented at a Board of Education meeting with public comment available to residents who also shared their opinions. The analysis of the public comments named the following top items and became our program goals: (1) Provide Academic Instructional Support and Enrichment to address academic needs; (2) Support the social emotional and mental health needs of students; and (3) Personalize learning with responsive supports such as smaller student to teacher ratio.

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 (# : #)
(1) Provide Academic Instructional Support and Enrichment to address academic needs;	5 students: 1 Teacher
(2) Support the social emotional and mental health needs of students;	5 students: 1 Teacher
(3) Personalize learning with responsive instruction and SEL support such as smaller student to teacher ratio.	K-2 - 22 students: 1 Teacher; 3-5 25 students: 1
	teacher

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 (\$)
This year, we provided summer interventions for students by offering evidence-based summer,	755968
afterschool, and other extended learning and enrichment programs. We also provided before, during,	
and after school intervention and SEL support to students. We also used the funds for operating schools	
and meeting the needs of students.	

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.	145,416	145,416	2,319,730
Purchasing educational technology.			

ARP Spending Plan Reporting

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	2021-22 School Year (\$)	2022-23 School Year (\$)	2023-24 School Year (\$)
	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.	0	0	971,806
Implementing evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs.	0	0	106,388
Offering evidence-based summer, afterschool, and other extended learning and enrichment programs.	610,552	560,597	0
Supporting early childhood education.	0	0	0
Other (please describe below)	0	0	0
Totals:	755,968	706,013	3,397,924

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

(No Response)