

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 11, 2023

Contact: Brian Cechnicki
(518) 434-2281 x108
brian@asbonewyork.org

ASBO New York Release of 2023-24 State Aid Proposal and Reaction to Governor Hochul's State of the State Address

Albany, NY – ASBO New York, the Association of School Business Officials, today released its 2023-24 State Aid Proposal which is available [here](#).

Crafted and advanced by the school finance experts in districts across New York State, the proposal recommends, among other things:

- Fulfilling the promise of the Foundation Aid formula and completing the formula phase-in;
- Adjusting the underlying formula by including a minimum increase tied to inflation;
- Fully funding expense-based aids;
- Expanding support for career and technical education programs;
- Establishing a fully funded zero-emission transportation pilots in school districts to develop best practices and state policy revisions;
- Providing universal free school meals to all students;
- Modernizing the distribution of prekindergarten funding;
- Adopting a package of civil service reforms to increase efficiency and address staffing shortages;
- Paying all outstanding funds due to school districts through Prior Year Adjustments;
- Allowing the duplicative state funding transparency reporting requirement to sunset;
- Aligning the property tax cap to the reality of inflation and growing needs of school districts; and
- Allowing districts to retain fund balances consistent with industry and accounting standards.

Executive Director Brian Cechnicki stated, "If adopted, this proposal would bring decades of hard work to completion with the finalization of the Foundation Aid formula phase in and set school districts on a path of financial stability in the years to come.

"We are thrilled that in her State of the State address Governor Hochul reaffirmed her commitment to completing the Foundation Aid phase-in and applaud the additional

investment in prekindergarten. We look forward to seeing the details of that expansion in the budget proposal, and hope that some of the UPK provisions in our proposal will be included.

“Since taking office, Governor Hochul’s commitment to realizing the dream of Foundation Aid has been an important part of how school district officials feel about their financial future, and her efforts and support should be commended by all New Yorkers on behalf of the children of this state.

“We are also pleased to see the Governor’s call for continuous recruitment exams for civil service positions. ASBO New York, along with the Association of Towns, the Council of School Superintendents, the New York Council of Mayors, the New York Library Association, the New York State Association of Counties, and the New York State School Boards in October called for this proposal, among others, to modernize our civil service system and address employee shortages across many municipalities.

“We look forward to reviewing the Executive Budget proposal when it is introduced and thank the governor for her leadership in these areas.”

###