

BOOST Grant

A Grant Program led by DVA Board of Director's, a nonprofit organization for historic preservation and beautification.

How does the program work?

DVA members may receive reimbursement of 50% (not to exceed \$1500) of the cost of the approved renovations.

Project Eligibility

Within the historic district, eligible projects should visibly improve the unique historic character of the storefront or back entryway or allow the non-conforming storefront to better fit within the historic area. Eligible projects may also be used for improvements to the interior of the building. DVA members outside of the historic district projects may include but are not limited to appropriate signage, awnings, exterior/ interior painting, renovations, and storefront or back entry feature restorations/ changes, or security systems. These funds are available for interior/exterior improvements and must be preapproved to qualify at the discretion of the board.

Funding Dates

The boost granting period will be issued on a first come, first served basis until the funds are no longer available. Priority will be given to those located in the historic district. It is the sole responsibility of the applicant to inquire about the availability of funds.

Design Assistance

The Georgian Trust for Historic Preservation and the Department of Community Affairs can provide a design consultant to help you plan your project. They can even issue you a suggested drawing of the way your building could best be enhanced to fit into the area. The Main Street Manager can aid in the process and referral.

Application & Award Process

Complete the boost grant application form and return it to the Downtown Vidalia Association at 128 Church Street. If you are a tenant, the property owner must include a written letter of permission for the grant. At each Board of Directors meeting, any applications received will be reviewed and the applicant will be notified. A site visit by the committee to get a better understanding of the boost application may be requested. You will be notified if the grant is approved and may begin work. You may NOT begin work before you are notified of approval. After the project is completed, you must submit project documentation including receipts and/or cancelled checks to

DVA. Grant awards will be made after completed project has been reviewed and approved.

Additional Important Grant Information

Boost Grant applications are typically reviewed and decided upon as received. The Boost Grant review committee reserves the right to award the grant funding more or less frequently during the calendar year. Shop local preference will be considered – when possible, use local vendors and suppliers. Funding requests using local vendors will be preferred unless the items you are purchasing are not available locally. Detailed applications will be preferred over vague applications, and it is recommended to provide as much detail as possible including pictures. Please include your business/ organizations website or Facebook page link.

Restrictions

The application must be approved BEFORE you do the work, not after you begin. Because of limited funds available, the DVA cannot grant funds to the same applicant more than once every 2 calendar years. These funds cannot be used for rent, lease, mortgage, deposits, late payments, interests, fees, salaries, debt, or expense of work/ services already started.

Grant Close Out

All grants must be closed out within six months of the award. Closing out the grant includes submitting all eligible receipts for review and receiving reimbursements. Funding will be de-allocated for projects that are not closed out within six months of the award notice.

For Additional Information

Contact the Downtown Vidalia Association Executive Director at (912) 537-8033 or visit the program website at www.downtownvidalia.org