

Storefront Resiliency Initiative

Program Description, Eligibility, and Frequently Asked Questions

Program Description

Centro San Antonio's **Storefront Resiliency Initiative** offers two grant programs to help downtown small businesses prevent and respond to unexpected property damage.

- The Storefront Security Grant provides up to \$1,000 to small businesses to offset the costs of installing security cameras and other safety measures at their places of business.
- 2. The **Storefront Recovery Fund** is an emergency fund that will distribute **up to \$2,000** to help businesses cover the cost of their insurance deductible or repairs/replacements following property damage.

Downtown small businesses are invited to apply for one or both grants. Grants will be awarded to eligible businesses on a first-come, first-serve basis until funds are depleted.

For more information on Centro's support for downtown San Antonio's small businesses, please visit <u>centrosanantonio.org/main-street-businesses/</u>



Thank you to our partners at LISC San Antonio and Woodforest National Bank, who have generously contributed to this grant opportunity.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible to receive a Storefront Resiliency Grant, a business must:

- Be a small business, as defined by <u>the SBA size standards</u> for your industry.
- Operate a physical, street-level storefront business within the Downtown San Antonio Public Improvement District (PID) – <u>click for an</u> <u>enlarged boundary map</u>
 - PID-adjacent businesses considered on a case-by-case basis
 - Businesses must be actively operating for at least 6 months at the time of application
- Be in good standing with the City of San Antonio and the State of Texas with respect to taxes, fees, licenses, or other financial/legal obligations
- Provide a current W9 to process payment (<u>click for a downloadable</u> <u>form</u>)
- Provide proof of insurance coverage, such as a certificate of insurance (for Storefront Recovery Fund)
- Provide proof of security system installation and/or storefront repairs within 60 days of fund approval (for Storefront Security Grant and/or Storefront Recovery Fund)

All businesses are eligible except for these specifically excluded types:

 Pawnshops, gun shops, liquor stores, tattoo parlors, tobacco/tobaccolike related establishments, specified financial institutions (i.e., payday loans, see <u>San Antonio's UDC Section 35-A101</u>), sexually oriented businesses, and nonpermanent structures such as kiosks or food trucks.

Eligible Use of Funds

Storefront Security Grants:

Funds of **up to \$1,000** will be reimbursed to eligible applicants who have made physical changes to their storefronts related to cameras, lighting, alarms, etc. that deter criminal activity and allow law enforcement to more effectively respond to public safety issues:

- Installation of security cameras, alarm system, motion detectors, and/or glass break detectors
- Installation or improvement of exterior lighting
- Purchase of <u>a City of San Antonio Alarm Permit</u> for their business
- This fund *does not* reimburse costs related to ongoing security system monitoring or for alarm permit renewals
- Centro San Antonio *is not* responsible for installing or monitoring storefront security systems.

Centro San Antonio is working closely with the San Antonio Police Department's downtown bike patrol to keep downtown safe, prevent crime before it occurs, and respond effectively to detain and prosecute criminals. Business owners that receive a Storefront Security Grant must attest that they will:

- 1. Participate in a collaborative Site Security Visit with an SAPD officer to review your business' security plan and safety tactics
 - a. Centro San Antonio will help coordinate this site visit
- 2. Submit a <u>Trespass Authorization Affidavit</u> to SAPD, giving the police authority to remove trespassers from their property or place of business in the business owner's absence
 - a. Participating businesses are encouraged to order a complimentary No Trespassing Sign from us <u>here.</u>
- 3. Call SAPD when they notice criminal activity taking place on or near their businesses

 If requested, provide law enforcement (such as SAPD, the DA's office, or Bexar County) with security footage related to the incident and follow up to encourage prosecution following an arrest

There is a limit of one Storefront Security grant per business owner.

Storefront Recovery Fund:

Funds of **up to \$2,000** will be reimbursed to eligible applicants who have repaired and/or replaced storefront property that has been damaged by vandalism, burglary, extreme weather event, etc.:

- Glass replacement or repair for windows or doors
- Broken pipes and subsequent water damage
- Replacement of damaged or stolen inventory

The Storefront Recovery Fund is designed to offset the cost of your insurance deductible or repairs/replacements of damaged property, not to cover ongoing building maintenance, cosmetic updates, or planned renovations.

To be eligible for this program, businesses must:

- Have experienced property damage within the previous 60 days
- Provide proof of having liability insurance that covers property damage
- Provide proof of property damage and subsequent repair/replacement
 - Valid proof includes dated police report, insurance quote, insurance statement, repair invoice or receipt, dated photographs of damage and completed repairs

There is a limit of one Storefront Recovery Fund request per business owner per six-month period. For example, if you request to use the fund in January, you will not be able to make another request until July.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Centro San Antonio Storefront Resiliency Program?

Centro San Antonio is distributing two grants to downtown San Antonio small businesses to help them prevent and recover from property damage.

What is the goal of the program?

Our goal is to support physical changes to downtown small businesses that increase safety, security, and resiliency as well as helping these organizations recover from property damage.

When can I apply?

Applications will remain open until funds are depleted.

How does the application and reimbursement process work?

The streamlined application is simple and quick. You can submit your application <u>here</u>.

Qualified applicants will be required to submit documentation related to their security upgrades or property damage repairs *within 60 days* of the grant approval date or will forfeit the grant. Upon confirmation of completed installation or repair work, reimbursement will be provided via a check.

What security system do you recommend?

There is a wide variety of effective security cameras and alarm systems for small businesses. This program allows you to select the system that will work best for your team and your business.

We recommend Ring, Simplisafe, or Vivint for entry-level security systems.

What if I have another question?

Please email our Main Street team at <u>mainstreet@centrosa.org</u> for additional inquiries.