



# HEAL PROGRAM

The Kansas Department of Commerce

# HISTORIC ECONOMIC ASSET LIFELINE

AD ASTRA



# Overview

- Purpose
- HEAL Partners
- HEAL 5.0
- Eligible Applicants
- Eligible Projects
- Project Expenses
- Supporting Materials
- Main Street Design Guidelines
- Project Milestones
- Reporting
- State Preservation Law Review with Lauren Jones
- Sample Application
- Questions
- Additional Technical Assistance

**KANSAS**  
COMMERCE

**HEAL**  
PROGRAM

## Purpose

Created to preserve and bring new economic activity to underutilized, vacant, or dilapidated downtown buildings in rural Kansas.

Building grants are intended to bring buildings back into productive use as spaces for new or expanding businesses, childcare, housing, arts and culture, civic engagement, or entrepreneurship.

Façade grants are intended to rehabilitate the façade or street view of downtown buildings in need of repair to stimulate economic growth and reinvestment in the downtown district.

**KANSAS**  
COMMERCE

**HEAL**  
PROGRAM

# HEAL Partners

HEAL is funded by the Office of Rural Prosperity, but Partners from the Quality Places Division in the Kansas Department of Commerce help administer and review the grants.

# HEAL 5.0

- An eligible local organization must apply on behalf of a building owner
- Two Funding Categories
  - 1) Building Grant
  - 2) Façade-Only Grant
- Proof of matching funds (cash match) from building owner required with application
- No work completed previously is eligible toward the grant
- Up to 5% of the award can be utilized for administration by the organization

# Eligible Applicants

Nonprofit or local government organizations applying on behalf of building owners are eligible applicants for the HEAL program.

Eligible organizations include:

- Designated Kansas Main Street Programs
- Economic Development Corporations
- Cities
- Counties
- 501(c)3 or 501(c)6 organizations
- Local Community Foundations
- Tribal Nations or Organizations



## Eligible Applicants

Communities that have never been awarded a HEAL Grant

Communities awarded in the first two rounds are now eligible, if they did not receive an award in Fall 2024.

## Ineligible Applicants

Communities that received a HEAL grant in the either Spring 2023 or Fall 2024 are not eligible to apply this round

# Project Eligibility

- Previously awarded HEAL projects are not eligible to apply for HEAL.
- Projects that are directly tied to a previously awarded HEAL grant are not eligible to apply.
- Cities with a population of less than 50,000.
- Properties must be in the downtown business district or corridor and hold architectural significance.
- Projects must show potential for reuse and revitalization as economic drivers in the community.
- Projects must incorporate Main Street Design Standards and follow local ordinances and code for rehab/construction/façade improvements.



## Project Eligibility (cont.)

- Work previously completed is not eligible for this grant program.
- Work must not begin before the award of the grant except for removal of façade slipcovers such as metal, stucco, tiles, stone veneer.
- Projects must begin construction no later than Sept 1, 2025 with construction complete by Sept 1, 2027 with a tenant in place by March 1, 2028.
  - NOTE: Site cleanup, removal of debris, and demolition **do not** qualify as construction.
  - Tenant must be leasing or own the space.
- No more than one HEAL grant may be awarded to any city.



## Eligible Building Grant Project Expenses

Masonry, insulation, foundations, roofs and guttering, fire stairs, windows, doors, chimneys, walls, ceilings, floors, interior stairs, elevators, lighting and fixtures, electrical wiring, data and communication, wiring (not including equipment), HVAC systems and components, plumbing systems, fire suppression sprinkler systems, and ADA accessibility solutions.

Up to 5% of the grant award may be retained by the applicant organization for project administration expenses.

### Building Grant Award Amount

\$30 per square foot of the building area,  
not to exceed \$100,000

## Ineligible Building Grant Project Expenses

Professional services (architect and engineering fees), acquisition costs, or leasing contracts. This list is not exhaustive.

Grant funds are to be utilized for the physical construction of the project.

Examples of INELIGIBLE expenses include but are not limited to: kitchen equipment, refrigeration (flower shops or food service), AV equipment, phone systems, tools needed for construction.

