



843.398.4000 • P.O. BOX 57 • DARLINGTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29540

DDRA Improvement Incentive Program

Darlington Downtown Revitalization Association will provide up to **50%** of the cost of removing or installing an approved sign up to a maximum of **\$1,000**. Darlington Downtown Revitalization Association will provide up to **50%** of the cost of exterior painting up to a maximum of **\$1,000**.

For this grant cycle, Darlington Downtown Revitalization Association has **\$4,000 available** for the program in 2021. Applications should be submitted by the 24th day of the month for consideration.

What is encouraged

- Replacement of wall-mounted signage with projecting signage.
- Replacement of several advertising signs at one location with a single advertising sign.
- Signs designed by a sign professional.
- Replacement of worn, weathered, discolored, or out-dated signs and awnings.
- Repainting of exterior buildings which show paint chipping.
- Replacement or installation of awnings.

What will not be funded

- Purchase of portable or temporary signs.
- Signs that do not conform to the City's sign regulations and which have not been approved.
- Signs and painting for businesses without current City of Darlington business licenses.
- Interior painting.
- Interior signage.

How to submit a request

- Consult with a sign professional to design the sign that you would like to install.
- If desired, consult with the City of Darlington Planning Department about whether your sign will meet regulations.
- Complete the Improvement Program application. Submit the forms to Darlington Downtown Revitalization Association Director Lisa Chalian-Rock in person at 400 Pearl St., Darlington, by email at darlingtonplanner@gmail.com, or by mail at P.O. Box 57, Darlington, SC 29540. If you lease the space where your business is located, you must include a letter from the building's owner stating that he or she consents to the submission of the funding request, and, if funded, approves of the installation of the new sign or awning.

How applications will be scored

- The Board will review applications on a monthly basis until funds allocated for the program are exhausted.
- Preference will be given to DDRA members.
- Preference will be given to local, non-chain businesses.



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Upon receiving your request, Darlington Downtown Revitalization Association will

- Confirm with City staff that the proposed signage and painting complies with City regulations and evaluate the application.
- Determine whether grant funding is available for the application.
- Darlington Downtown Revitalization Association may deny a sign grant or paint grant application that does not make recommended changes to their sign after initial review. Every effort will be made by the DDRA to work with the applicants so that an incentive can be granted.
- If your funding request is approved, you will be notified of such approval and asked to complete City of Darlington's Sign/Awning Permit application. You must also receive approval from the City's Codes Enforcement Office before work may begin.

*Please remember that this grant program is a **reimbursement** program, which means that Darlington Downtown Revitalization Association will not disburse the grant payment to you until you provide proof that the sign company or paint company, as well as any other contractors working on the project, have been paid in full by you. All reimbursement checks will be paid to the applicant listed.*



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Applicant Information

Your Name: _____
Address of proposed sign installation: _____
Building Owner: Yes / No Business Owner: Yes / No
Contact Phone: _____
Business License: Yes _____ (Those applying must have current City of Darlington business license)

Sign Company Information

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____

Paint Contact Information

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____

Sign / Paint Costs

Estimated Total Cost of Project: _____
Materials: _____
Design: _____
Construction / Installation: _____

Enclosure Check List

- Application
- Written Permission from building owner (if applicable)
- Sign Design, drawn to scale, including dimensions and colors (if applicable)
- Paint Sample (if applicable)

I hereby acknowledge that I have reviewed and agree to comply with the Darlington Downtown Revitalization Association Improvement Incentive Program and familiarized myself with the regulations and standards contained in the City of Darlington Code of Ordinances.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature of Property Owner

Date

Office Use Only

Date Received: _____
Sign Permit: _____
Grant Amount: _____

Date Reviewed: _____
Business License: _____
Letter Issued: _____