

What Illinois tax fund can be used to pay what expenses?

General Fund -- this fund pays for everything not paid for by the other library tax funds.

The legal citation is 75 ILCS 5/3-1 for municipal libraries and 75 ILCS 16/35-10 for district libraries.

Examples include:

- Salaries – full and part time
- Rent/Mortgage payment
- Book, video and other materials
- Electric, Water, Heat/AC
- Internet access
- Computers, printers, scanners, etc
- Programs – children and adult
- Furniture
- Office supplies
- Book supplies
- Photocopier and supplies
- Telephone and fax lines

The maximum is .15% without voter approval. With voter approval, the rate can go to .60%.

Audit Fund --- this fund pays ONLY for the library's annual audit expenses. Check with your lawyer and auditor to determine if bookkeeping software could also be considered under this fund. The legal citation is 65 ILCS 5/8-8-8 for both municipal libraries and district libraries.

This tax is not subject to voter objection or recall. There is a legal maximum, but it is rare for a library to reach that maximum amount.

IMRF Fund --- this fund pays ONLY for the library's Illinois Municipal Retirement Funds expenses. The legal citation is 40 ILCS 5/7-171 for both municipal libraries and district libraries.

Note: If a municipality is not part of IMRF, the municipal library may not join IMRF. When the municipality joins IMRF, the library may also join IMRF.

This tax is not subject to voter objection or recall. There is not a maximum amount for this tax; you tax up to the level needed for the IMRF payment.

Medicare/Social Security Fund --- this fund pays ONLY for the library's FICA expenses. The legal citation is 40 ILCS 5/21-110 and 21-110.1 for both municipal libraries and district libraries.

This tax is not subject to voter objection or recall. There is not a maximum amount for this tax; you tax up to the level needed for the FICA payment.

Building/Maintenance Fund --- this fund is ONLY for the building and its upkeep, you can pay for 1) the purchase of sites and buildings; 2) for construction and equipment of buildings; 3) for the rental of buildings – for library purposes; 4) **for the maintenance, repair and alterations of**

library buildings and equipment. The taxpayers may petition this tax be put on the ballot for their approval.

The legal citation is 75 ILCS 5/3-1 for municipal libraries and 75 ILCS 16/35-10 for district libraries.

Examples include:

- renting library space/storage
- painting the building
- photocopiers
- computers
- roofing and tuck pointing
- printers and scanners
- computer tables or workstations
- sidewalks
- shelving & bookends
- Maintenance contracts and Cleaning contract/service
- Chairs
- general carpentry/maintenance
- tools and supplies
- VCR/TV/DVD (equipment)
- puppet stage
- desk(s), tables & counters
- rugs or carpet
- vacuums, mops
- lawn mower or lawn care
- garbage cans & bags
- brooms, rakes
- fans & heaters
- snow removal
- hoses (yard and machinery)
- drapes, curtains, blinds
- wall hangings/pictures
- book drop purchase
- book mobile expenses

[This tax is subject to voter objection or recall.](#)

Tort and Immunity (Insurance) Fund – this fund pays for the building, liability and ‘director’s & officer’s liability’ insurances. It does not pay for health insurance costs. It can pay for certain lawsuit damages, such as personal injury, or discrimination. In some instances, in accordance with the library’s [Risk Management and Loss Control Plan](#), the tax can cover the cost of the library’s risk management or self-insured expenses, for example safety expenses and safety officer costs.

The legal citation is 745 ILCS 10/9-107 for both municipal libraries and district libraries. See also 75 ILCS 5/4-14.

Examples include:

- Director’s & Officer’s Liability
- Workers’ Compensation
- Unemployment Compensation
- Portion of the custodian’s salary for the ongoing correction of safety issues
- Portion of the Safety Officer’s salary for the ongoing oversight of safety issues
- fire extinguishers and maintenance
- snow shovels and salt
- snow removal (as a safety issue)
- paper towels (health and cleaning issues)
- carpet/rug repair
- sanitizing soaps and cleansers

- batteries for emergency lights and flash lights
- trash removal
- light bulbs and ballast
- safety supplies – flashlight, first aid kit, gloves, etc
- security alarm system – body alarms, building alarms, motion detectors, etc

This tax is not subject to voter objection or recall. There is not a maximum amount for this tax; you tax up to level needed for the Insurances. However, the library must have a board adopted Risk Management Plan, one that covers Loss Control issues for this tax. The library's attorney will be able to assist the library in drafting this plan.

Working Cash Fund --- this tax can be used ONLY four (4) times in the life of the library. It is a type of 'savings account' for the library, but any money removed from the fund MUST be repaid with interest.

The legal citation is 75 ILCS 5/3-9 for municipal libraries and 75 ILCS 16/35-35 & 16/30-95 district libraries.

This tax is subject to voter objection or recall.

Special Reserve Fund --- this is not a tax, but a legal method to save money for a new building, renovation, major repairs or building emergencies. This is not the piggy bank; the working cash fund is.

The legal citation is 75 ILCS 5/5-8 for municipal libraries and 75 ILCS 16/40-50 & 16/40-5 district libraries.