

Steel Valley Accelerator Façade Grant Program

Program Guidelines & Application Form

Statement of Purpose

The Steel Valley Accelerator Storefront Façade Grant Program intends to positively impact the Steel Valley business districts' look and experience by providing funds to commercial building and business owners to improve their building façades. These improved façades will make the neighborhood shopping district more attractive and inviting to visitors.

Eligibility

1) Area Eligibility

Steel Valley Accelerator Façade Grant projects must be located within the 15120 zip code in designated business district areas. The pilot phase of this program will be for businesses located in the 8th Avenue commercial corridor in Steel Valley spanning Munhall, Homestead, and West Homestead.

2) Types of Businesses

- a) Commercial establishments
- b) Service establishments
- c) Professional services (e.g.: doctors, lawyers, accountants, architects, etc.)
- d) Personal services (e.g.: dry cleaners, laundromats, barber and beauty shops, etc.)
- e) Certain repair services (e.g.: office equipment, bicycle, furniture, locksmith, etc.)
- f) Business services (e.g.: advertising, office management, printing, etc.)

Not eligible: Banks, savings and loan associations, gas and service stations, used car lots, and adult entertainment establishments.

3) Other Eligibility Requirements

a) Owner occupancy is not required. Tenant-initiated projects require property owner agreement to adhere to program requirements.

b) Stakeholder committees within the Steel Valley may be assembled to review commercial properties within the corridor, and authorization may be contingent upon a favorable recommendation.

4) Eligible for Grant Reimbursement

Materials for improvements to the façade of an existing building, including signage, paint, paint supplies, light fixtures, and other limited façade materials as specifically approved by the Steel Valley Enterprise Zone Board.

Parameters of the Grant

1) Grant Amount

Up to \$5,000 for *materials reimbursement only*. Materials will be reimbursed only after purchase and installation according to all guidelines and instructions provided by the Steel Valley Enterprise Zone Board.

2) Approved Vendors

Grantees must provide vendors/businesses from which they intend to purchase materials prior to beginning work. Exceptions may be made only by approval of the Steel Valley Enterprise Zone Board.

3) Design Approval

All façade improvements, light fixtures, signage, or paint colors must be approved by the Steel Valley Enterprise Zone Board prior to beginning the project. The board reserves the right to require applicants to use design help from an approved outside party.

4) Code and Historic Guidelines

All projects must comply with local code guidelines and historic district guidelines where required. By accepting a grant, the applicant assumes full legal responsibility for all actions related to the project and releases the Steel Valley Enterprise Zone Board from responsibility regarding local code, ordinances, or requirements.

Notification

The Steel Valley Enterprise Zone Corp reserves the right to:

1. Reject any and all applications.
2. Notify appropriate community organizations of applications received from businesses in their neighborhoods.
3. Announce all grant awards publicly.

Additional Information

*For additional information, please contact **info@steelvalleyaccelerator.com**
Details can be found at [SteelValleyAccelerator.com](https://steelvalleyaccelerator.com)*

Steel Valley Accelerator Façade Grant Application

Applicant Information

Business Name: _____

Business Address: _____

Business Phone Number: _____

Business Email: _____

Owner's Name: _____

Owner's Contact Number: _____

Business Description

(including years in operation, products/services offered, etc.)

Facility Information

Type of Building (e.g., commercial, industrial, etc.): _____

Year Built: _____

Square Footage of Building: _____

Current Condition of Building Exterior (brief description):

Project Details

Description of Façade Improvement Project

(include details on planned improvements, materials to be used, etc.)

Estimated Cost of Façade Improvement Project: _____

Timeline for Completion: _____

Supporting Documents (attached or included)

- Photos of current building façade (before renovation):
- Architectural drawings or renderings of proposed improvements (if available):
- Cost estimates or bids from contractors/suppliers: _____
- Any additional supporting documents (permits, approvals, etc.):

Declaration

I, _____ ***[Business Owner's Name]***, hereby certify that the information provided in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false information provided may result in disqualification from the Steel Valley Façade Grant Program.

Signature: _____

Date: _____