

Washburn Life Business Programs

The mission of the Washburn Area Improvement Association is to create an environment that will aid the retention and expansion of existing businesses within the community and encourage the development and success of all area business. WAIA is a non-profit economic development corporation dedicated to the progressive growth of Washburn and the surrounding area while maintaining an excellent quality of life.

One of our primary functions is to provide business assistance to startups, expansions, and re-locations to the Washburn Area. WAIA provides the Washburn area businesses with:

- [Business Start-Up Program](#)
- [Business Improvement Grant](#)
- [Daycare Provider Grant](#)
- [Storefront Grant](#)
- [Washburn Area Progress Fund-Loan Pool-can be used toward matching funds](#)

All approvals are subject to funds being available.

WAIA also performs a wide variety of other services to support and benefit our existing businesses and community.

Washburn is a progressive community providing a full range of retail businesses and service industries.

Washburn is a great place to live, work, and play. If you are looking for a community that is progressive yet maintains small town values, we believe Washburn is what you are looking for. Please feel free to contact us for assistance with not only your business needs, but also if you are seeking a new place to live or retire.

Contact Rhonda at 701-390-9756 for more information regarding grants and programs that WAIA offers.

Washburn Life (WAIA) Business Start-Up Program

Purpose:

- To provide assistance to new businesses or businesses relocating to the Washburn area.
 - To provide employment opportunities within the community and stimulate the growth of businesses located here.
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Eligibility:

- Any new and/or relocating business in the Washburn trade area where the applicant can provide supporting data to indicate that the establishment of their business will be beneficial to the community of Washburn.
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Maximum Grant:

- The maximum amount of Grant reimbursement per business application is up to 50% of the improvement cost-not to exceed \$10,000.00. Grant amounts will be based on the impact to the community as determined by the WAIA Board of Directors.
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Other Available Assistance

- Business Improvement Grant
 - Low Interest Loan
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Grant Process:

- To receive consideration for the Business Start-Up Program, businesses must provide a detailed business plan that includes projected costs and earnings. Other information may be requested on a case-by-case basis.
- Applications will be reviewed by the WAIA Board of Directors. Applications must be submitted PRIOR to any construction being done.
- Once the application is approved or denied, the applicant will be notified. The applicant has 6 months to complete the improvement project and file for payment. Extensions may be granted due to reasons beyond the control of the applicant with board approval.
- Following the completion of the project, receipts must be provided to WAIA indicating the TOTAL cost of the project.
- A representative will visit the project site.
- WAIA will award the matching grant dollar amount (up to \$10,000) to the applicant.

Washburn Life (WAIA) Business Improvement Program

Purpose:

- The purpose of this program is to provide the businesses of the Washburn trade area an incentive to improve or expand their business.
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Eligibility:

- Any business in the Washburn trade area where the applicant can provide supporting data to indicate that the improvement will be beneficial to that business and the community of Washburn.
 - Applicants may apply for up to \$10,000 in matching funds once every two years.
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Maximum Grant:

- The maximum amount of Grant reimbursement per business application is up to 50% of the improvement cost-not to exceed \$10,000.00. Grant amounts will be based on the impact to the community as determined by the WAIA Board of Directors.
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Grant Process:

- To receive consideration for the Business Improvement Program, businesses must provide a detailed business plan that includes projected costs and earnings. Other information may be requested on a case-by-case basis.
- Applications will be reviewed by the WAIA Board of Directors. Applications must be submitted PRIOR to any construction being done.
- Once the application is approved or denied, the applicant will be notified. The applicant has 6 months to complete the improvement project and file for payment. Extensions may be granted due to reasons beyond the control of the applicant with board approval.
- Following the completion of the project, receipts must be provided to WAIA indicating the TOTAL cost of the project.
- A representative will visit the project site.
- WAIA will award the matching grant dollar amount (up to \$10,000) to the applicant.

Washburn Life (WAIA) Daycare Provider Grant

Purpose:

- The purpose of this program is to provide day care providers with funding assistance to increase efficiency or enhance/expand their day care services.
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Eligibility:

- Day Care businesses that provide routine care for 3 or more children for other families in the Washburn area or affiliated areas.
 - Day Care must be licensed thru North Dakota.
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Maximum Grant:

- The maximum amount of Grant reimbursement per business application is up to 50% of the improvement cost-not to exceed \$10,000. Grant amounts will be based on the impact to the community as determined by the WAIA Board of Directors.
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Grant Process:

- To receive consideration for the Daycare Provider Grant, businesses must provide a completed grant application giving detailed explanation of project or purchases. An estimate of purchases is helpful.
- Applications will be reviewed by the WAIA Board of Directors. Applications must be submitted PRIOR to any purchases being made.
- Once the application is approved or denied, the applicant will be notified. The applicant has 6 months to utilize the grant funds for their project or purchases.
- Following the completion of the project, receipts must be provided to WAIA indicating the TOTAL cost of the project.
- A representative will visit the project site.
- WAIA will award the matching grant dollar amount (up to \$10,000) to the applicant.

Washburn Life (WAIA)

Store Front Improvement Grant

Purpose:

- To encourage the occupancy and renovation of vacant and dilapidated buildings within the Washburn community.
 - To improve the image and appearance of the business storefronts within the community.
 - To provide employment opportunities within the community and stimulate the growth of businesses located here.
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Eligibility:

- Eligible projects must be within the Washburn community and be directly related to a business or future business. Only physical storefront improvement projects will be eligible.
 - Applicants may apply for up to \$10,000 in matching funds once every two years. If the finished project does not resemble what was on the application or a WAIA representative feels that significant improvements were not made, the grant will be voided. Payment is made after the project is finished.
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Process:

- To receive consideration for the Store Front Improvement Grant, businesses must provide a detailed business plan that includes projected costs and earnings. Other information may be requested on a case-by-case basis.
- Applications will be reviewed by the WAIA Board of Directors. Applications must be submitted PRIOR to any construction being done.
- Once the application is approved or denied, the applicant will be notified. The applicant has 6 months to complete the improvement project and file for payment. Extensions may be granted due to reasons beyond the control of the applicant with board approval.
- Following the completion of the project, receipts must be provided to WAIA indicating the total cost of the project.
- A WAIA representative will visit the project site.
- WAIA will award the matching grant dollar amount (up to \$10,000) to the applicant.

Washburn Life Business Programs

Applications

Name: _____

Business: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Which grant are you applying for?

____ Business Start-Up Program

____ Business Improvement Grant

____ Storefront Improvement Grant

____ Daycare Provider Grant (Licensed)

Description of the project:

Detailed estimate total cost of the project: _____ (must be provided)

Source of funds for the project: _____

Projected Start date of the project: _____

Projected Completion date: _____

Signed _____ date: _____

Note: Should building be demolished or sold for any reason within 2 years of receiving grant, Owner of building will be responsible to pay back grant to Washburn Life.