

**Ravenna Economic Development
BEEP Grant Application**



The Ravenna Economic Development Corporation is offering 50% matching grants for business exterior enhancement of buildings located within the city limits of Ravenna, Nebraska. The maximum grant amount is \$1,000 per project and applicants must provide a 50% cash match. Applications must be submitted before construction begins. This is a competitive grant so be sure to answer questions thoroughly and include all requested information listed at the end of this application.

Name of Applicant: _____ **Date:** _____

Business Name: _____

Business Phone _____ **Business Email:** _____

Ownership of Property (circle one): Individual Owner(s) Corporation

Matching Grant Requested For (circle all that apply):

Awning Cornices Entrance/Door Exterior Paint Decorative Detail Masonry Repair
Lighting Other: _____

Total Cost of Project (Must Provide Professional Written Estimate): \$ _____

Date Work is to Begin: _____ **Date Work is to Completed:** _____

How will the use of this grant improve the aesthetics of your business? 25 points

How will this change improve the economic vitality of your business? 25 points

How does the improvement enhance the original design of the building? 25 points

Is your business a member of the Ravenna Area Chamber of Commerce (circle one)? Yes or No 10 points

Is your business a member of the Ravenna Economic Development Corp. (circle one)? Yes or No 15 points

The above information is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. The information is provided to help evaluate the feasibility of obtaining public financial assistance. I further authorize release of personal information regarding the improvements made to my building using local tax funds and authorize the City of Ravenna to release pictures of my property in future publications.

Signature of Applicant: _____ **Date:** _____

As owner of the property at _____, Ravenna, Nebraska, I have reviewed the above application and authorized the operator of _____ at said address to perform the business exterior improvements described above as part of the Business Exterior Enhancement Program.

Signature of Building Owner: _____ **Date:** _____

With this application, the following information must be submitted:

- A “before” picture of the building façade to be enhanced.
- A detailed description with cost estimates of the façade improvements to be made including materials, size, color, etc.
- A sketched design or rendering of the proposed improvements.
- At least TWO bids from contractors/manufactures for your project. Preference will be given to those who utilize local contractors/manufacturers.
- A \$50 non-refundable fee payable to the Ravenna Economic Development Corporation.

Application Process:

1. Contact the Ravenna Economic Development Corporation office for an application. Grants will be made on a first come first serve basis (upon application approval) until funds are no longer available.
2. Complete the application along with the required supporting documentation and submit it to the Ravenna Economic Development Board for review. If the application and required supplemental information is not complete as of the application deadline, it will not be considered for funding. If denied, applicants may reapply for grant funds no sooner than 30 days following application denial.
3. The REDC Board of Directors will approve or suggest changes to the plan. If the Board does have the authority to deny or table the application.
4. If the application is denied, the applicant will receive a letter from the REDC Board of Directors explaining the reason(s) for denial. If the application is approved, the applicant will receive a letter of acceptance for the specified amount with information on any other requirements, i.e., building permit, etc. No work may commence until the application is approved.
5. After approval by the Board, the applicant must apply to the City of Ravenna for a building permit and reüive approval from the Planning Commission. The approved project must be completed six months after funding has been awarded.

Frequently Asked Questions

WHO CAN APPLY FOR THE FUNDING?

- The building owner or a business renting the space may apply for this grant. If renting, the business owner must include the permission and signature of the building owner (included at end of application). The building must be used solely for a business, for example: not an area of a home used for a business. Those applicants using local contractors will receive higher priority in the selection process. The project site must be located within the city limits of the City of Ravenna.
- Grants are designed to fund projects that otherwise would not be funded by other grants. Applicants who have already taken advantage of the program may üply again; however, these funds will be given on a first come first serve basis. Building owners may only have one outstanding grant per building/business at a time.

CAN RECENT WORK BE REIMBURSED?

- Work that began or was completed prior to application for funding cannot be reimbursed.

CAN IN-KIND LABOR BE CONSIDERED IN THE PROJECT COSTS?

- No. If an applicant elects to do the labor for a project, only the materials may be considered in the Project Estimated Costs. Each contractor must provide a Certificate of Contractor’s Commercial Liability Insurance.

HOW ARE THE GRANTS DISBURSED?

- Grant funds are disbursed on a reimbursement basis and cannot be issued until the project has been completed. Before payment is remitted, an applicant must submit proof of payment for completed work, photos of the completed project and a completed W-9 form. Payment will be made to building owner only. Grant funds disbursed will only be for grant funds awarded with no exceptions.

Return the completed application along with required supporting documents to:

Ravenna Economic Development Corporation
318 Grand Avenue Ravenna, NE 68869

Questions?

Phone: (308) 452-3133

Email: development@myravenna.com