

CHIMNEY ROCK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT TEAM, Inc. (CREDIT)

Small Business Grants for Chimney Rock Village Winter & Spring 2026

APPLICATION

INTRODUCTION:

Chimney Rock Economic Development & Investment Team, Inc. (CREDIT) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization established to help business owners, business property owners and businesses solely within Chimney Rock Village. The purpose is to assist in efforts to repair, restore and enhance the private-sector entities initially due to damages from TS Helene and thereafter to re-establish and maintain the viability of the downtown Village business community.

CREDIT applied for and was awarded a grant from Duke Energy – Small Business Grant Program and CREDIT matched the grant to help these funds go further. These funds are to be used to help downtown businesses and economic development within the Village.

Guidelines for Grant Consideration:

- The business and property must be located and operated within the municipal limits of Chimney Rock Village and must be in operation by January 1, 2026.
- The grant may be up to \$ 5,000.00 and paid directly to the supplier, vendor or contractor providing support to the business or business property.
- The grant may be used for anything that the business, business owner or property owner needs to replace something lost, destroyed or to enhance their ability to compete and better serve customers visiting the Village and their business.
 - These can be appliances, display cases, structural changes or updates, lighting, cosmetics, and may be inside or outside the business or any need that can be of use and may not be budgeted to the date of application or was set aside until later when better able to consider.
 - **If there is any doubt in eligibility, applicant should proceed and apply.**
- When an applicant is awarded a grant, the recipient will work with directly with CREDIT to secure quotes, contracts or invoices. These will be paid directly by CREDIT on behalf of the recipient of the grant.
 - Should the invoice/bill exceed the grant awarded, the recipient will be responsible for any amounts due above the grant awarded.
 - Should the cost be below the awarded grant amount, further needs may be considered. All unused funds will be retained by CREDIT for other grants.
- The recipient of the grant must use the funds, and the project or purchase must be completed on or before March 25, 2026. A full update report is due to CREDIT on or before that completion date.

Applicant Information and Request:

NAME OF APPLICANT (Person making application) AND BUSINESS NAME:

Location of Business (Address) within Village: _____.

Mailing Address: _____.

_____.

Website (if business has one) _____.

Phone: _____; Email: _____.

What would you want or need to enhance, improve or update your business? Please share your story and need, in bullet or narrative form. What could you use, change or update to better help you and the business be better restored or to better compete. (Please print or type so it is easy to read and if necessary, add additional sheets to fully share your needs.)

Project/Purchase Name: _____.

AMOUNT OF REQUEST: \$ _____.

Please itemize (best you can estimate) your budget or total cost of the project/purchase.

Your project/purchase or request in detail: _____.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND EASY TO READ OR TYPE HERE OR TYPE ON SEPARATE SHEET(S) AND ATTACH TO YOUR APPLICATION.

Purpose and Impact this grant and project/purchase will have on your business in Chimney Rock Village. Please share in detail how these funds will help you and your business. (Remember to print or type and use additional sheets if necessary.)

Comments: Any letters sharing information or of reference, support documents, cost, prices or quotes, drawings or sketches, pictures, or any support materials may be added to the application.

Thank you for your continued work on rebuilding your business in Chimney Rock Village. CREDIT is working to help business and the Village be restored and maintained for the future. You are vital to that future, and we would look forward to assisting you if awarded a grant from the Small Business Grant Program of Chimney Rock Economic Development & Investment Team, Inc. (501c3 nonprofit corporation)

For additional information or questions, please contact Stephen G Duncan, CEO at (828) 777-5718. Board Members are Mr. Ariel Haas, President and Mrs. Mary Jaeger-Gale, Board Member).

Please contact Stephen Duncan to set up an appointment to meet to deliver and review your application.

Applications and any support materials will be reviewed upon receipt and applicants will be contacted within a couple weeks.