



# Frankston City Façade Improvement Grants 2024-25

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### 1. Am I eligible to apply for a grant?

You are eligible to apply for a grant if you (business and project) meet the following criteria:

- Have an active Australian Business Number (ABN).
- Have a physical commercial premises located within Frankston City.
- Have a facade improvement project starting from June 2025 with completion expected within 6 months.
- Be the owner or tenant named on an existing lease agreement (with a minimum of two years remaining preferred).
- Property must be visible from the street.
- Project must be on private property and not on or impacting public assets such as nature strip, footpath, garden bed, etc.
- Have not been a grant recipient of the Invest Frankston Façade Improvement Grants 2022-23 or 2023-24.
- Not be a current Frankston City Council employee, contractor, Councillor and/or their immediate family members.
- Not be an Australian Charity and/or Not for Profit (ACNC), political organisations or any organisation that excludes or offends parts of the community.

### 2. How do I apply?

Review the Façade Improvement Grant guidelines. Register with Smartygrants to create a login (if you are a first time user) and complete the application.

### 3. Where can I find the guidelines?

Visit the [Frankston Council](#) website for business grants. Each open grant has guidelines attached to it.

### 4. How much money can I apply for?

Façade Improvement Grants are available between \$5,000 and \$15,000 (NOTE: any awarding of grants will depend on your application and the panel assessment of all applications. Grants are not guaranteed to be awarded. If successful, you may receive a portion of the amount applied for and not the full amount requested.)

## 5. What type of project/activity can I apply for?

Facade Improvement Grant applicants can apply for funding to improve the visual appearance of their building frontage. Eligible facade improvements may include the following but are not limited to:

- Installation of fixed items such as signage, exterior artistic lighting or digital displays visible from the street.
- Exterior painting, green walls, or greenery on the exterior wall that can be seen from the street (real or imitation accepted).
- External treatments that provide attractive or unique details such as texture, tiling, innovative or environmentally friendly materials.
- Improvements to frontages that interact with the street, for example servery windows, bi-fold doors or large windows excluding security screens and doors.
- Universal access works such as ramps or upgrade of structural facade weather protection elements such as awnings.
- Other external facade improvements that reflect the intent of the grant.

## 6. I was successful in receiving a Façade Improvement grant in the last round, can I apply again?

If you were successful in receiving a Façade Improvement Grant for 2022-23 or 2023-24, you are not eligible to apply for a 2024-25 Façade Improvement Grant. Both successful and unsuccessful applicants are permitted to apply for other business grant types, as they become available.

## 7. I missed the Stage 1 closing date; can I still apply?

No, applications for Stage 1 MUST be submitted no later than 5:00pm, 7 February 2025.

**\*Tip – don't leave submission until the closing date.**

## 8. What type of information will I be required to submit?

Please refer to page 7 and 8 of the Façade Improvement guidelines.

## 9. I am the owner/landlord of a commercial property located in Frankston City and would like to upgrade the Façade. Can I apply even though I am not a business?

No. Façade Improvement grants are available to business operators only.

## **10. Can a start-up business apply for a Façade Improvement Grant?**

Yes, the purpose of the Façade Improvement grant is to revitalise the exterior of the business premises resulting in a more appealing area within Frankston City Council.

## **11. Can you provide feedback on my application before I submit?**

No, we cannot provide feedback or advice on the contents of your application – this is a competitive grant process.

## **12. How will the funding amount be paid?**

Grants are paid via a reimbursement model. Businesses must pay the invoice(s) for funded activities as outlined in their respective Grant Recipient Agreement, prior to sending payment receipt(s) (as evidence of supplier having been paid) and an invoice from the grant recipient to council for reimbursement. Grant recipient may invoice council for paid receipts in one or more transaction, for example as each activity is completed and paid for.

## **13. When will the funding amount be paid?**

Standard payment terms are 30 days from the date invoice to council is received. Please note: 12(above) – How will the funding amount be paid?

## **14. What if my proposed activity fails or does not occur?**

You must inform us as soon as you know this to be the case. If you're facing challenges with delivering your proposed activity, please contact us to discuss options.

## **15. Can I change my supplier(s) following being advised of a successful grant outcome?**

Successful grant recipients may be able to change the supplier only after receiving written approval from Council Officers.

## **16. Can two businesses operating at the same address apply for a grant?**

Yes, however only one application will be considered for awarding of a grant. The same applies if two applications are received from the same business or business with common ownership.