The Department of Commerce is offering matching grants for the revitalization of underutilized, vacant, or dilapidated downtown buildings through the Historic Economic Asset Lifeline (HEAL) program. The grants are intended to bring buildings back into productive use as spaces for:

- New or expanding businesses
- Childcare
- Housing
- Arts and culture
- Civic engagement
ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Building owners of underutilized, vacant or dilapidated downtown buildings in coordination with a local nominating organization.

Nominating Organization Examples:

- Cities or counties
- Non-profit organizations
- Designated Main Street cities or Affiliates
- Chambers of Commerce or similar organizations
- Economic Development organizations
- Small Business Development Centers
- Local or regional foundations
PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

Properties must be located in cities less than 50,000 in population.

Properties must be located in the downtown business district or corridor and hold architectural significance to the district.

Properties must show potential for reuse and revitalization.
PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

1:1 cash match minimum is required.

Project can include funding from any state or federal source, as long as there is no duplication of benefit.

Examples include: Community Development Block Grant, Community Service Tax Credit Program, USDA Rural Development, State Historic Preservation Office programs or Network Kansas programs.
PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

Project must incorporate Main Street Design standards and follow local ordinances and code for rehab/ construction/ façade improvements.

Award recipients are required to sign a contract agreeing to the conditions of the program.
Grant recipients must provide proof that other avenues for preservation and funding have been used and exhausted. Clear evidence of urgency is needed.
AWARD AMOUNT

Up to $20 per square foot of the total building space, not to exceed $75,000 per project.
Emergency HEAL vs. HEAL

Emergency Heal Criteria:

- Building is in danger of collapse.
- If a building is partially collapsed, it is still eligible if an architect or engineer can verify that the structure can be saved.
- Projects must be submitted with supporting engineering and/or architect reports that verify an urgent need and opportunity for revitalization.
- Properties must show potential for reuse and revitalization.

**Expedited funding schedule:**
Award decisions will be made by November 23, 2021.
Construction must begin by February 1st, 2022.
Emergency HEAL vs. HEAL

HEAL CRITERIA

- Building is dilapidated, but not necessarily at risk of eminent collapse.
- Properties must show potential for reuse and revitalization
- Application must include a business plan and pro-forma that outlines how the building will be utilized once construction is complete.

**Expedited funding schedule:**
The application is open November 8 – December 20, 2021. Award decisions will be made by January 10, 2022. Projects must begin construction no later December 31, 2022 and be complete within one year of the start of construction.
IS MY BUILDING ELIGIBLE?

ELIGIBLE

NOT ELIGIBLE
IS MY BUILDING ELIGIBLE?
IS MY BUILDING ELIGIBLE?

ELIGIBLE

New infill development is not eligible

NOT ELIGIBLE
Let's Talk