

I own several properties in the downtown...can I have multiple applications? You are allowed to apply for a grant for each of the properties you own, so long as the properties are in the Commerce District.

Can I apply for the \$20,000 grant for work totaling more than \$200,000; AND \$5,000 because I am taking down a building that does not look very nice? If the building is on the Blighted Property list created and maintained by the Property Maintenance Committee, you can apply for the \$5,000.00 grant to raze the property. Additionally, if the exterior work involved with the reconstruction of a building on the same lot totals \$200,000 or more, you are eligible for a \$20,000 grant.

Is there a maximum number of grants I can apply for? If you own multiple properties or multiple storefronts, there is not a maximum number. You are eligible to apply for each storefront you own. The total allowable grant per lot is capped at \$20,000. For example, if you owned 4 storefronts that are in one building, located on one lot, you could apply for a grant for each storefront. The maximum amount you would receive would be \$20,000. It might be less. If the work for one of the storefronts totaled \$8,000, then the maximum you would be eligible to receive would be \$4,000; making the total for the lot \$19,000.

Can I apply for a \$5,000 grant to renovate the outside of the building and then another grant to paint the building? We would look at that as one project. The application would come in with the estimates to renovate and paint the exterior of the building. For a project of this type, the grant maximum would be \$5,000.

I own a building that has two storefronts in the one building. Can I apply for a grant for each storefront? Yes, you could apply for a grant for each storefront.

Can I apply for a grant and can my tenant apply for a grant? You could choose to give permission for your tenant to apply for a grant for the storefront they lease. Two entities cannot apply for a grant for the same unit or property.

I own a building that has three storefronts in the one building. Can I apply for a grant for two storefronts and can my tenant apply for a grant for the remaining storefront? Yes. You could choose to give permission for your tenant to apply for a grant for the storefront they lease. In this example, you might apply for a grant for two of the storefronts. You are eligible for up to \$5,000 for each storefront. Your tenant could also apply for the third storefront (which they lease) and receive a grant maximum of \$5,000. Two entities cannot apply for a grant for the same unit or property – you could not apply for the three units and then have your tenant apply for the unit they lease.

I have an empty lot and want to build a new building. Am I eligible for the \$20,000 grant? The grant would only be available for items on the exterior of the building (the façade) that faces the street. It may be that the total cost for those items does not total \$200,000 which would make you ineligible for the \$20,000 grant. You could, however, apply for a \$5,000.00 maximum reimbursement for items such as siding, paint, and signs on those sides of the building that face the street.

I would like to plant new landscaping and repave my parking lot. Is the work eligible for the grant? Parking lot and landscape improvements are not eligible for the grant reimbursement.

I am doing a complete renovation of my building, which will include an addition to the building. Is the addition eligible for the grant? The exterior work for the addition is eligible for grant reimbursement. This would include items purchased to complete the façade, such as siding, paint, trim, and signs. The construction costs for the interior of the addition would not be eligible, nor would the roofing cost be eligible.

I need to replace the roof on my business – is that eligible for a grant? Roofing costs are not eligible for reimbursement.

My building sits on a corner lot and I want to upgrade all the windows and put on new siding. Can I apply for the grant and use an estimate for the entire building? Only the sides that are seen from the street are eligible for grant reimbursement.

I need the grant funds to pay for the work my contractor is doing. Can I have the grant before the project is complete? The grant guidelines state that in order to be reimbursed (awarded the grant), you must provide a copy of a paid invoice or receipts for items you purchased yourself. The Town cannot ‘advance’ the grant to you.

I was approved for the grant and decided to change the design and colors while the work was in progress. Does that matter since I have already been approved? Any changes in the design that was submitted with the original application must be reviewed and approved by the Review Committee. If you plan to change any of the design or colors while the work is in progress, you should immediately contact the Economic Development office to discuss the changes and arrange to have them reviewed by the Committee. This will ensure your grant approval remains active.

I own a multifamily apartment building in the Commerce District and would like to reside the building and install new windows. Am I eligible for the grant? If your multi-family is a mixed use building, you would be eligible, as the program eligibility requires that a new or existing business be involved.

I submitted my grant application last Thursday. When will I have an answer? The Review Committee will provide a recommendation to the Town Administrator within three weeks of receipt of a completed application. An approval or denial letter will then be issued. A completed application is one that includes all of the items on the “Application Checklist” found on the front of the application form.

I was approved for the Façade Improvement grant. I am going to put siding on my business building and add a front porch. If I have been approved for the grant already, why do I have to submit a building permit? Didn’t the Building Department get notified of what I was doing? Any structural changes to a building require a building permit. The Building Department officials take part in the review of the grant applications, but that does not negate the necessity of applying for a building permit and requesting code inspections. The building permit process is separate from the grant program.

My project is estimated to cost \$1,500,000.00. The building is a total wreck and I want to take it down and build a three story building in its place. Can I get a grant totaling \$25,000 since I am removing what I believe to be an ugly building? In order to obtain the \$5,000 grant for removal of a blighted property, the property must be on the Blight List maintained by the Property Maintenance Committee. That list is available from the Building Department. If your property IS on that list, then you would be

eligible for the \$25,000 grant; if not, the maximum grant amount would be \$20,000. The \$20,000 would be for exterior work only. If that work did not total \$200,000 or more, then the maximum amount you could be awarded would be \$5,000.

I thought the grant maximum was \$5,000.00. It cost me \$8948.00 to do the work, why am I not getting back \$5,000? The grant program is a 50/50 matching grant. That means that the town will reimburse you for 50% of the cost of the improvements. In this example, you would be eligible for a \$4,474.00 grant.

My business is in multiple buildings and technically is on three lots. Am I only eligible for \$5,000 or can I get up to a maximum of \$15,000? A single business that spans two or more properties is eligible for multiple grants. Depending on the project parameters, you could be eligible for a grant totaling \$15,000.

What does it mean when you say 50/50 matching grant up to \$5,000? If your project estimate is \$10,000, you would be eligible for up to \$5,000. If the project estimate is \$2,500, you would be eligible for \$1,250.00. If your project estimate is \$75,000 you would be eligible for \$5,000 as the grant maximum (for projects under \$200,000) is \$5,000.

If my project costs are \$199,999, what can I expect for a grant amount? The grant maximum is \$5,000 for projects under \$200,000.00

I started a renovation project and just heard about the grant. Can I still apply? Unfortunately, the grant cannot be applied retroactively.