

Washrooms Accessibility Grant

Program Guidelines

Introduction

The Citywide Public Washroom Strategy aims to improve access to safer and cleaner washrooms for all Edmontonians and visitors to Edmonton. In areas or districts where public washrooms are not easily accessible, the City recognizes that businesses and Business Improvement Areas (BIAs), as well as not-for-profit organizations, can play a significant role in improving access to washrooms for Edmontonians by opening their washrooms to non-paying patrons. The Washroom Accessibility Grant is intended to support initiatives that improve washroom accessibility for Edmontonians and offset additional costs of providing and managing washrooms that are usable and accessible by the public.

Funding

Organizations such as private businesses, BIAs, non-profit organizations and community leagues can apply for one (1) \$5,000 grant for initiatives and efforts that improve accessibility to public washrooms. No type of organization or corporate entity is excluded from grant eligibility. A maximum of \$50,000.00 in grant funding is available.

Funding Initiatives

- To keep washrooms open to non-paying patrons (private businesses can apply for this)
- To place mobile washrooms in areas with high public washroom needs or support initiatives that increase access to public washrooms (BIAs, non-profit organizations and community leagues can apply for this).

Requirements for Applicants that are Private Businesses

If successful, applicants must agree to the following:

- Washrooms will be open to both paying and non-paying patrons for a period of six months from the day the funding is disbursed.
- No person will not be excluded from using washrooms during business operating hours.

Eligible Expenses

- Custodial, supplies or cleaning expenses
- Waste removal or servicing expenses (for mobile washrooms only)
- Expenses related to monitoring/attending (staffing) the washrooms for safety and cleanliness
- Expenses for washroom rentals
- Expenses for washrooms maintenance (e.g repair or maintenance of washrooms to make the washrooms accessible for public use)
- Expenses related to replacing vandalized or damaged mobile washrooms
- Expenses related to making washrooms accessible to the public.

Ineligible Expense

- Expenses related to litter pick up and waste disposal
- Any expenses not related to improving access to public washrooms, as determined at the sole discretion of the City

Application Process

Applications will be accepted from March 14, 2024, until April 15, 2024. Successful applicants will be contacted by May 1, 2024. The application can be submitted through [this online form](#).

Funding is limited and the City reserves the right to accept applications on a first-come, first-served basis based on the review process below, or to refuse an application on any basis it considers reasonable. Incomplete applications will not be processed. If you require assistance with your application, please contact washroomstrategy@edmonton.ca.

Review Process

All applications will be assessed based on washroom needs and contributions to public washroom accessibility in the community where the grant is intended to be utilized. Factors that will be considered in selecting successful applications include:

- The severity of washroom needs in the area
- The severity of public urination and defecation in the area
- Number of available and open public washrooms in the area
- Planned or expected number of outdoor community events
- Approximate/average walking distance to the nearest public washrooms