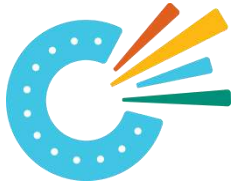


THE EXPERIENCE CHEHALIS

FACADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM



WWW.EXPERIENCECHEHALIS.COM



Experience Chehalis Facade Improvement Grant Program

INTRODUCTION & INSTRUCTIONS

The Downtown Facade Grant is offered by Experience Chehalis, a Main Street community. This program is offered to downtown business and property owners who desire to make improvements to the facade of their buildings. Experience Chehalis works to promote revitalization and offers both technical and financial assistance to assure our historical buildings and district are preserved, maintained, and rehabilitated properly.

The facade program is handled by our Economic Vitality Committee, whose role is to enhance the look and feel of the commercial district. Historic building rehabilitation, signage, and lighting all improve the physical image of the downtown as a quality place to shop, work, walk, invest in, and live. Improvements result in a reinvestment of public and private dollars downtown.

Our grant program is funded, in part, by local businesses taking part in the Main Street Tax Incentive Program. Businesses can donate to Experience Chehalis and receive a tax credit in the amount of 75% of their donation the following calendar year. More information is available online at the [Experience Chehalis website](#).

A. Who is eligible?

1. Owner(s) of a business - Each business is eligible for up to 75% match of improvement costs to a maximum of \$2,500 grant funds (total project cost can exceed this threshold)
2. Owner(s) of a commercial building - Each building is eligible for up to 75% match of improvement costs, to a maximum of \$2,500 grant funds (total project cost can exceed this threshold)
3. A property with a lease or purchased under contract, if all parties to the lease or contract agree in writing to the improvements
4. Property owner with multiple properties may apply for separate funds to improve each property
5. Business owner with multiple storefront business facades may apply for individual grants to improve each business
6. Business/building must be located within Experience Chehalis's "Main Street Program" Area (see attached map on pg. 7)

B. What is eligible?

Eligible facade expenses may include, but are not limited to: design, exterior painting, exterior brick maintenance, restoration of historic building features, lighting, signage, weatherization (doors and windows), and purchase of new (or replacement of older) awnings that are visible from rights-of-way.

C. What grant funds are available?

1. No more than \$2,500 total grant funds will be awarded to a single building or single business. Experience Chehalis has a total of \$20,000 available during the facade grant round.

D. When will grants be available?

The application process will be open for as long as funding is available; funding cycle is based on calendar year and renewed on an annual basis.

E. What are the limitations?

1. Funds are intended for improvements to exterior facades of buildings only. The term “improvement” in this program includes: rehabilitation, restoration, maintenance, and/or new improvements.
2. Facades must be visible from right-of-way. Interiors, roofs, and facades not visible from public right-of-way are not eligible for a grant.
3. Funds are intended for future work to be performed, If a project has already been completed by the time of application, there must have been prior communication and shared intent with Experience Chehalis prior to completion. In these cases, an exception may be made. Costs for project design may be included in the project budget submitted for the grant, but no other work should be complete.
4. Design for a building must be consistent with all multiple grant applications associated with that building. A single building with more than one storefront business or facade is eligible for funds for only one design, but each independent tenant business' storefront (must have a separate mailing address and direct entrance off the street) is eligible for grant funding. A store with a front and a back door counts as just one storefront.

F. What is the Commitment & Project Schedule?

1. The applicant (building or business owner) must agree to complete the project in a timely manner. After Grant Committee review, Experience Chehalis Board approval of an application qualifies a project for reimbursement.
2. The applicant has 120 days from the date of acceptance to commence work on the project. If the work has not commenced by that time, the applicant must notify the Grant Committee (or Experience Chehalis Board) in writing of the delay and the intent to either:
 - a. Withdraw from participation in the program without reimbursement for any out-of-pocket expenses; or
 - b. Initiate work by a proposed date (if agreed to and accepted by the Grant Committee) with a project completion date no later than 180 days from the original date of acceptance.
3. The project must be completed within 180 days of acceptance unless a time extension is approved. If the project will run past 180 days, the applicant must submit for a time extension in writing to the Grant Committee. This grant offering is not to be construed as a blanket offer of funds for any other project.

4. A project started before the design is approved and grant awarded will not be accepted, in which case the applicant must bear the full cost of the project or the cost of a redo that meets the design guidelines.
5. Changing the design without Experience Chehalis and City approvals voids the agreement and leaves the applicant(s) totally liable for the cost of the project, including reimbursement for architectural fees.
6. Once the project is completed, the grant applicant will submit a final invoice(s) to Experience Chehalis for reimbursement; reimbursement is typically provided within 1 week of submission.

