



53 West South Street, Carlisle, PA 17013

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FAÇADE GRANT PROGRAM

This grant program supplies retail and restaurant businesses, or properties with such commercial tenants, a grant for half of an approved project, up to \$2,000, for markedly different improvements to their building exterior, storefront or outdoor retail space, for the benefit of the business, brand, and streetscape.* The owner matches the grant total dollar for dollar. The grant is unique in that it can be used for items beyond the storefront—for cafe tables and chairs or market umbrellas, for example, or for decorative purposes as opposed to solely repair work.

Applicants are required to meet with the Downtown Carlisle Association (DCA) early in their renovation plans as funding dollars are limited and projects that have already started or have been completed are not eligible.

The DCA is committed to the National Main Street Four Point Revitalization efforts with its' core being historic preservation and sustainability of the surrounding neighborhoods and a vibrant business community. The DCA has budgeted a combined \$11,000 for this and the Anti-Graffiti grant. This facade grant provides grants of up to \$2,000 for downtown retail business owners within the C-1 zoning district to make improvements to their facades, storefronts, exterior lighting, front window display pieces or areas, outdoor fixtures or furniture or other features visible from the public way designed to render the property more appealing, welcoming and attractive.

*For outdoor signs and sign brackets, or interior signs up to 3' from the front window, this grant will pay half, up to \$400. As mentioned, all applicants must meet with the DCA prior for discussion, assistance, or design of signs/façade.

Review Process

Grants are reviewed and approved, not-approved, or sent back for clarification or requests for changes, monthly by the DCA Main Street Business Development volunteer subcommittee. Grants can be awarded for full or partial amount.

The committee considers all grants on overall appearance, adherence to the Downtown Design Guidelines, and current downtown environment, but may waive any guidelines contained herein based on good cause and on a case by case basis in order to advance the overall objectives of the program. The committee provides no appeal process for applicants that are denied or discharged.

Eligible Properties

Applications must be for properties in the C-1 district, North Street to South Street, and West Street to Bedford Street. Property must have first floor retail.

Eligible Projects

This is a sample list of eligible projects. All facade improvements subject to borough codes and ordinances.

- facade washing or brick cleaning
- repainting of brick, masonry and wood including window frames and other facade features
- repair restoration, renovation and/or replacement of wood
- repair, restoration, renovation, replacement or installation of appropriate 1st floor handrails and porch balusters
- repair, restoration, renovation, replacement or installation of appropriate decorative or ornamental millwork, dentil work or other architectural details
- repair, restoration, renovation, replacement or installation of 1st floor exterior or window/display lighting
- repair, restoration, renovation and/or replacement of 1st floor windows and doors
- repair, restoration, renovation and/or replacement of hardware or hardware accessories such as for windows, doors or signs
- repair, restoration, renovation and/or replacement of storefronts including signing
- restoration or repair of existing awnings, or installation of new fabric awnings
- repair and installation of hanging window or flower boxes
- removal of historically-inappropriate materials from the facade
- preservation, restoration, repair or replacement of distinctive architectural ornamentation including cast and wrought ironwork and stained glass

Applicants may also apply for to make storefronts and window displays more interesting, appealing, attractive and welcoming. This is a sample list of projects that could be eligible.

- signage and signage hardware including decorative hardware
- wreaths, banners, flags, draping, sashes, linens, umbrellas and awnings
- window treatments, lettering or graphics
- 1st floor windows and doors
- planter gardens, planters, hanging baskets and other potted or planted landscaping for garden spaces or courtyards
- display racks, hangers, shelving, tables or props
- outdoor furniture
- interior and exterior lighting and light fixtures
- food service equipment
- professional architectural design or merchandising/visual display services

Ineligible Applications

All applications will not be approved in the following situations. This is not a comprehensive list.

- The project is already in progress or completed prior to notification of the grant approval.
- The project is undertaken by a developer, either for-profit or non-profit, for the purpose of resale.
- The project may damage the building facade, such as sandblasting.
- The project is inappropriate or incompatible with the program objectives and downtown revitalization.
- The project includes the installation or repair of concrete public sidewalks.
- The project addresses only interior work beyond the window display area.

Terms and Conditions

- Only projects visible from a public way that include retail space on at least the ground-floor level are eligible.
- Business or property owners who are delinquent in the payment of fees to the DCA or have an unsatisfied municipal lien against the property are ineligible.
- All necessary building or other permits and certificates of appropriateness must be obtained by the property owner or their contractor, this grant cannot be used for those fees.
- Project activities must be in compliance with any and all municipal regulations.
- The business owner is responsible for all project costs over and above the maximum grant amount.
- Any cost changes to the project, either as a result of late discovery or a change in design (change orders) are the responsibility of the applicant.
- All projects must commence within six months and be completed within ten months of funding approval; one, three-month, extension may be granted due to extenuating circumstances.

The committee/ DCA reserves the right to not award this grant if any changes are made to the project that are not approved by the committee. The committee reserves the right to rescind approval of the grant mid-project, if the project no longer meets expectations of the committee.

Matching Fund Requirements

Once approved, the applicant can proceed with work and submit final invoices and photos of work for reimbursement.

Application Procedure

Before starting any work, applicants should contact the Downtown Carlisle Association. For a brief telephone interview confirming the applicant's contact information, address and general nature of the project. If the project is deemed eligible for funding, a site visit to the project location would occur.

Applicant would then fill out the application and submit it to the DCA for committee review.