

2019 Historic Commercial Façade Grant Program Scoring Criteria

Determining Project Eligibility

The applicant/owner must be paid to date on all property taxes, payments and fees owed to the City of Evansville or Vanderburgh County. An applicant may **NOT** be considered if there are any outstanding or delinquent payments due to the City or County.

Location of the Building (Availability of 10 Points)

Buildings within the Evansville Promise Zone are given priority consideration.

- If the Building is located within Promise Zone Boundaries, score = 10 pts.
- If the property upon which the building is located borders a street comprising a Promise Zone Boundary, score = 8 pts.
- If the property, is within 1 block of the Promise Zone Boundaries, score = 5 pts.

Historical Integrity of the Building (Availability of 10 Points)

The building must be identified by the Evansville Historic Preservation Officer as a property that is at least 40 years old, is considered important to the density or continuity of the area's historic fabric and enhances local character for the neighborhood or district.

- Building is rated Outstanding or "O" Classification, score = 10 pts.
- Building rated Notable or "N" Classification, score = 8 pts.
- Building Contributing or "C" Classification, score = 5 pts.
- Building is rated Non-Contributing or "NC" Classification, but located within a historic district, score = 3 pts.

Project Design (Availability of 15 Points)

The City of Evansville's Historic Commercial Façade Grant (HCFG) Program focuses on improvements to the exterior of existing building façades where the building is primarily used for commercial purposes. When reviewing project design the following aspects will be considered:

- Ability to aesthetically transform the building, along with the aesthetic impact the proposed improvements will make to a commercial corridor;
- The degree to which the improvements will enhance the originally intended design attributes or historic features of the building; and
- The long-term durability and sustainability of the improvements (structural improvements vs. less permanent improvements).

Financial Investment (Availability of 15 Points)

Applicants must be able to provide a match of 50%. Applicants may receive a more favorable review for:

- Providing more than the required 50% match or are performing other rehabilitation work to the property in accordance with historic guidelines
- The project's proximity to other public and private investments, such as, city-involved catalyst projects, previously awarded façade grant projects, formal streetscape projects, or location in commercial corridors.
- Repurposing and revitalizing an underutilized, blighted or vacant historic building.