*If is it not permanently attached to the building or if the tenant can move and take it with them, it is an ineligible expense.*



## Eligible Façade Grant Project Expenses

Masonry, windows, storefronts, cornices, doors, awnings, ADA accessibility solutions. Removal of façade slipcovers such as metal, stucco, tiles, stone veneer must be performed before applying for a façade grant.

Up to 5% of the grant award may be retained by the applicant organization for project administration expenses.

### Facade Grant Award Amount

\$30 per square foot of the façade area,  
not to exceed \$40,000

## Ineligible Facade Grant Project Expenses

Professional services (architect and engineering fees) and slipcover removal such as metal, stucco, tiles, or stone veneer – this should be finished prior to applying for a façade grant. . This list is not exhaustive.

Grant funds are to be utilized for the physical construction of the project.

## Required Supporting Materials with the Application

- Preliminary architectural drawings, including plans and elevations are required to support the scope of work. Color renderings are required if work is being done to the street facing façade(s).
- Actual bids from licensed contractors will be required for the submission of the grant application.
- Pro-forma showing all sources and uses on the project, and a business plan for operation of the building after completion of construction.
- Letter signed by both the applicant and the building owner that confirms commitment by both parties to the project.

# Proof of Matching Funds

**Required to be submitted with the application. Matching funds must be cash or monetary. Property, equipment, inventory, etc. are not acceptable.**

Acceptable proof of matching funds:

- Bank letter on official letterhead with signature of bank official stating that matching funds in the amount of the grant are available and for the project
- Statement of account for financial match from personal or professional accountant that matching funds are secured for the project
- Statement from loan officer or third-party financier that matching funds are secured for the project

# Main Street Design Guidelines

Guidelines are available on the HEAL website.

Scope of project must follow these guidelines, as stated in the program guidelines and assurances of the application. This will also be included in the grant agreement.

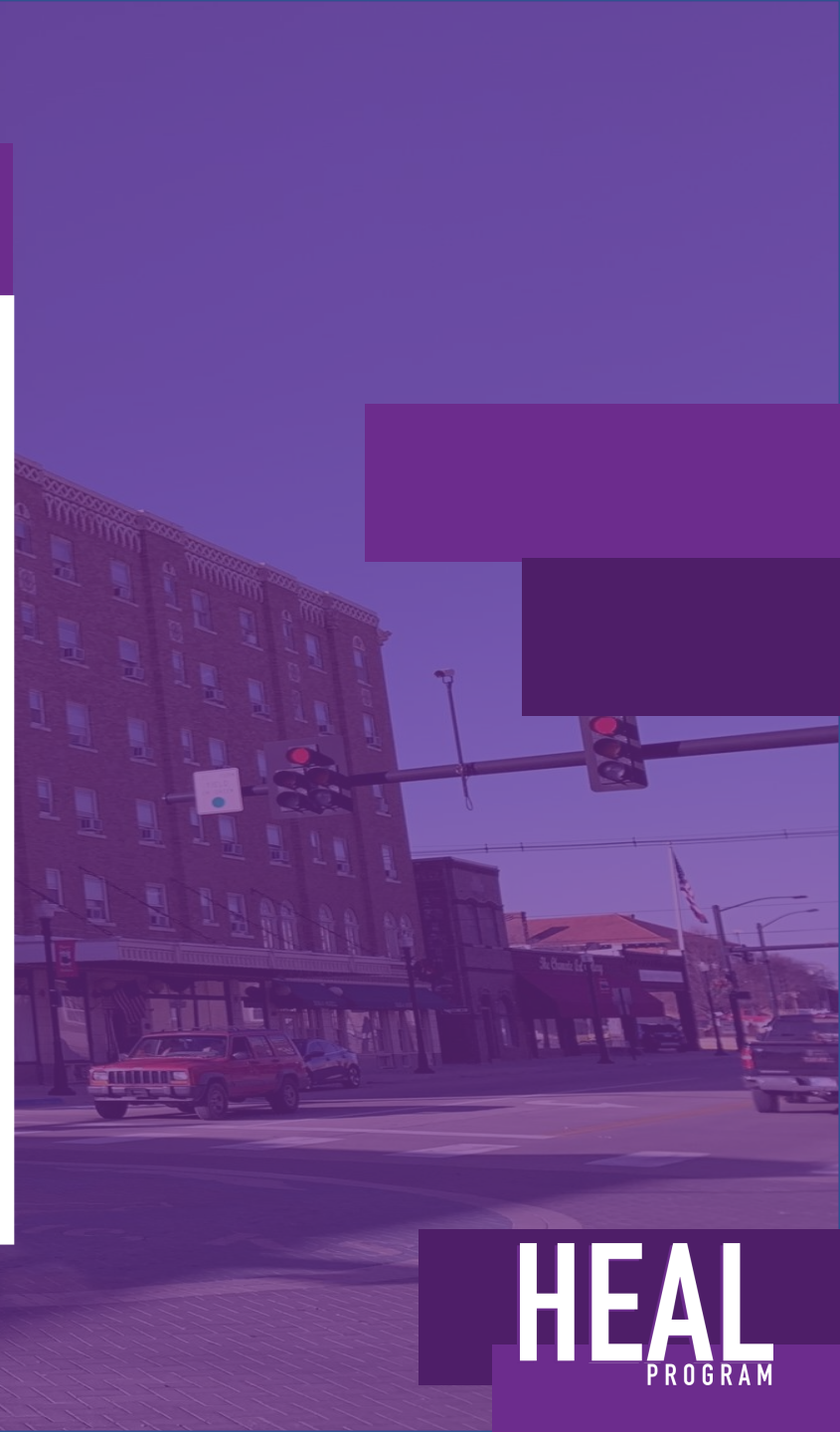
Questions regarding the design guidelines with the project scope should be directed to Robert McLaughlin, Kansas Main Street at [robert.j.mclaughlin@ks.gov](mailto:robert.j.mclaughlin@ks.gov).



