

**New York City Department of Education**  
**2022-23 Assessment of Contracts for Excellence Public Comment**

**Public Comment Timeline**

June 1 – June 15, 2022	Five borough-wide public hearings were held. The full schedule of these meetings can be found here. <a href="https://infohub.nyced.org/reports/financial/contracts-for-excellence/c4e-2022-2023-annual-hearings">https://infohub.nyced.org/reports/financial/contracts-for-excellence/c4e-2022-2023-annual-hearings</a>
May 18 – June 14, 2022	32 public meetings were held. The full schedule of these meetings can be found here. <a href="https://infohub.nyced.org/reports/financial/contracts-for-excellence/c4e-2022-2023-annual-hearings">https://infohub.nyced.org/reports/financial/contracts-for-excellence/c4e-2022-2023-annual-hearings</a>
July 5, 2022	Public comment period concluded.

**Overview of Public Comment Period**

Between June 1 and June 15, 2022, the New York City Department of Education held five virtual public hearings, one in each borough, to discuss its proposed 2022-23 Citywide Contracts for Excellence plan. In addition, between May 18<sup>th</sup> and June 14<sup>th</sup>, public meetings were held in each of the 32 Community School Districts and one was held by the Citywide Council for High Schools (CCHS) to discuss proposed District Contract for Excellence plans. During this period the public was given the opportunity to provide comment on each proposed plan.

The NYC Department of Education thanks all parents, students, community members, superintendents, school employees and CEC members who took time to participate in the 2022-23 Contracts for Excellence public engagement process. A summary of the substance of comments received is provided below, along with the DOE's responses.

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**Summary of Questions, Comments and Concerns**

Topic	<b>C4E Set-aside Amount</b>
<i>Substance of Comments</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Who decides the annual C4E set-aside amount?</i></li> <li>• <i>How much is the C4E set-aside for this year?</i></li> <li>• <i>Why has the set-aside amount remained the same even though the state has increased the foundation aid amount to NYC?</i></li> <li>• <i>Will the C4E amount be increased next year?</i></li> </ul>
DOE Response	<p>The C4E set-aside amount is determined annually by the New York State Commissioner of Education. For school year 2022-23, the set-aside amount is \$530,800,851. Since the NYS Commissioner determines the amount of the set-aside, the DOE does not know the basis for the determination or whether changes will be made in the future.</p>

Topic	<b>School Allocations</b>
<i>Substance of Comments</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>How are school allocations determined?</i></li> <li>• <i>Where are the school allocations listed?</i></li> <li>• <i>Do Charter Schools receive C4E funding?</i></li> <li>• <i>Do district 75 schools receive C4E funding?</i></li> </ul>
DOE Response	<p>The law requires: “Districts must target funds to students with the greatest educational needs, including but not limited to students with disabilities, students with limited English proficiency or who are English language learners, students living in poverty, and students with low academic achievement and give priority to schools serving concentrations of such students.” By law, at least 75 percent of the funding must be distributed to benefit students having the greatest educational needs who are enrolled in the top 50 percent of schools ranked in order of need, according to needs weights determined by SED.</p> <p>School allocations for the 2022-23 school year can be found at following link:  <a href="https://www.nycenet.edu/offices/finance_schools/budget/DSBPO/allocationmemo/fy22_23/fy23_docs/fy2023_sam005.htm">https://www.nycenet.edu/offices/finance_schools/budget/DSBPO/allocationmemo/fy22_23/fy23_docs/fy2023_sam005.htm</a></p> <p>Charter schools and District 75 Citywide Special Education schools do not receive Contracts for Excellence funding.</p>

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Topic	<b>Public Process</b>
<i>Substance of Comments</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>What local publication is advertising the date and time of the borough hearings?</i></li> <li>• <i>Do these ads include instructions on how to participate, including a link to the Zoom sessions?</i></li> </ul>
DOE Response	Public notice of the borough hearings was provided more than 72 hours prior to each hearing on the DOE website and in the publication <i>Chalkbeat</i> . These notices provided information about the time and place of each hearing and included instructions on how to participate via Zoom.

Topic	<b>School Budget Cuts</b>
<i>Substance of Comments</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Why is the DOE planning on cutting school budgets?</i></li> </ul>
DOE Response	The FY23 Adopted Budget includes approximately \$375 million of systemwide savings associated with enrollment changes, offset by \$160 million in stimulus funding. All schools are maintaining 100% Fair Student Funding this year.

Topic	<b>Program Funding</b>
<i>Substance of Comments</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Why hasn't the DOE allocated more C4E to Class Size Reduction?</i></li> </ul>
DOE Response	School principals working in consultation with their respective School Leadership Teams decide how to allocate the funding within the six allowable programs and activities prescribed by law.