

## Contract for Excellence

### ***Overview***

Education Law section 211-d, approved by the Legislature on April 1, 2007 requires Contracts for Excellence to be completed by all school districts that receive an increase in Foundation Aid greater than \$15 million or 10 percent or a supplemental educational improvement plan grant and have at least one low-performing school. The law requires that additional funds provided to school districts be spent on programs and activities in the following areas: class size reduction, improving teacher and principal quality, increasing student time on task, middle school and high school restructuring, and full-day prekindergarten or kindergarten. Districts may use up to 15 percent of the additional on experimental programs approved by the Commissioner. In school year 2007-08, up to \$30 million or 25 percent of the additional funding, whichever is less, can be used to maintain investments in programs and in the five categories.

### ***Amount, Use and Reporting***

Each Contract for Excellence shall describe how the increased Foundation Aid in excess of 103 percent of the district's Foundation Aid base, adjusted for charter school basic tuition payments, shall be used to support new programs and new activities or expand the use of programs and activities demonstrated to improve student achievement. Each Contract must affirm that such programs shall predominately benefit students with the greatest educational needs including, but not limited to, those students with limited English proficiency, students in poverty and students with disabilities.

Questions regarding the Syracuse Contract for Excellence may be directed to Deputy Superintendent Christine Vogelsang at 315-435-5844 or [CVogelsang@scsd.us](mailto:CVogelsang@scsd.us).