G. What is the application process?

1. Applicants are encouraged to talk to the City Planning Department early on regarding their project to determine what City applications and permits are needed for their project.
2. Submit Grant Application and materials to info@experiencechehalis.com.
3. Grant Committee reviews all applications, and will forward approved applications to Experience Chehalis Board for final approval.
4. The Experience Chehalis Board makes final decision for award of grants. Grant applicants are notified of the grant awards.
5. Applicant(s) awarded a grant are required to sign a notarized Final Grant Agreement recognizing the award amount, any update to the application, modifications, new information received, specific requirements and/or conditions.
6. If not already in hand, the applicant is required to obtain all approvals, permits and/or letters of exemption from the City prior to the beginning of work. Failure to obtain City approvals, permits or letters of exemption prior to beginning work will likely jeopardize some or all of the grant reimbursements for project costs.
7. Within 90 days of project completion, the applicant must submit receipts showing payment for all project expenses to the Grant Committee who reviews and makes a recommendation for payment to the Experience Chehalis Board.
8. A reimbursement check equal to 75% of the approved project expenses (grant will not exceed \$2,500 per project) in the name of the applicant(s) as stated on the grant application form will be delivered to the applicant within one week of the invoice(s) submission.

H. What is included in the application?

Initial application submitted to the Grant Committee must include:

1. Facade Project Application Form Completed
2. Facade Improvement Agreement with signatures of the building owner (or owners) and applicable business/tenant with a designated storefront
3. Contractor bid estimates for proposed work and actual invoices for costs of the design work
4. *Optional:* Background information as to the building's age, current uses & proposed uses, and historical pictures of the building if possible

5. *Optional*: "Before" photograph(s), special design boards and/or materials, samples of paint chips, or other materials to be used as part of the project

I. Program Administration

The Grant Committee is responsible for overseeing design review of all applications and is responsible for administration of the Facade Improvement Program. The Experience Chehalis Board awards grants and has final authority for the disbursement of funds.

PLEASE ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR GRANT APPLICATION

J. What are the criteria for rating grant applications?

Award of a grant is a discretionary decision by Experience Chehalis based on the criteria below. Award of grants may also be competitive should there be more quality projects than funds available. Note that it is not necessary to meet all criteria to have a project which qualifies for a grant.

1. **Consistent Design - Required.** The applicant must demonstrate that the design for the building/business is consistent with all multiple grant applications associated with that building. A single building with more than one storefront business or facade is eligible for funds for only one design, but each independent tenant business' storefront (must have a separate mailing address and direct entrance off the street) is eligible for grant funding. A store with a front and a back door counts as just one storefront.
2. **Critical need.** Special consideration will be given if there is a safety risk to the public or need to bring the building's facade into building code compliance.
3. **Historic Character.** The project will rehabilitate a building or business storefront in keeping with the historic character of Chehalis.
4. **More bounce for the ounce.** Facade project will make a noticeable improvement to the downtown.
5. **Location.** Facade project in the Main Street service area.
6. **Qualified Professionals and Contractors.** It is preferred that the project will include qualified professionals and contractors with experience. However, sweat equity may be considered in the total project costs, if the applicant demonstrates the knowledge, skills and experience in performing work associated with the project. If hiring professionals and contractors, local vendors are preferred (and recommendations are available upon request).
7. **Completed Application.** Those grant applications that are complete will have preference over those that do not; first-come, first-approved.
8. **Ready for Start.**
 - a. If a sign and/or building permit is required, a facade improvement project that has received a sign and/or building permit approval or a determination that the project is exempt from a sign and/or building permit will have preference over those that do not yet have approval or exempt determination.
 - b. The project is shown to have a viable schedule for completion within 120 days of award of grant.
 - c. All signs should comply with the codes listed in Chehalis Municipal Code 17.86.

J. What are the criteria for rating grant applications? Cont.

9. Design Considerations:

The following criteria will be used when a project includes one or more of these elements:

a. Awnings

- i. Awnings should be of high-quality material.
- ii. Awnings should have a traditional shape such as a tent shape or be rounded when the opening is arched.

b. Signs

- i. Signs should be of high-quality material.
- ii. Signs must be appropriate to the scale and design compatible with the building and other buildings on the block. Lettering should be of a scale and design that is appropriate to the building.

c. Paint

- i. Paint color should be, at a minimum, appropriate to the style and setting of the building. Color selection should complement the building, as well as other buildings in the block.
- ii. Color schemes for wall and major decorative trim or details should be kept simple; in most cases, the color or colors chosen for a storefront should be used on other painted exterior detailing (windows, shutter, cornice, etc.) to unify upper and lower portions of the facade.

d. Windows & Doors

- i. The original form and materials used in windows is encouraged to be preserved.
- ii. When replacing windows and doors, use of high energy efficient windows is encouraged.

