



DOWNTOWN START-UP BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAM

Purpose:

The Downtown Start-up Business Grant Program is intended to provide business owners in the Downtown Orangeburg Historic District with funds of support as they start their business. Funds may be used for:

- Fixtures, machinery and equipment purchases
- Leasehold improvements

Origin of Grant Funds

Funding for the Downtown Start-up Business Grant Program will be provided from the annual Downtown Orangeburg Privatization Association budget.

Who is eligible to apply?

- Any business that intends to open in the Downtown Orangeburg Historic District.
- Any business that has operated less than a year (12 months) in the Downtown Orangeburg Historic District.

Grant Amount:

- \$1,000 - \$2,000

Application Process:

The Downtown Orangeburg Revitalization Association (DORA) will accept rolling applications for the Downtown Start-up Business Grant Program. The DORA Executive Director will act as administrator of the Downtown Business Start-up Grant Program. The Economic Development Committee of DORA will review and score applications and then report to the DORA Board of Directors.

Application Scoring:

All applications will be scored as follows:

- (40pts) Strength of your Business Plan
- (30pts) Sustainability of your Business
- (30pts) How your Business will contribute to Downtown as a whole.

Check List:

- _____ Business Plan with Financial projections
- _____ Letter from landlord regarding lease agreement
- _____ Business License
- _____ Tax ID number for State of SC
- _____ Completed Start-up Business Application



DOWNTOWN START-UP BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

Applications may be submitted by email to croberson@orangeburg.sc.us or by US Mail to DORA, PO Box 808, Orangeburg, SC 29116-0808.

Contact Information

Date _____

Applicant's Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____ Telephone _____

Cell Phone _____ Email Address _____

Other/Alternate Contact Information _____

Business Information

Proposed Name of Business (if known at this time) _____

- Sole Proprietor LLC
 Partnership Incorporated

Use creativity in the description and include briefly the following information:

- 1) What are the products or services that would be delivered or sold?
- 2) Define and describe the market for this business.
- 3) How will your business enhance Downtown Orangeburg as a whole?
- 4) What resources and assets do you have and what resources would you need to develop this concept? (personnel, inventory, financing, equipment)
- 5) Do you believe you can get capital needed to start your business?
- 6) What are your qualifications to develop/expand this business?
- 7) Are there similar businesses existing in the market, and if so, how would you distinguish yourself from those?
- 8) How will your business expand the business mix in Downtown Orangeburg?
- 9) What is unique about your concept, product, service, name or niche that would "sell" the selection committee on your concept?
- 10) Please submit any other comments or information that you think may be helpful to us as we make our decision.