

SBIF Grantee Design Requirements

Commercial projects receiving grants of \$25,000 or more must spend at least 10% of the grant award on exterior storefront improvements
Enhancements must be visible to the public and align with the city's design standards.



Quality design will help your business thrive! Thoughtfully designed storefronts attract customers, enhance property value, build brand identity and foster safer, more vibrant neighborhoods.

City storefront design priorities include:

- Entrances that are inviting, safe and accessible
- Permanent signage and awnings that effectively and cohesively brand a business or building
- Facades that preserve and enhance the existing architectural character
- Windows that are transparent and at least 75% uncovered, as required by the Chicago Department of Buildings
- Lighting that showcases the business and promotes safety

See the full SBIF program requirements:

[Chicago.gov/SBIF](https://chicago.gov/SBIF)

Read the City storefront design guidelines:

[Chicago.gov/GroundFloorCommercial](https://chicago.gov/GroundFloorCommercial)

Before and after: Big Bear Sushi and Thai, Irving Park