

The Facade Improvement Grant was created to encourage private investment through the renovation of facades in downtown Chapel Hill; to encourage good design that will serve as quality examples; and to preserve the architectural character that is unique to Chapel Hill.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Any property owner or tenant of a building located within the Downtown Chapel Hill Municipal Service District is eligible to apply provided the application is reviewed and approved prior to construction.
2. The Downtown Partnership may deem a building eligible if:
 - a. At least three years have elapsed since the last grant was awarded and the property is in need of further improvement. Extenuating circumstances may include a change in property ownership or if maximum grant funds were not previously allocated.
 - b. The existing business/property undergoes significant expansion which requires improvement to the property (i.e. window repair in upper stories, parking lot reconfiguration, etc.)

Procedure for Receiving a Grant

Grant applications may be submitted to Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership at any time. Due to funding cycles, the award of grants begin with the fiscal year beginning July 1st of each year, based on funding availability. Grants are awarded to eligible applicants until all funds are expended.

1. The property or business owner submits a completed grant application, photographs, and drawings to CHDP. The package must be complete in order to qualify for funding.
2. The property or business owner presents the project to the CHDP Executive Director. The applicant shall have the opportunity to discuss the project and answer any questions at that time.
3. If approved, a grant agreement will be executed between CHDP and the applicant.
4. This is a reimbursable grant. Grant funds will be disbursed once the CHDP Executive Director receives copies of all invoices and copies of checks showing proof of payment, and after the project has been inspected. It takes approximately two weeks to receive the reimbursement.

Façade Improvement Grant



For more information contact::

Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership
308 West Rosemary Street Suite 202
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
(919) 967-9440
bobby@downtownchapelhill.com



GUIDELINES

1. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and the Downtown Chapel Hill Design Guidelines will be used as guidelines for awarding grants.

2. Rehabilitation of a structure in the Municipal Service District should be considered a contemporary solution which respects the architectural and historical integrity of the entire building while retaining those elements that enhance the building.

3. All rehabilitation design proposals must meet with the zoning requirements of the Town of Chapel Hill.

4. Any improvements that have been made through the Facade Incentive Grant Program may not be removed for a period of five years.

5. All projects must be completed within one year of the date that grant is awarded. Any extension beyond one year must be requested by the owner and approved by the Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership Executive Director or the funds may be rescinded.

6. Facade grants may only be used by finance exterior improvement work.

7. The Facade Incentive Grant Program is for existing buildings only (at least five years old) and is not intended for buildings set to be demolished within five years or less.

8. Upon completion, the improvements will be inspected by CHDP for determination of compliance as submitted in the application and approved by the organization.

9. Any nonprofit agency that owns property in the district but does not pay MSD taxes will be eligible to apply for facade grants of up to \$250.

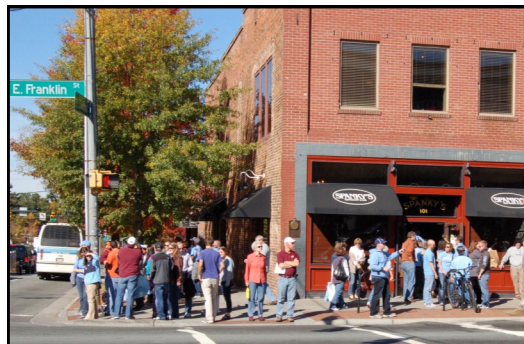
ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

- New business signs
- Canvas-style awnings
- Paint removal from brick surfaces by chemical and water wash methods only
- Tuck-pointing of brick
- Repairing cornices
- Repair/replacement of windows and doors with compatible materials and design
- Removing false facades and other inappropriate additions
- Reconfiguration and landscaping of parking lots
- Other projects based on CHDP approval

CRITERIA

Grants are Awarded on a 50/50 matching basis as follows:

- A maximum grant of \$500 per facade design
- Corner buildings may be eligible for a maximum grant of \$500 if two or more sides face a city street.
- Any parking lot or improvement other than a building shall receive a maximum grant of up to \$250
- Signs are eligible for facade grants of up to \$500
- Proposals for architectural improvements, signs, landscaping and parking enhancements will be evaluated in terms of compliance with existing ordinances



FAÇADE INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

Property Owner's Name _____

Applicant's Name & Business _____

Mailing Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Project Property Address (if different) _____

Please attach the following with the application:

1. Color photographs clearly showing the existing condition of the proposed area of improvement
2. Written specifications outlines the scope of the work, and proposed timeframe for such work
3. Sketch or scaled drawings showing proposed renovations
4. Samples of all paint colors and awning fabrics to be used (if applicable)
5. Proposed budget and licensed contractor's cost estimates. Please provide a copy of their North Carolina Contractors License Number if applicable.
6. Written permission from the property owner if applicable.
7. Written approval from the Town of Chapel Hill Planning Department that project meets the zoning requirements.

Total Cost of Improvements \$ _____

Amount Requested \$ _____

Signature of Applicant _____

Incomplete applications shall be returned.