



Restore Trenton! Historic Property Rehabilitation Grant Program Application and Information

The Trenton Historical Society (THS) is pleased to announce the 2025 **Restore Trenton! grant round**. THS established the David Collier Grant Fund, named for its longtime president, to aid in the preservation and restoration of residential properties in the City of Trenton. The grants are made to finance facade repairs and exterior work.

Restore Trenton! Guidelines

Eligible Properties

To be eligible to receive a Restore Trenton! grant, a property must meet the following criteria*:

1. **Be located within Trenton city limits.**
2. **Be a residential property.** Commercial properties are not eligible. Preference will be given to homeowners for the property in which they reside.
3. **Be at least 50 years old.** Grants are available to any residential property more than 50 years of age; however, preference will be given to local historic landmarks and properties listed on or eligible for listing on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Properties, either individually or as a contributing resource to a historic district.

*Trustees and contractors of the Trenton Historical Society and their families are not eligible to receive grants through this program.

** More information about local historic landmarks and historic districts can be found by visiting the City of Trenton Landmarks Commission website: <https://www.trentonnj.org/282/Landmarks-Commission-for-Historic-Preser>. Properties eligible for or listed on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places can be identified using the the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office: <https://dep.nj.gov/hpo/tools/lucy/>. You may also visit the Trenton Historical Society's website at <https://trentonhistory.org/the-city/trenton-historic-districts/> to access this information.

Eligible Projects

Funding is limited to **exterior** projects and includes, but is not limited to, rehabilitation, restoration and major repairs (but not ongoing maintenance) of architectural details and features. Preference will be given to projects focusing on a structure's most visible façade(s).

Work must NOT have begun on a project. The **Restore Trenton!** grant program will not fund work that has already been started or completed.

The following are examples of eligible and ineligible projects:

Eligible Projects

Restoration of existing architectural features (cornice, porch columns/railing, etc.)
Replacement of missing architectural features (cornice, porch columns/railing, etc.)
Exterior painting

Repair or in-kind replacement of exterior siding

Brick and masonry repair, including repointing
Chimney repair
Door repair, or replacement with historically appropriate doors
Window repair, or replacement with windows of the same materials (typically wood) and size/type

Roof repair
Exterior weatherization

Ineligible Projects

Interior work

Adding architectural features that were not part of the original design
Painting brick or masonry surfaces that were not historically painted
Replacement of exterior siding with vinyl or aluminum
Covering brick or masonry with stucco
Removal of existing chimneys
Replacement of historic doors with inappropriate modern doors
Replacement of windows with historically inappropriate materials (typically vinyl, aluminum), size, and/or type
Landscaping (sidewalks, driveways, plantings)

All work must comply with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings*. These *Standards* emphasize the preservation and repair of historic materials and are included on page 7 of this application packet. For more information regarding the *Standards*, please contact us. *Please note that if the project is locally designated, either individually or within one of Trenton's locally designated historic districts, an application must be submitted to and approved by the Trenton Landmarks Commission prior to the commencement of work.*

Grants will range from \$1,000-\$4,000. Funds will be disbursed at two stages in the project, at 50% completion and at 100% completion, with approval following scheduled inspections by a Board member of the Society at both stages. **The applicant is responsible for complying with all City, State and Federal requirements for permits and approvals, including the above-mentioned Trenton Landmarks Commission approval, if applicable. The grant project must be completed within 12 months of award.** Please note that project funding may be rescinded if the applicant does not complete the project within 12 months of the grant award. Exceptions will be considered if the applicant provides, in writing, a reason for the delay and an updated date of completion.

How to Apply

To apply for a Restore Trenton! Historic Property Rehabilitation Grant, complete all sections of the following application form. Please include photographs of the building's exterior, showing the entire front façade, as well as areas in need of repair. If the project requires an architect and/or a licensed contractor, please include their written estimates of the total project cost. If you intend to complete the work yourself, please submit a written estimate of the projected total cost of materials and explain your skill level. A Restore Trenton! grant may be used in conjunction with other grants. This information must be disclosed on the completed application.

Applications must be received by April 18, 2025.

Only completed applications will be considered.