# Project Milestones

Awarded projects will be funded on the following schedule with the corresponding project milestones and deadlines:

- 50% of the grant when proof of commencement of construction is verified. Site visit required. Deadline: Sept 1, 2025  
NOTE: Site cleanup, removal of debris, and demolition **do not** qualify as construction.
- 25% of the grant when 50% construction completion has been verified. Site visit required. Deadline: Sept 1, 2026
- 25% of the grant when 75% construction completion has been verified. Site visit required. Deadline: March 1, 2027
- 100% of construction completion. Deadline: Sept 1, 2027
- Tenant in place. Deadline: March 1, 2028



## Reporting

All awarded projects will require **monthly** progress reports.

Fiscal reports will be due at the end of each Quarter, so March 31, June 30, Sept. 30, Dec. 31 of each year of the grant.

**Application opens  
November 1 and closes January 31, at 11:59 PM.**

**<https://www.kansascommerce.gov/heal>**

**For a Step by Step video:**

**[https://scribehow.com/shared/Applying\\_for\\_a\\_HEAL\\_Grant\\_Step-by-Step\\_Guide\\_\\_lZmHhhHnTY6VjJjfXde26w](https://scribehow.com/shared/Applying_for_a_HEAL_Grant_Step-by-Step_Guide__lZmHhhHnTY6VjJjfXde26w)**

**KANSAS**  
COMMERCE

**HEAL**  
PROGRAM

**Additional technical assistance will be available throughout the grant period. Please request one-on-one assistance by emailing**

**Heal@ks.gov**

**<https://www.kansascommerce.gov/heal>**

**KANSAS**  
COMMERCE

**HEAL**  
PROGRAM

# QUESTIONS

Email [heal@ks.gov](mailto:heal@ks.gov)

Or find out more at  
[www.kansascommerce.gov/heal](http://www.kansascommerce.gov/heal)



# HEAL PROGRAM

The Kansas Department of Commerce

# HISTORIC ECONOMIC ASSET LIFELINE

AD ASTRA

