

MAIN STREET IOWA CHALLENGE GRANT



Main Street Iowa Challenge Grants are available for brick-and-mortar building projects that enhance designated [Main Street Iowa districts](#).

Highly competitive applications include:

- Projects that incorporate quality design and preservation-based strategies.
- Projects that align with the unique goals and priorities identified by your local district.
- Impactful building rehabilitation projects that increase business, housing or job opportunities.
- Projects that demonstrate a need for additional funding to fill a financial gap.
- Projects with a well-defined scope of work that can be completed within the two-year grant contract period.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

- Building rehabilitation, including:
 - Exteriors and façade improvements
 - Interior work (commercial and upper-story housing)
 - Structural repairs and building system upgrades
- Single distinct phase of a large rehabilitation project. Each phase must have a clearly defined scope, show previous work completed and demonstrate commitment to future phases. Applicants must explain how phasing positively impacts the project.
- Significant improvements to multiple properties with a common need. These properties must be contiguous and under common ownership.

INELIGIBLE

- Residential use in first-floor storefront spaces
- Projects involving public government buildings or buildings used by religious organizations
- Building demolition or deconstruction



Downtown Washington

PROGRAM DETAILS

- Grant awards range from \$25,000 to \$100,000.
- A 1:1 match is required.
- Building projects must be located within the local Main Street district boundaries as of January 1, 2025.

The local Main Street program must be the grant applicant on behalf of the property owner(s). Only one application per local Main Street program is allowed. Applications are available online at iowagrants.gov.

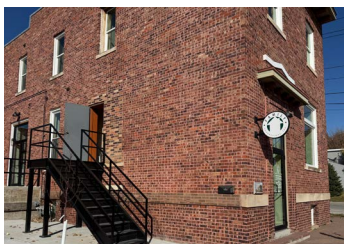
APPLICATION TIMELINE

June 23, 2025	Applications Released
July 30, 2025	Design Assistance Requests Due
August 27, 2025	Applications Due
November 2025	Public Award Announcement

QUESTIONS?

For local application requirements, selection process details and program deadlines, consult with your local Main Street office.

For questions about program eligibility and state applications, contact Sarah Lembke, design coordinator, at sarah.lembke@iowaeda.com or 515.348.6181.



Downtown Woodbine



Uptown Marion

