



**GLOUCESTER COUNTY**  
Economic Development  
Opportunity | Synergy | Sustainability

## **Economic Development Incentives for Gloucester County**

The purpose of the Gloucester County Economic Development Incentives is to promote and encourage the recruitment of new small businesses and expanding by aiding property and or business owners for interior and exterior improvements, advertising and website design work.

The Gloucester County Economic Development Authority (EDA) administers these programs. The incentive programs were designed to assist those businesses that will provide a return on investment to Gloucester County. The EDA will review all applications for consideration of financial incentives.

### **Incentive #1**

#### **Property Improvement Matching Grant Incentive**

This program is designed to promote and encourage new small business recruitment by aiding property owners and business owners for the tenants required build-out in commercial properties. All independently owned businesses locating in Gloucester County that are current on real estate tax payments may be considered for this matching grant incentive.

This program is also designed to assist small businesses, as they grow, with their expansions into larger spaces. All independently owned Gloucester businesses owners that are current on real estate tax payments may be considered for this matching grant incentive. The EDA requires a minimum of 3-year lease with the property owner for the new or expanding tenant into a larger space. The EDA requires the work be completed by a licensed contractor (licensed to do the specific work in question) who is not the owner of the property. The EDA also needs copies of all permits applicable to the project.

Projects covered in this improvement incentive include new floors, ceiling tiles, windows, doors, painting, and other interior improvements that will not be removed if vacated. Applications must come from the property owner or the business owner of the proposed property. A completed application with receipts/invoices and proof of payment (canceled check or credit card receipt/statement) must be submitted prior to disbursement of EDA funds.

The EDA will review and consider funding to assist in the buy-down of costs. If approved, the EDA will provide \$0.50 for every dollar the property owner or business owner spends on interior improvements up to \$10,000. This grant is awarded on a first come, first served basis and will be provided until the annual funds have been depleted. The EDA has committed funding for grants in Fiscal Year 2026 beginning on July 1, 2025, and will be replenished on a fiscal year basis.

Items required for consideration:

- 1) *Most current Real Estate Tax Bill and current business license/Completed and signed IRS Form W9*
- 2) *Quote for proposed project and copies of all required permits applicable to the project showing licensed contractor (licensed to do the specific work in question) who is not the property owner*
- 3) *Completed Application*
- 4) *Invoices (Only paid invoices dated within thirty days will be honored) Invoices must be marked paid.*
- 5) *Proof of Payment (canceled check or credit card receipt/statement. No cash receipts*

## **Incentive #2**

### **Façade Improvement Matching Grant Incentive**

This program is designed to aid property owners or business owners of commercial properties for exterior façade improvements, new signage, awnings, painting and/or landscaping, etc., for enhanced curb appeal for the front of businesses facing streets or highways. All commercial properties located in Gloucester County that are current on real estate tax payments may be considered for this matching grant incentive. Applications must come from the property or business owners of the property address proposed to be improved. A quote for the proposed project and photographs of the area identified for improvements must be attached to the application. The EDA requires the work to be completed by a licensed contractor (licensed to do the specific work in question) who is not the owner of the property. The EDA also needs copies of all permits applicable to the project. A completed application with quote, invoice/receipts and proof of payment must be submitted prior to disbursement of EDA funds.

The EDA will review and consider funding to assist in the buy-down costs for the property owners or business owners. If approved, the EDA will reimburse \$0.50 for every dollar spent on the exterior project up to \$4,000. This grant is awarded on a first come, first served basis and will be provided until the annual funds have been depleted. The EDA has committed funding for grants in Fiscal Year 2026 beginning on July 1, 2025, and will be replenished on a fiscal year basis.

Items required for consideration:

- 1) *Most current Real Estate Tax Bill*
- 2) *Completed and signed IRS Form W9 and current business license*
- 3) *Quote for proposed project from a licensed contractor*
- 4) *Completed Application*
- 5) *Copy of building/sign permit if applicable*
- 6) *Invoices/Receipts (Only paid invoices dated within thirty days will be honored) Invoices must be marked paid*
- 7) *Proof of payment (cancelled check or credit card receipt/statement. No cash receipts)*

## **Incentive #3**

### **Co-op Advertising Grant Program**

This program is designed to aid new and expanding small retail and restaurant businesses with their advertising expenses for a maximum of up to 2 years. The EDA staff will review the applications for consideration of approval in the order in which they are received. A maximum quarterly grant of \$500 for multiple advertising projects can be awarded to one business. Applications must be submitted with proof of advertising and proof of payment to be considered. Funding cannot exceed 25% or \$500 of the total advertising costs per quarter. The four quarters end the last day of September, December, March and June of each year.

This grant is awarded on a first come, first served basis and will be provided until the annual funds have been depleted. The EDA has committed funding for grants in Fiscal Year 2026 beginning on July 1, 2025, and will be replenished on a fiscal year basis.

*Items required for consideration are listed on next page*

- 1) *Most current Real Estate Tax Bill and or current business license*
- 2) *Completed and signed IRS Form W9*
- 3) *Proof of payment of advertising expenses (cancelled check or credit card receipt/statement. No cash receipts)*
- 4) *Completed Application*
- 5) *Copy of advertising project*

#### **Incentive #4**

##### **E-Commerce Matching Grant Program**

This program is designed to aid with new website design and development. All commercial and homebased businesses located in Gloucester County that are current on real estate tax payments may be considered for this matching grant incentive. A new website must be established, where none previously existed for the business; or, the applicant's existing website must include such upgrades as on-line shopping, search engine optimization or other new enhancements.

Applicants must provide a quote from a certified web designer for the website work. The grant application must be signed and include the quote and selected provider information at time of submittal. Upon website completion, the applicant will submit the paid invoice with proof of payment. The EDA will reimburse .50 cents for every dollar the business owner spends up to \$500. Minority, women and veteran owned businesses may receive a matching grant up to \$1,000.

This grant is awarded on a first come, first served basis and will be provided until the annual funds have been depleted. The EDA has committed funding for grants in Fiscal Year 2026 beginning on July 1, 2024, and will be replenished on a fiscal year basis.

Items required for consideration:

- 1) *Most current Real Estate Tax Bill and or current business license*
- 2) *Completed and signed IRS Form W9*
- 3) *Completed Application*
- 4) *Invoice from vendor*
- 5) *Proof of payment (cancelled check or credit card receipt/statement. No cash receipts)*
- 6) *Invoices/Receipts (Only paid invoices dated within thirty days will be honored)*
- 7) *Invoices must be marked paid*

*Amended by the EDA on June 23, 2015,*

*Amended by the EDA on April 23, 2019*

*Amended by the EDA on April 28, 2020*

*Amended by the EDA on June 30, 2021*

*Amended by the EDA on March 22, 2023*

*Amended by the EDA on June 26, 2024*

*Amended by the EDA on July 16, 2025*

**For information concerning this program, contact Sherry Spring at [sspring@gloucester.va.info](mailto:sspring@gloucester.va.info)**