

# Why Do *Wisconsin* School Districts Use Referendums?

Wisconsin's school funding structure requires many districts to seek additional support through referendums.

**Here's why:**

1

## **Revenue Limits**

State-imposed caps restrict how much funding a district can raise, regardless of local growth or cost increases.

2

## **Rising Operating Costs**

Expenses such as utilities, transportation, and staffing continue to increase, often outpacing available revenue.

3

## **Maintaining Programs & Services**

Operational referendums help sustain day-to-day services like classroom instruction, student support, and enrichment programs.

4

## **Financial Stability**

Referendums can help districts plan responsibly and avoid cuts that would impact students and staff.