

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
UTICA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SPECIAL MEETING – CONTRACT FOR EXCELLENCE 2023-2024 PUBLIC HEARING  
July 25,2023 – 5:45 p.m.**

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Steven Falchi, Sara Klimek, Mike Ferraro, Trina Falchi,  
Andre Paradis, Pam Smoulcey, Stephanie Lyness

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**Public Comment**

**None**

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**Public Hearing**

**Contract for Excellence 2023 – 2024 Public Hearing, Steven Falchi, Chief Academic Officer**

Mr. Falchi presented the following PowerPoint presentation on the 2023 – 2024 Contract for Excellence:





## What is Contracts for Excellence (C4E)?

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:

- ✓ Class size reduction
- ✓ Increased time on task
- ✓ Teacher and principal quality initiatives
- ✓ Middle and high school restructuring
- ✓ Full-day pre-kindergarten and kindergarten
- ✓ Model programs for English language learners

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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.

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

| 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    | \$7,111,902           | \$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 is my District's 2023-24 Contract Amount?

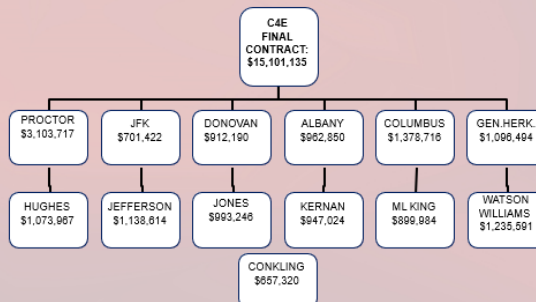
| District      | Contract Amount for 2023-24 |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| ALBANY        | \$ 3,950,357                |
| AMSTERDAM     | 3,700,421                   |
| BINGHAMTON    | 8,002,288                   |
| BUFFALO       | 20,983,514                  |
| ELMIRA        | 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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## C4E Staffing Expenditures by School



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## What are the required steps to completing a Contract for Excellence (C4E)?

1. Consult with stakeholder groups—Parents/Guardians, Teachers, Administrators
2. Prepare and submit a DRAFT Contract (July)
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
6. 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 the New York State Education Department (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.

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## THE UTICA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

IS SEEKING INPUT ON THE EXPENDITURE OF **CONTRACT FOR EXCELLENCE (C4E) FUNDING**, WHICH IS A PORTION OF THE DISTRICT'S FOUNDATION AID ALLOCATION FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR. PURSUANT TO NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT GUIDELINES, ALLOWABLE EXPENSES FOR C4E FUNDING INCLUDE:

- CLASS SIZE REDUCTION
- INCREASED TIME ON TASK
- IMPROVING TEACHER/PRINCIPAL QUALITY
- PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN
- MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL RESTRUCTURING
- MODEL PROGRAMS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

If you would like to provide input, feel free to do so using the following email address: [c4einput@uticaschools.org](mailto:c4einput@uticaschools.org)

A draft of the school district's 2023-2024 C4E plan will be hosted on our website under the Business/Finance Department page on July 12, 2023. A 30-day public comment period is open and comments on the draft plan can also be submitted to the above email address. A public hearing on the Contract for Excellence will be held on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, at 5:45 P.M.

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## Additional C4E Information

- ✓ The Utica City School District's draft C4E plan can be found on our website at [www.uticaschools.org](http://www.uticaschools.org) on the Business/Finance Department webpage
- ✓ Additional information on the Contracts for Excellence (C4E) can be found on the New York State website at the following link:

<https://www.p12.nysed.gov/mgtsev/C4E/23-24home.html>

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Respectfully transcribed and submitted,

STEPHANIE LYNESS  
Assistant Board Clerk