



PCEDA FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

The goal of the façade improvement program is to enhance the appearance of commercial and mixed-use properties in Perry County, provide an incentive for business owners to locate in our community and spark the interest of residents and visitors to frequent local businesses.

Applications are accepted anytime throughout the month but reviewed for approval once per month by a subcommittee of the PCEDA board of directors. Grantees have **six months** or until May 31, 2027 (whichever is sooner) to complete the work and submit paperwork for reimbursement/approval. Work must be initiated after application approval. **The grant will not cover prior work.**

This reimbursement grant covers up to 75% of project costs for approved projects to a maximum grant of \$5,000. Grantee must pay at least 25% of the project costs.

Applications will be accepted from September 1, 2026 through May 31, 2027 (or sooner if funding is depleted).

WHO CAN APPLY?

Eligible applicants are commercial property owners and businesses that lease and operate a storefront. If a business leasing a storefront is applying for the grant, written approval from the property owner must be provided with the application. The project site must be located in Perry County, Pennsylvania.

What types of improvements are eligible for funding?

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| - Removal/replacement of inappropriate exterior finishes or materials | - Door/window replacement repair | - Permanent deck or patio |
| - Paint | - Attached signs | - Reconfiguring entrances |
| | - Awnings | |
| | - Attached lighting | |

HOW ARE GRANTS AWARDED?

Work undertaken prior to a signed and returned Grant Agreement is not eligible for funding. Grant funds are disbursed on a reimbursement basis and cannot be issued until the proposed project has been completed. Any substantial changes made to the project after approval must be discussed with PCEDA staff and approved. Before payment is made, applicants will need to submit proof of payment for completed work, all building code approvals must be issued, and the PCEDA committee must review the completed project to determine that the actual work performed was the work approved.

HOW DOES THE APPLICATION PROCESS WORK?

(1) Applicant meets with the PCEDA staff to review procedures and determine if the project meets the grant criteria.

See the Community Design Guide for help. https://perrycountyeda.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/22-0811_Perry-County-Design-Guidelines-Landscape-compressed.pdf

(2) Applicant completes an application for review by the Façade Improvement Program committee, including

(a) drawings/sketches of proposed improvements, (b) color samples, (c) applicable permitting request/approval, (d) cost estimates (three bids or documented attempts are required).

(3) PCEDA staff will review the application for compliance with all necessary regulations.

(4) The PCEDA will review the application, approve/deny and notify the applicant.

(5) Once the applicant has received their letter of commitment and returns the completed grant agreement, they can proceed with any necessary permitting, borough/township review processes, and begin work.

(6) Upon work completion, applicants must notify PCEDA, request a project review and submit receipts for reimbursement. PCEDA cannot reimburse without proper documentation and project inspection.

HOW ARE PROJECTS SELECTED FOR FUNDING?

Applications will be reviewed and selected based on their compatibility with the vision and goals of the Perry County Economic Vitality plan and their impact on moving towards that vision. Applicants should utilize the Community Design Guide document (which can be found at perrycountyeda.com/resources.) The approval committee will use this Guide to make approval determinations.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A PROJECT IS SELECTED FOR FUNDING?

Projects selected for a matching grant must be completed within **6 months** or by May 31, 2027 (whichever is sooner) of approval of the application. The applicant is responsible for obtaining all building permits and any other required permits for the work to be done, as well as any other final inspections that may be required by the borough. The applicant is responsible for the conformance with all applicable safety standards and conditions. The applicant also agrees to maintain the improvement. PCEDA may promote an approved project including, but not limited to, displaying a sign at the site, during and after construction, and using photographs and descriptions of the project in the organization's materials.