

BEST Renaissance Block Grant Application Form 2025

The Bayfront East Side Taskforce (BEST) was recently awarded the Renaissance Block Grant which is meant to provide financial assistance for home improvements in our neighborhood. Please read the following list for the necessary guidelines and information regarding the program to determine if it is a good fit for you.

- The grant must be used for residential home. Both owner-occupied and rental properties are applicable.
- Funds are only for exterior improvement on the home.
- The property must be located within the parameters of Holland St. to Parade St., between Front St. to 6th St.
- BEST will cover half the cost of a project, with the maximum amount of the grant being \$5,000. The Renaissance Block program requires a 1 – 1 match of project costs up to the \$5,000 maximum grant per property.
- The match for this grant can be cash, previous improvements to the home if completed within 90 days of the submission of this application, and other grants.
- Please be aware that additional application paperwork may be necessary after the initial intake, and that funding/assistance is not guaranteed.
- Applications will be accepted until all grant funds have been expended.

Please complete the form below. If you have any questions while completing the form, please contact BEST at 814-456-7062 or via email at **bharper@besterie.org**. Once completed, please return the entire application to:

**Bayfront Eastside Task Force
231 Parade St.
Erie, PA 16507**

Owner Information (please print)

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone #: _____

Property Information (please print)

Address of Applicable Property: _____

Please circle the type(s) of property it is: Owner Occupied Rental Vacant

How many units are in the property? _____

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How many people live at this residence? _____

Has this property received any code violations in the past 12 months? Yes No

If yes, please
explain: _____

How much do you receive in gross rent from this property/monthly? (If applicable) _____

Do you own multiple properties? Yes No

What is the total number of properties owned? _____

Do you have a current home insurance policy for this property? Yes No

If not, please explain why.

If yes, please add: Name of Insurance Provider _____

Account # _____

Please list below what repairs/improvements you would like to have done to the property.
Repairs eligible under the Renaissance block grant include sidewalks, walkways, driveways,
landscaping, doors & windows, roofs, soffits, gutters & downspouts, exterior lighting, porches,
stairs, steps, painting, siding, shutters, chimney & masonry repair. **All improvements MUST be
visible from the street side of the property.**

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Grant Requirements (please print)

Grant awards are prioritized based on various factors, including previous home improvement grant awards (for full list of factors influencing prioritization, please see page 4). Have you previously received funding from a Renaissance Block Grant Program and if so, what year did you receive this funding? Yes No Year _____

This grant application requires you to provide 2 bids for the work you are requesting. Would you like a list of certified contractors you can reach out to for bids? Yes No

This is a **1-to-1 matching grant**, meaning BEST will match the owner's financial contribution dollar for dollar **up to \$5,000** (\$10,000 of total work) for home improvements. The owner's match can be cash, previous improvements to the home if completed within 90 days of the submission of this application, and other grants. Please explain how you plan to provide your match. If you are claiming previous work that was done to your property within the last 90 days, please include copies of the paid invoices for said work when submitting this application.

The BEST Renaissance Block grant tries to encourage homeowners to apply together with neighbors close to their property. Do you have any other interested neighbors who would also wish to apply? Please list their names and addresses below, BEST staff can work to encourage their applications.

How did you hear about this grant program?

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PLEASE READ AND SIGN BELOW: To implement the renovation project according to the requirements of the BEST Renaissance Block Grant as presented by the Bayfront East Side Taskforce, the following conditions must be met:

The Property Owner agrees to:

- Acquire any necessary permits.
- Provide documentation of financial resources available for the required 50% match.
- Acquire 2 bids for labor and materials from qualified contractors to complete the improvements.
- Provide invoices from all contractors.
- Allow the project inspector on site to review work completed.
- Agree to maintain ownership of the property for at least 5 years from the project completion. If the property is sold or demolished within the 5 year period, a prorated portion of it will be repaid to Bayfront East Side Taskforce.
- Agree to hold the Bayfront East Side Taskforce and its partners harmless from any potential litigation or disputes involving quality of work and materials used on this project. The Bayfront East Side Taskforce is in no way responsible for warranties or quality of work issues regardless of the source of funds used on this project.

The Property Owner understands:

- The Bayfront East Side Taskforce is under no obligation to provide a grant to the owner if the owner fails to comply with program regulations.
- BEST reserves the right to prioritize properties based on various factors, including whether the property is owner-occupied, awards to other applicants, previous Renaissance Block Grant Awards and the level of distress and/or potential code violations.
- No construction funded under this grant can start until an award letter is provided and the project is authorized to proceed.
- The Bayfront East Side Taskforce agrees to provide a grant not to exceed \$5,000, which represents 50% or less of the costs of the improvement outlined in the property owners submitted façade improvement project.
- Payment of this grant will be made after project completion and documentation of the owner's full payment to the contractor has been submitted.
- The Bayfront East Side Taskforce will take before & after photos of the property after B.E.S.T receives, reviews, and approves the application.

As the legal owner of the above property, I hereby certify all information provided is true to the best of my knowledge and grant authorization to complete the exterior improvements indicated on this application. I understand and agree to the application agreement terms. I understand that the Bayfront East Side Taskforce is not responsible for my overall satisfaction with the improvements, and all dissatisfaction should be addressed and resolved with the contractor prior to final payment.

Property Address: _____

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Property Owner's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Bid & Estimate Submittal Information

Circle which bid you prefer for each description of work listed below. Please attach all copies of bids and estimates to this application as well as contractor's state licensing number. Proof of payment (invoices & receipts) are required for reimbursement after project completion.

Description of work:

Bid #1 Submitted by: _____ Amount: _____

Work to be completed: _____

Bid # 2 Submitted by: _____ Amount: _____

Work to be completed: _____

Description of work:

Bid #1 Submitted by: _____ Amount: _____

Work to be completed: _____

Bid # 2 Submitted by: _____ Amount: _____

Work to be completed: _____

Description of work:

Bid #1 Submitted by: _____ Amount: _____

Work to be completed: _____

Bid # 2 Submitted by: _____ Amount: _____

Work to be completed: _____

Total Project Cost: _____

BEST Renaissance Block Photo Release

If selected as a Renaissance Block Grantee, I grant BEST permission to use my name, likeness, before and after photographs of my property, and recorded remarks and/or a transcript of my statements in connection with the project alone or with other content in all formats in promotion of BEST and the Renaissance Block Grant program. By signing below, I am confirming that I have **read, understood, and agreed** to the terms and conditions above.

Name: (print) _____

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Signature: _____

Date: _____