Applicants will be notified of grant status in May 2025, when grants will be awarded.

If you have further questions or require assistance completing your application, please email us at trentonhistoricalsoc@gmail.com or call (609) 396-4478. We look forward to receiving your application.

Thank you,
Trenton Historical Society

The Trenton Historical Society's mission is the study and interpretation of Trenton's history, preservation of its historic buildings and artifacts, and dissemination of information about New Jersey's capital city and its illustrious past. The Society is a New Jersey non-profit corporation with 501(c)3 tax-exempt status and a registered charity with the State of New Jersey. Interested in learning more or becoming a member? Please visit our website, <https://trentonhistory.org/>, and follow us on social media @trentonhistorical.

**Instructions for Completion and Submission of Application for
Restore Trenton! Historic Property Rehabilitation Grant**

Application Checklist

Submissions **MUST** include the following:

- 1) Completed application form, signed and dated (see following pages).
- 2) Project budget or written estimate from a licensed contractor or architect, or materials estimate if work is to be undertaken by skilled owner.
- 3) Resumes and/or references of contractor or architect or owner.
- 4) Color photos of property and specific area(s) where grant funds will be used (Photos should include at least one overview of entire property façade and several of the specific project area).

If any of the above items are not included, the application may be omitted from the grant selection process.

Please submit completed applications by mail to:

Trenton Historical Society
P.O. Box 1112
Trenton, NJ 08606

Or email to: trentonhistoricalsoc@gmail.com



**Restore Trenton! Historic Property Rehabilitation Grant Program
Application Form**

1. Property Information:

Address of Property: _____

Age of Property: _____ years (estimates are ok)

Located in Historic District (Yes/No): _____ Name of District: _____

Individually certified, listed, or eligible (if so, please specify if City, State, or
National designation): _____

Owner occupied (yes/no): _____

2. Owner:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

3. Project Description: (Use space provided to describe proposed work. Attach photographs and additional sheets as necessary)

Anticipated Start Date: _____

Anticipated Completion Date: _____

Application Form (continued)

4. Project Cost: (Attach estimates)

Amount Requested: _____

Total Project Cost: _____

Other Funding Available for Project (grants, HUD, etc.): _____

5. Project Architect/Contractor (if applicable; attach budget and/or estimate):

Name/Firm: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Telephone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

I hereby certify that I am the owner of the property and that the information given herein, and as shown on the application, is true.

I understand that any and all work, construction and/or installations on this property must meet the requirements of the Restore Trenton! historic property rehabilitation grant program.

I further agree that, if I am chosen to receive this grant, I will furnish the Trenton Historical Society with a condition and financial report which describes all work completed and reflects all expenses at the time of its submission to the Society.

I understand that grant funds will be released to grantees at the intervals of 50% and 100% completion of the project, pending approval, and that the grant project must be completed within 12 months of award.

I also agree to allow the Trenton Historical Society to use images of the property receiving the award for publicity purposes.

Signature of Property Owner: _____

Date: _____

Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings

1. A property shall be used for its historic purpose or be placed in a new use that requires minimal change to the defining characteristics of the building and its site and environment.
2. The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.
3. Each property shall be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or architectural elements from other buildings, shall not be undertaken.
4. Most properties change over time; those changes that have acquired historic significance in their own right shall be retained and preserved.
5. Distinctive features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property shall be preserved.
6. Deteriorated historic features shall be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature shall match the old in design, color, texture, and other visual qualities and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features shall be substantiated by documentary, physical, or pictorial evidence.
7. Chemical or physical treatments, such as sandblasting, which cause damage to historic materials, shall not be used. The surface cleaning of structures, if appropriate, shall be undertaken using the gentlest means possible.
8. Significant archeological resources affected by a project shall be protected and preserved. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures shall be undertaken.
9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.
10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

Definitions

Restoration - The act or process of accurately recovering the form and details of a property and its setting as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of later work or by the replacement of missing earlier work.

Rehabilitation - The act or process of returning a property to a state of utility through repair or alteration which makes possible an efficient contemporary use while preserving those portions or features of the property which are significant to its historical, architectural, and cultural values.