Need more information or resources?

- *Contact Experience Chehalis at 360-345-1738 or by e-mail at info@experiencechehalis.com*
- *Visit the City of Chehalis' website to download applicable forms at ci.chehalis.wa.us*
- *Contact the City Planning Department at 360-345-2229 or via email at comdev@ci.chehalis.wa.us*
- *The Washington State Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation can be reached at 360-586-3076*

A map of Chehalis, Washington, with a green shaded area representing the Main Street District. The map shows a grid of streets including NW Maryland Ave, NW State Ave, N National Ave, NW Geary St, NW Pennsylvania Ave, NW Lafayette St, NW Middle St, W Folsom St, NW West St, NW Division St, NW Prindle St, NW Center St, NW North St, W Main St, NW State Ave, NE Cascade Ave, NE Adams Ave, NE Jefferson Ave, NE Hillside Dr, NE Summit Rd, NE Terrace Rd, SE Adams Ave, SE 1st St, SE 3rd St, SW Pacific Ave, SW Cascade Ave, SW Alfred St, SW 1st St, and S Market Blvd. Landmarks such as Lewis County Historical Museum, Vernetta Smith Chehalis Timberland Library, United States Postal Service, Les Schwab Tire Center, District Court, The Farm Store, and Lewis County Jail are marked with icons. A river, Coal Creek Rd, is visible in the upper right. The word 'Chehalis' is written in the center of the green area.

experience
CHEHALIS
**Main Street
District Map**

Adopted July 18th, 2019

Chehalis

Lewis County
Historical Museum

Vernetta Smith Chehalis
Timberland Library

United States
Postal Service

Les Schwab Tire Center

District Court

The Farm Store

Lewis County Jail

Supply Co

day Inn Express &
Chehalis-Centralia

Jeremy's Farm to Table

Experience Chehalis Facade Grant Application

Date Received: _____

PROJECT NAME		
GRANT FUND REQUEST	\$	<i>Grant fund request is 75% match of total project cost, up to \$2,500</i>
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$	
PROJECT DESCRIPTION		
START DATE		
COMPLETION DATE		
SITE ADDRESS		
TAX PARCEL #(s)		

APPLICANT	<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING OWNER <input type="checkbox"/> BUSINESS OWNER/TENANT	
NAME:		DAY PH.
MAILING ADDRESS:		
E-MAIL:		CELL PH.

CONTACT PERSON	<input type="checkbox"/> APPLICANT <input type="checkbox"/> DESIGN PROFESSIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> CONTRACTOR <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____	
NAME:		DAY PH.
MAILING ADDRESS:		
E-MAIL:		CELL PH.

COPY FROM ABOVE PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING AS PART OF YOUR APPLICATION:

- Completed Facade Project Application Form
- Facade Improvement Agreement with signatures of the building owner (or owners) and applicable business/tenant with a designated storefront
- Contractor bid estimates for proposed work and actual invoices for costs of the design work
- Optional:* Background information as to the building's age, current uses & proposed uses, and historical pictures of the building if possible
- Optional:* "Before" photograph(s), special design boards and/or materials, samples of paint chips, or other materials to be used as part of the project

Experience Chehalis Facade Improvement Agreement

The undersigned building owner(s) and business owners/tenants(s) acknowledge the applicant as _____ and affirms that:
Applicant name(s)

1. The information submitted herein is true and accurate to the best of my (our) knowledge.
2. I (we) have read and understand Experience Chehalis's Facade Improvement Grant Program: introduction, requirements and conditions.
3. I (we) agree to comply with all requirements and conditions.
4. Grant award may be noted in Experience Chehalis social media and press releases.

A. Printed Property Owner Name*: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Property Owner Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

**Owner as determined by the Lewis County Tax Assessor's Office*

B. Printed Business Owner/Tenant Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Business Owner/Tenant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

WA ST Business License #: _____

C. Printed Business Owner/Tenant Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Business Owner/Tenant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

WA ST Business License #: _____

D. Printed Business Owner/Tenant Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Business Owner/Tenant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

WA ST Business License #: _____