



Office of Educational Management Services
Room 1075 Education Building Annex
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July 5, 2023

Dear Superintendent,

The Enacted State Budget for 2023-24 extends the requirement that your district complete a Contract for Excellence (C4E) for the current school year. This program is intended to ensure that additional financial resources will be targeted and directed to programs found to be effective at raising student achievement.

Contract amounts had been frozen since the 2012-13 school year, but the full phase-in of Foundation Aid increases the contract amounts significantly for 2023-24. With budgets for the 2023-2024 school year effectively finalized, the Commissioner of Education recognizes the challenges districts may face in planning and programming the full set-aside amount in a single year. In order to allow Districts time to scale-up to the full Contract amount, the calculated increases for the 2023-24 school year will be phased-in over three (3) years: 20% in 2023-24, and 40% in both 2024-25 and 2025-26. Contract amounts for the 2023-24 school year have been posted to SED's [Contracts for Excellence website](#), along with a table showing the minimum contract amounts for 2024-25 and 2025-26. As a reminder, the Contracts for Excellence legislation requires that this program predominantly benefits the neediest pupils in the school district.

Attached you will find an updated 2023-24 Contracts for Excellence Calendar of Deadlines. Please note the dates for the draft and final plans to be submitted to the State Education Department. We have posted the calendar, necessary templates, and Needs/Weights data on our website as well.

We encourage you to continue the planning process so that the Commissioner may approve your plan in a timely fashion. If you have any questions, please contact Mavis Kirk of my staff at (518)474-6541 or mavis.kirk@nysed.gov.

Sincerely,

David Elliott
Coordinator, Educational Aid Services

c: Mavis Kirk