



BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT

Apply Today!

GRANT

INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT

APPLICATION FORM

The Board of Directors for the International District (IMD) has established and funded the *Business Improvement Grant* to provide funds for commercial property owners within the District's boundaries, in support of revitalization on a case-by-case basis. Grants are available on a 50/50 basis with a \$10,000 cap per grant. Approved projects must complement the color and character of surrounding businesses and must meet the City's Code of Ordinances.

projects include but not limited to:

- Façade Renovations (visible to public)
- Awning Installation
- Exterior Painting
- Landscaping
- Parking Lot Improvements
- Power Washing

applications reviewed for:

- Basic Eligibility Requirements
- Potential to diversify the economy
- Effect and support of other businesses
- Consistency with local redevelopment

IMD board, staff and their families are ineligible.

- The *Business Improvement Grant* is a one-time payment reimbursement for approved projects to Southwest District commercial property owners, and in some situations, tenants.
- Annual funding cycles begin January 1st and end on December 31st. Grants are available on a first-come, first-serve basis until cycle funds are depleted.
- No grant will be awarded for work already done or that which is covered by insurance.
- All submitted work must be reviewed and approved by the SWMD Board before any eligible work begins.
- Any deviation from the approved project may result in total or partial grant withdrawal.

** Projects within common areas of multi-tenant buildings must differ in scope from any previously approved projects completed within such common areas of the building. Each HCAD address is limited to \$10,000 in grant funds per budget year.*

QUESTIONS? Call Us!

512.658.4985 | 281.564.5252

Applicants are encouraged to attend our monthly Board meetings. Visit our website for times. Failure to attend when required shall be cause for application rejection.

Subscribe for meetings, business classes, events, tax education classes, parades and so more at

IMDHouston.org



Apply Today!

Business Improvement Grant

RECOGNITION

IMDHouston.org/Big

Upon project completion, we will provide a sign which must be prominently displayed in a storefront window for a minimum of three months in order to officially recognize the IMD BIG program.

You, your company, and project will also be recognized as a program recipient with the before and after photos displayed on our website, e-news and social media platforms.



INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT

Business Improvement Grant

ELIGIBILITY

subscribe for meetings, business classes and more

IMDHouston.org

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Guidelines & Requirements

Complete & Sign this Application Form.

Provide Drawings:

All applications must include a scale drawing of the proposed work with the name of the project manager or contractor. Support documentation and informational material must be included.

Provide Estimates:

Obtain itemized estimates on all project work from contractors. Self-contracted work will be reimbursed for legitimate expenses, excluding labor.

Provide Construction Bids:

Bids shall be submitted on the contractor's or project architect's letterhead with their name, address, phone number, and be dated no earlier than 90 days prior to the request. Bids must be itemized in a manner that shows bid components and authenticity.

Provide Color Samples:

The IMD does not dictate color choices, however they must be consistent with the surrounding buildings and properties.

Provide Project Site Photographs:

As part of the application request we require before work begins and after the construction is completed, high-resolution jpgs as a condition of final funding.

Approval & Eligibility Process:

There is no proprietary right to receive grant funds.

Only completed applications with all required information will be considered. Applications not meeting these requirements will be returned.

Projects must meet building Standards and Codes, including permit requirements. Applicant is required to obtain applicable City permits and approvals for construction.

If a grant is denied the applicant is not eligible to re-submit for a minimum of six months from the date the prior application was declined.

Construction must begin as described in the application within sixty days of the grant being awarded. If the Applicant is unable to commence construction within sixty days of the date granted, or complete construction within six months from the date granted, the Applicant must submit a written request for an extension. The extension request **MUST** be made prior to the sixty days or six month time limit. The IMD Board is not obligated to allow extensions but may do so for good cause.

An extension, if granted, will be for the Terms and Conditions determined exclusively by the IMD Board. An extension denial cannot be appealed and will be final.

As a condition of this grant, and in consideration of the opportunity to apply for a grant, Applicant consents to allow City inspections to determine if the building follows the Codes & Ordinances applicable to the construction outlined in the application.

The IMD Board will recommend grants based on:

- (1) Amount requested
- (2) Grant funds available
- (3) Condition of building involved in project
- (4) Other Grant requests
- (5) Type and nature of construction
- (6) Compatibility
- (7) Streetscape objectives
- (8) Overall revitalization of the District
- (9) CPTED *Crime Prevention through Environmental Design*

The IMD Board shall consider any application within its discretionary authority to determine what grant amount will be in the best interest of the program.

When the grant project has been completed and reviewed, the applicant will present the IMD Board with copies of paid invoices, canceled checks and/or credit card receipts, for a single payment reimbursement of the approved funding.



INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT

Business Improvement Grant APPLICATION



email or send this completed form with all required items by

12PM (noon) on the

FIRST BUSINESS DAY OF THE MONTH

Grant1@IMDhouston.org

or mail to International District Office

PO Box 22167 Houston, TX 77227

Applicant Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Email: _____

Building/Property Owner (if different): _____

Current Building Name (if applicable): _____

Physical Building Property Address: _____

Type of Work - check all that apply:

___ Power washing ___ Exterior Painting ___ Awning/Canopy ___ Façade repairs

___ Parking improvements ___ Landscaping ___ Other

Provide Details of Planned Improvements: (attach additional paper or in email if needed)

Total Cost of Proposed Project: \$ _____

Eligible Business Improvement Grant Requested (50%, up to \$10,000 max): \$ _____

Checklist of items to attach:

___ Attached original proposals ___ Attached Construction Bids ___ Attached estimates

___ Attached list of colors to be used ___ Attached photographs (jpgs) of proposed project site

Applicant's Signature & Date:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

DATES TO REMEMBER AFTER FINAL APPROVAL:

- Work must commence within sixty (60) days
- Work must be completed within six (6) months

BOX RESERVED FOR IMD BOARD ONLY

Recommended: \$ _____

___ Approved ___ Rejected

Signature: _____

Date: _____



INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT

Business Improvement Grant

AGREEMENT



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I (*applicant name*) _____ have met with (*names*) _____

and understand the IMD Business Improvement Grant program. I will utilize these funds for the renovation project(s) in support of the IMD revitalization efforts. I have not received, nor will I receive, insurance monies for this revitalization project. I also understand that the intentional deception or misuse of this program for financial gain is fraud and will be reported to authorities.

I understand that if I am awarded a Business Improvement Grant, any deviation from the approved project can result in withdrawal of the grant. Further, I understand the materials and processes involved, and have been given an opportunity to ask questions regarding the Grant Program. If the project site is altered for any reason within six (6) months of construction, I will be required to reimburse the IMD immediately for the full amount of any Grant funds.

Should IMD find that Grantee has not maintained the required commercial status of the property in accordance with the terms of this Agreement or should IMD find that Grantee has breached any other term of this Agreement; the Grantee agrees to repay all Grant monies that have been disbursed by IMD to Grantee as remedy for the default.

Repayment shall be made by Grantee within 30 days of receipt of a written demand from IMD. Failure to timely repay the Grant shall constitute a breach of this Agreement.

APPLICANT

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

BUILDING / PROPERTY OWNER'S SIGNATURE *(if different from applicant)*

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

IMD BOARD

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

REMEMBER, AFTER FINAL APPROVAL: _____

Work must commence within sixty (60) days and be completed within six (6) months.