

MADISON COUNTY SCHOOL FACILITIES SALES TAX FACT SHEET

What is the School Facilities Sales Tax?

The School Facilities Sales Tax is a county-wide 1% sales tax that would generate revenue that could **only** be used for school facility purposes. The revenue from the sales tax would be distributed among all Madison County School Districts based upon student enrollment. District 7 would receive 18% of the total revenue generated in Madison County.

What areas of school district operation cannot be supported with these new sales tax dollars?

Revenue from the new sales tax **cannot** be used for: textbooks, computers, all instructional expenditures, all moveable equipment, and other direct operating costs, all of which are the District's first and most urgent priorities to maintain academic excellence.

What is District 7's first priority?

The District's first priority is financial stability for the Education Fund. This can be accomplished by the passage of Proposition E, which would provide:

- New student textbooks, new student computers, upgraded technology and new school security cameras
- Funds to preserve programs and services currently offered to District 7 students
- Funds to ensure that the Education Fund is balanced by June 2019 as required by the Illinois State Board of Education
- Funds to eliminate the expected Education Fund operating debt of \$6.7 million
- Funds to begin establishing necessary cash reserves to remove District 7 from the state's Financial Watch List

How can the revenue generated from the sales tax be used?

Revenue from the new sales tax can **only** be used for new facilities, energy efficiency, additions & renovations, land acquisition, ongoing facility maintenance, fire prevention and life safety, roof repairs, parking lots, and abatement of property taxes levied to pay bonds issued for capital purposes. Previous estimates provided to the District indicate that the 1% School Facilities Sales Tax could generate approximately \$4.1 million annually ***to be used for these purposes only.***

Who initiated this question being placed before Madison County voters?

The majority of Madison County school districts (**not including Edwardsville, Collinsville, and Venice**) requested that the Regional Office of Education (ROE) submit the School Facilities Sales Tax proposal to the Madison County Clerk for placement on the April 4, 2017, consolidated election ballot.

How will this question appear on the ballot?

The question will be the second to the last question on the ballot, right before **Prop E.**

"Shall Madison County be authorized to impose a retailers' occupation tax and a service occupation tax (commonly referred to as a "sales tax") at a rate of one percent to be used exclusively for school facility purposes?"