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## CONTRACTS FOR EXCELLENCE

2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

# What is Contracts for Excellence?

The Contracts for Excellence program was established in the 2007-08 school year as an accountability measure for school districts with at least one academically underperforming school and whose Foundation Aid growth was set to exceed certain thresholds.



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# What is Contracts for Excellence?

The “contract amount” is a subset of Foundation Aid that a district must program toward specific uses as described in NYS Education Law § 211-d.

Contract funds must predominantly benefit pupils with the greatest educational needs, including but not be limited to:

- Economically disadvantaged students
- Students with disabilities
- English-language learners
- Students struggling with proficiency



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# What sort of expenditures comply with program requirements?

The law specifies six categories of allowable programs and activities:

1. Class size reduction
2. Increased time on task
3. Teacher and principal quality initiatives
4. Middle and high school restructuring
5. Full-day pre-kindergarten and kindergarten
6. Model programs for English language learners



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# What is my District's 2023-24 Contract Amount?

District	Contract Amount for 2023-24
ALBANY	\$ 3,950,357
AMSTERDAM	3,700,421
BINGHAMTON	8,002,288
BUFFALO	20,983,514
ELMIRA	6,753,010
GENEVA	3,440,480
NEW YORK CITY	575,803,007
NEWBURGH	13,569,384
ROCHESTER	34,384,158
SCHENECTADY	17,390,497
SYRACUSE	18,138,110
UTICA	15,101,135
YONKERS	13,371,526



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# What is my District's 2023-24 Contract Amount?

The full phase-in of Foundation Aid increases the contract amounts significantly for 2023-24. In consideration of the challenges districts may face in planning and programming the increased set-aside amounts in a single year, the Commissioner of Education has authorized a three-year contract increase phase-in: 20% in 2023-24, and 40% in both 2024-25 and 2025-26. New York State Education Law § 211-d(1)(e) provides some flexibility in setting annual contract amounts, however the set amount in any given year shall not be less than the amount set for the year prior.



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# What is my District's 2023-24 Contract Amount?

District	22-23 Contract Amount	Contract for Excellence - Contract Amount Calculation				Minimum Contract Amount		
		23-24 Per Calculation	Increase Amount	20% of increase	40% of Increase	2023-24 School Year	2024-25 School Year	2025-26 School Year
ALBANY	\$1,792,209	\$12,582,950	\$10,790,741	\$2,158,148	\$4,316,296	\$3,950,357	\$6,108,505	\$6,108,505
AMSTERDAM	\$2,531,267	\$8,377,039	\$5,845,772	\$1,169,154	\$2,338,309	\$3,700,421	\$4,869,576	\$4,869,576
BINGHAMTON	\$7,111,302	\$11,566,231	\$4,454,929	\$890,986	\$1,781,972	\$8,002,288	\$8,893,274	\$8,893,274
BUFFALO	\$13,625,938	\$50,413,819	\$36,787,881	\$7,357,576	\$14,715,152	\$20,983,514	\$28,341,090	\$28,341,090
ELMIRA	\$5,641,275	\$11,199,948	\$5,558,673	\$1,111,735	\$2,223,469	\$6,753,010	\$7,864,744	\$7,864,744
GENEVA	\$2,600,612	\$6,799,951	\$4,199,339	\$839,868	\$1,679,736	\$3,440,480	\$4,280,348	\$4,280,348
NEW YORK CITY	\$530,800,851	\$755,811,632	\$225,010,781	\$45,002,156	\$90,004,312	\$575,803,007	\$620,805,163	\$620,805,163
NEWBURGH	\$9,376,087	\$30,342,574	\$20,966,487	\$4,193,297	\$8,386,595	\$13,569,384	\$17,762,682	\$17,762,682
ROCHESTER	\$29,224,662	\$55,022,142	\$25,797,480	\$5,159,496	\$10,318,992	\$34,384,158	\$39,543,654	\$39,543,654
SCHENECTADY	\$14,031,486	\$30,826,542	\$16,795,056	\$3,359,011	\$6,718,022	\$17,390,497	\$20,749,508	\$20,749,508
SYRACUSE	\$12,688,952	\$39,934,744	\$27,245,792	\$5,449,158	\$10,898,317	\$18,138,110	\$23,587,269	\$23,587,269
UTICA	\$11,049,681	\$31,306,952	\$20,257,271	\$4,051,454	\$8,102,908	\$15,101,135	\$19,152,589	\$19,152,589
YONKERS	\$11,619,766	\$20,378,567	\$8,758,801	\$1,751,760	\$3,503,520	\$13,371,526	\$15,123,286	\$15,123,286



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# What are the steps to completing a Contract for Excellence?

1. Consult with stakeholder groups—  
Parents/Guardians, Teachers, Administrators  
(May-June)
2. Prepare and submit a DRAFT Contract (July)



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# What are the steps to completing a Contract for Excellence?

3. Publicize proposed Contract for Excellence and post on District website for Public Comment Period (July-August)
4. Post assessments of Public Comments, if any (August)
5. Submit FINAL Contract for Excellence to NYSED for review and approval, post FINAL Contract for Excellence and Public Comments on District website (August)



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# Additional C4E Reporting Requirements

The law requires that all districts send final expenditure reports related to Contracts for Excellence to NYSED for review.

Additionally, all districts must provide a report, certified by an independent auditor, that C4E funds expended in the previous year were spent and accounted for properly.

If the audit returns any findings, a corrective action plan must also be sent to NYSED for review.



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# Contracts for Excellence Website

All forms, guidance, and process calendars are posted on the web at <https://www.p12.nysed.gov/mgtserv/C4E/>. Documents include a table of Needs/Weights for every school building in the district, showing percentages of economically disadvantaged students, students with disabilities, and English language learners. The Needs/Weights tables will help the district program C4E funds to the required targeted populations.

District	12-digit Beds Code	School Name	Total Enrollment 2022-23	Percent of Economically Disadvantaged 2022-23	Percent of Students with Disabilities 2022-23	Percent of English Language Learners 2022-23
ALBANY	010100010014	MONTESSORI MAGNET SCHOOL	313	29.39%	9.58%	2.88%
ALBANY	010100010016	PINE HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	334	53.89%	11.08%	18.86%
ALBANY	010100010018	DELAWARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL	290	68.28%	4.48%	30.69%
ALBANY	010100010019	NEW SCOTLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	472	39.19%	12.71%	10.59%
ALBANY	010100010023	ALBANY SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES	356	51.40%	14.04%	6.46%
ALBANY	010100010027	EAGLE POINT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	275	40.36%	22.18%	9.82%
ALBANY	010100010028	THOMAS S O'BRIEN ACAD OF SCI & TECH	250	60.80%	10.40%	12.40%



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# Navigating the Contract Amount Increase

Districts may find it difficult to program the increased Contracts for Excellence amount, given the large increase. However, many of the requirements for expending federal ARP-ESSER funding overlap with Contracts for Excellence requirements. A district may consider shifting ARP-funded programs to being funded with C4E dollars, especially since ARP funding is set to expire in September 2024. This can free-up ARP monies for other, more broadly allowable uses in the 2023-24 school year.



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# Navigating the Contract Amount Increase

NYSED can provide technical assistance on cross-walking ARP-funded programs to the Contracts for Excellence Foundation Aid set-aside. Any school district wishing to learn more about sustaining ARP-funded programs past the expiry of ARP funds may contact the ARP-ESSER Sustainability and Support Team in the Office of Educational Management Services.

Simply email [ARPHelp@nysed.gov](mailto:ARPHelp@nysed.gov) to set up a call with the team!



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Questions?



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# Thank you!!



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