

South Burnett Regional Council

Quick Round - Façade Improvement Grant

About the grant program:

South Burnett Regional Council in partnership with the Australian Government are providing incentives to support businesses within the South Burnett region to improve their business façades.

Funding is provided through the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grant Program – Community Connection Local Built.

Key objectives:

To support South Burnett businesses to improve façades that:

- stimulate investment in private businesses
- increase street appeal for residents and tourists
- increase accessibility in retail premises
- increase opportunities for pedestrians to stay longer in towns and villages

Funding:

A minimum grant amount is \$500 with a maximum grant of \$3,000 with a 50% co-contribution required (dollar for dollar funding).

This is the last and final Façade Improvement Grant to be offered.

Key Dates

Applications Open	Applications Close	Outcome Advised	Project delivery timeframe
Monday, 15 th May 2023	5pm, Friday, 9th June 2023	Thursday, 22 nd June 2023	22 June 2023 to 31 December 2023

* Subject to Council meeting dates

** Subject to available funding

Eligibility Applicants Criteria

To be eligible to apply you must:

- be a property owner or a tenant holding the owner's written consent
- have a business registration number (ABN)
- have a minimum \$20M Public Liability Insurance
- not have any outstanding debts with South Burnett Regional Council
- be a business holding street frontage
- be a business that is open to the public
- be a business that has signage visible from the street
- adhere to all relevant legislation and local laws and obtain all necessary building and planning approvals as required to complete the project

South Burnett Regional Council

Quick Round - Façade Improvement Grant

Ineligible Applicants

- local, state, or federal government agencies and/or entities
- educational institutions, kindergartens, and pre-school/childcare centres
- Parents and Friends or Parents and Citizens Associations
- religious organisations
- fuel stations
- political organisations
- businesses that hold a gaming machine licence

What is a Façade?

A Façade is the principal front of a building that faces onto a street or open space.

Eligible projects

Improvements to frontages may include but are not limited to:

- exterior façade/under awning lighting
- exterior walls
- windows and doorways
- storefronts
- awnings/canopies
- installation/upgrade of the business signage
- exterior architectural features
- exterior Façade painting
- reinstatement of historic façade features of the building
- increase accessibility to shop fronts

Ineligible projects

- ongoing operational administration costs of the applicant e.g. staff expenses, administration costs.
- relocation of businesses
- purchase of buildings
- internal shop fit-out
- remission of rates
- the purchase of equipment which is not specifically required to complete the project
- payment of Council building & planning fees
- payment of any insurances
- Projects that are considered routine maintenance

How to apply

- applications must be made via Council's website <https://sbrc.smartygrants.com.au/>
- applicants can speak to Council's Community Development team for further support
- no late, written, incomplete applications will be accepted

South Burnett Regional Council

Quick Round - Façade Improvement Grant

Assessment

Assessment Criteria	Evidenced by:
Meeting the program objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide information and supporting material that links the project to the program objectives
Business benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concept plan, building approval, planning approval
Project management capability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sound budget Project planning (timeframes, works)
Mandatory Supporting material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written consent from landlord/tenant Australian Business Number (ABN) Certificate of currency for public liability insurance (\$20m minimum) Quotes for works over \$1,000 Before pictures of business/street frontage Evidence of need for the purchase of equipment for works & quotes if completing the work without a contractor Evidence from home-based and rural businesses that they have businesses that are accessible to the public Evidence from home-based and rural businesses of applicable licencing from local/state/federal agencies (e.g. ABN, Business Registration, food licence) Building/planning approvals if required
Other considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council planning and development impacts
Priority Zones Assessment considerations	
High priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Businesses located within town limits that have street frontage Projects that increase accessibility to shop fronts
Medium priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Businesses that operate from a commercial or Industrial premises with street frontage (signage only) Rural businesses with major highway frontage (signage only)
Low Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural businesses with shops open to the public located outside of town limits with road frontage (signage only) Rural accommodation businesses with road frontage (signage only) Home-based businesses with street frontage (signage only)
Project Assessment considerations	
High priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects that increase the aesthetics of the township Projects that increase accessibility to retail shop fronts Projects that are part of a syndicate of properties that adjoin to maximise street improvement
Medium priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects that increase the aesthetics of rural and/or industrial areas Projects that increase the aesthetics of home-based businesses
Low priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects that are considered routine maintenance
Other considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council planning and development impacts

South Burnett Regional Council

Quick Round - Façade Improvement Grant

Consent for works

For projects applied for by the Tenant of the building, written consent from the Owner must be submitted with the application.

If the applicant is the owner of the building, the Owner is encouraged to engage in consultation with the tenant and provide consent in writing for the project if the works directly impact on the Tenants business.

Assessment process

Eligibility check:

All applications are checked against eligibility criteria to ensure the applicant, project, amount requested, and timeframes are eligible.

Assessment:

Eligible applications are assessed against the assessment criteria by an internal assessment panel. Panel members participate in a moderation meeting to review the assessments and determine grant recommendations.

Endorsement:

Assessment panel recommendations are provided to General Manager of Liveability for approval.

Notification of outcome

- applicants are advised by email of the outcome of their application
- unsuccessful applicants are invited to seek feedback about their application by contacting the Council Officer listed in the email

Funding agreement, payment and acquittal

- successful applicants must enter into a Funding Agreement with Council within 14 days of notification of outcome to receive funding
- Grant recipients must complete an online acquittal within four weeks of the project being completed

Contact

For further information or assistance please call the Community Development Team on 07 4189 9100

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Australian Government

This project received grant funding from the Australian Government