



## Facade Improvement Grant Program

The Facade Improvement Grant seeks to assist businesses in the Downtown Ocilla district in order to improve the appearance of individual building facades, awnings, as well as the overall historic look of the downtown district. All updates must conform with current codes, historic preservation standards, and be performed with licensed contractors and businesses. Principal facades can be the front, side, or rear of the building as long as improvements are facing a public right of way.

### Maximum Awards:

The program provides a 50% reimbursement based off eligible invoices and receipts to businesses located within the Downtown Development Authority of the City of Ocilla boundaries, as noted on the Downtown Development Authority Map. Grants are available up to \$1000.00 in matching funds. Applications must be submitted **prior** to work commencing.

### Eligible Expenses:

- Exterior cleaning/painting or paint removal/masonry repair
- Window repair/replacement
- New awning/rehab existing
- Rehab or reconstruction storefront
- Removal metal siding/exterior slip covers

### Eligible Applicants:

Any property owner or store proprietor/tenant with a valid lease as well as authority from the owner can apply for funding. Property must be located within the Downtown Business District. Property owners can only apply for a Façade Grant once per eight (8) years.

### Application Process:

Download the application from this website and submit it to the Ocilla Downtown Development Authority prior to beginning work on the upgrades. Applications are also available at Ocilla City Hall. The Ocilla DDA meets at 5:30 on the fourth Tuesday of each month. **Note:** The Ocilla Downtown District has been designated a historical district and most buildings within the district are considered historical. As such, a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) must be obtained from the Ocilla Historic Preservation prior to altering the appearance of the exterior of a building designated historic. The application for a COA is

available on the City of Ocilla website. The Ocilla Historic Preservation Commission meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 5:30.