



## Business Improvement Grant

### Funded by the Donald E. Nielsen Foundation



The Cuming County Economic Development, Inc. is offering a 50% matching grant for façade improvements (interior and exterior) and marketing to Cuming County businesses. **This grant is reimbursement only.** Once we have received proof of payment, we will process the approved application for reimbursement. **Applications must be submitted and approved before construction or work commences. There are four rounds based on a 90 day cycle. Application Deadlines: Quarterly on the First Friday of March, June, September & December.**

**Eligibility:** The business must be within city/village limits to be eligible for a business improvement grant. The building must be used solely for business, for example: not an area of a home used for business. Building owners, Non-profit and Government entities are **NOT** eligible for this grant. **Prior grant recipients are eligible based on funding availability.** These funds are given out on a first-come first-serve basis.

- **Exterior Façade Improvements** - The **maximum grant amount is \$2,500** per project and applicants must provide a 50% cash match. Eligible projects include: awning, cornices, entrance/door, exterior paint, decorative detail, exterior lighting, exterior signage, and exterior windows.
- **Interior Façade Improvements-** The **maximum grant amount is \$1,000** per project and applicants must provide a 50% cash match. Eligible projects must be visible to the customer including lighting, flooring, furnace, paint, ceiling, shelving and equipment.
- **Marketing** - The **maximum grant amount is \$1,000** per project and applicants must provide a 50% cash match. Eligible projects must be customer oriented including **new** website design, e-commerce website, photography and marketing related seminars.

#### **Applicant Eligibility:**

1. A detailed description with cost estimates of the façade improvements/equipment.
2. At least TWO bids from contractors/manufacturers/distributors for your project.
3. Applications must be filled out completely. Applications that are not completely filled out will not be considered for funding.
4. Must provide "before" and "after" photos of the building façade.
5. Applicant is responsible for all permitting.
6. Grant funds will be disbursed on a reimbursement basis and will not be issued until the project has been completed. The applicant must submit proof of payment and all required documentation.



**Application Process:**

1. Contact the CCED Office for an application. Quarterly funds will be available until funds have been depleted. Application deadlines are the first Friday of each quarter (March, June, September and December).
2. Fully complete the application along with supporting documentation and submit to the CCED Board for review. If the application and supporting information is not complete before the application deadline, it will not be considered for funding. Denied applicants must wait until the next round to apply.
3. Application will be approved by the CCED Board of Directors.
4. The applicant will receive a letter from the CCED Board explaining if the application has been approved or denied. No work may commence until the application is approved.
5. After approval by the CCED Board, the applicant will have 120 days to complete the project after funding has been awarded.

**Please return the completed application along with required documents to**

Cuming County Economic Development

PO Box 17

West Point, NE 68788

**For questions?** Call (402) 372-6001 or email: [assist@cumingcountyed.com](mailto:assist@cumingcountyed.com)



**Business Applicant's Name and Contact Information**

**Name of Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Business Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Business Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Business Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Business Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ownership of Property (please circle):** LLC, LLP, Partnership, S Corp, C Corp, Sole Proprietorship

**Use of Funds:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Cost of Project** (Must provide Professional Written estimates) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Business will provide cash match of the amount of:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(minimum 50% of the estimate, example: requested \$2,500 for a \$5,000 total project)

**Grant amount requested:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(maximum 50% of the estimated project cost: Exterior max. \$2,500, Interior & Marketing max. \$1,000)

**Explanation of need:**

Briefly describe your project. Why should CCED approve this application? Describe your long-term commitment as a business owner in Cuming County.

**Have you received a grant from us before?** \_\_\_\_\_

**How will the use of this grant improve the aesthetics or online presence of your business?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**How will this change improve the value of your business?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## General Improvement Grant Agreement Form

Please return complete necessary attachments and signature to Cuming County Economic Development, 200 S. Lincoln St., PO Box 17., West Point, NE 68788. If you have any application questions, please contact Kelly Gentrup at 402-372-6001.

I have met with the Cuming County Economic Development Executive Director, and I fully understand the Business Improvement Grant Procedures. I intend to use this grant program for the aforementioned renovation/equipment projects. I have not received, nor will I receive insurance monies for this project.

I understand that if I am given a Business Improvement Grant by the Cuming County Economic Development, any deviation from the approved project may result in immediate partial payment or payment in full to CCED, Inc. If there is any alteration on the approved project for any reason within one (1) year from construction, I may be required to pay Cuming County immediately for the full amount of this grant.

### Ownership/Management Information

(Owner(s), officer(s), director(s), & shareholder(s) who own 20% or more shares of the company)\*

Name	Title	% Ownership

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Business/Organization Name

X

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Authorized Signature	Print Name	Title	Date
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X

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Authorized Signature	Print Name	Title	Date
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Building Owner's Signature (\*If different from applicant) Date

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CCED Executive Director Approval Date