



More About Main Street Revitalization Grants – Spring/Summer 2023

This program provides grants from the State of Minnesota’s Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) to businesses along a defined commercial corridor. In Fall 2022, Northland Foundation held the first application round for the Main Street Revitalization Grant program. We are currently hosting an additional round of applications for **businesses located in Cook County and International Falls**.

This application will be open from May 5 - June 16, 2023. Completed applications are due by 5:00 PM June 16, 2023. All applicants will be notified via e-mail of their application status by June 30, 2023.

Who Can Apply?

- Businesses must be in the designated commercial corridor:
 - **Cook County:** Highway 61 North, between Schroeder and the Grand Portage Reservation, including the Gunflint Trail
 - **International Falls/Koochiching County**
 - Highway 71 from 3rd Ave to 6th Ave in downtown International Falls
 - Highway 11 East & West, between the community of Birchdale to the west of International Falls and Black Bay to the east of International Falls
 - Highway 53 between Van Lynn Road and 4th Street
 - South Koochiching County, Highway 71 between Northome and Grand Falls
- Businesses and non-profit entities are eligible. Public and governmental agencies are not.

Grant Award Details

- Grant awards can cover up to 30% of a project’s **total** cost; the maximum is \$750,000
- Grants require a 2:1 match
 - For example, a \$50,000 grant will require \$100,000 of match funding
 - Match funding can come from: owner cash, bank loans (including SBA 7a or SBA 504 loans), local government (City, EDA) funds, Iron Range Resources grants or loans
 - Ineligible sources of match funding include other **state** and **federal** funds, including CARES Act, EIDL or PPP funds. Purchase of real estate can’t be counted toward match

Grant Fund Uses

ELIGIBLE USES	INELIGIBLE USES
Repair, or renovation of real property	Purchase of real estate or business operations
Building construction	Operating expenses such as Inventory, Wages, or Working Capital
Landscaping	Equipment*
Demolition or site preparation	
Predesign or design	
Engineering	
Non-publicly owned infrastructure	
Related site amenities	

Scoring Considerations

Job Creation & Increasing Tax Base. The State of MN is looking for projects that will spur revitalization in the corridor. Projects that increase the tax base and/or create additional jobs may score higher.

Competitive Projects. Larger construction projects are more competitive. Lower scoring projects that were not funded in previous rounds were for single projects such as new signage or resurfacing a parking lot. Projects that were purely housing related did not qualify per DEED's requirements. Mixed use projects, such as a retail space with apartment units above, scored higher.

Funding Timeline Note: *Projects have until December 31, 2026, to be fully completed.*

May 1-2, 2023	Community info sessions
May 5, 2023	Application period opens
June 16, 2023	Application period closes
June 30, 2023	All applicants notified via e-mail of their status. Projects that are notified they are moving forward will work with Northland to collect additional documentation.
July 31, 2023	Projects that do move forward will need to have all support documents submitted by the end of July to confirm match funding secured and project viability
Sept. 30, 2023	Northland funding allocation deadline with the State of MN (Step 3 in the chart below).

[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION](#)

Questions? Please Contact:

Michael Colclough, michael@northlandfdn.org or Amanda Vuicich, amanda@northlandfdn.org

Full Grant Process

