



Downtown Exterior Façade Improvement Grant Program

Purpose

The Clarksville-Johnson County Chamber of Commerce and Clarksville Regional Economic Development Organization identifies the enhancement of the downtown as one of the elements in creating a strong, vibrant economically sustainable community. To support the downtown enhancement effort, the chamber and ED organization have created a \$500 façade improvement grant fund. The boundaries of the downtown are defined by the historic district.

Attractiveness of the building exterior invites customers and enhances property values.

Grant Funding Specifics

The eligible project must have a minimum investment of \$500. The maximum amount of the grant is \$500. Eligible projects may receive a grant award of up to 50% of the total material cost up to \$500. The grant funds awarded are reimbursed to the grantee when all fees to the contractor(s) or vendor(s) are paid. The funding is not intended to reimburse façade improvements completed before an application is submitted to the Chamber staff. Applications are accepted until all the grant funds budgeted have been committed.

Use of Grant Funds

The grant funds may be utilized for exterior façade improvements such as lighting, paint, paint labor costs, glass, doors, awnings, and signage.

Eligibility

The applicant must control the property through one of the following mechanisms:

1. Own the property;
2. Executed lease for 12 months or longer;
3. Contract purchase with the title holder's approval;
4. Not available to government or education institutions;
5. The property must be located in the downtown historic district; and
6. The project has not been completed upon application submittal.

Application Requirements

1. Provide a narrative describing the project and the work to be performed.
2. Include a budget of the breakdown of expenses, including labor costs, with the façade improvement, signage, or other pertinent information.
3. Include the timeline of the project.
4. Provide contact information of the applicant, including the business name.
5. Photo(s) of the property façade to be impacted, and a sketch or drawing of the proposed improvements.



6. Proof of ownership, letter from property owner and property owner's contact information providing approval for façade improvement, plus copy of twelve-month or longer lease.
7. Sign and date the application material.

Provide the application package to:
Clarksville Johnson County Chamber of Commerce
101 North Johnson Street, (in the historic train depot)
Clarksville, Arkansas 72830
479.754.2340
Email to: scarlton@clarksvillearchamber.com

Requirements from the Granting Organization

- The grantee is responsible for all payment obligations to contractors and vendors.
- Projects approved must commence within 120 days of the approval letter date from the Chamber of Commerce.
- The final project work matches the description in the approved project application.
- Lack of completeness of the façade improvement may jeopardize the grant.
- Paid invoices must be provided to substantiate payment to the contractor and or vendor.
- The project work passes all inspections by the City of Clarksville building inspector and fire department.

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