



**BUFFALO ECONOMIC
RENAISSANCE CORPORATION**

Mayor Byron W. Brown, Chairman

Starting a business? Have a business? Looking for help?

Everyone knows that starting and operating your own business is both very rewarding and also a lot of hard work. The Buffalo Economic Renaissance Corporation is here to make the tasks a little easier!

Not sure where to start? Try the EAP!

The Entrepreneurial Assistance Program (EAP) is a 13 week course designed to assist budding entrepreneurs in developing their businesses. Participants will also be offered assistance with business plans and marketing strategies. Please contact Maureen Pace at 716-881-2013 for further information.

Grant assistance is available for existing businesses!

Those interested in applying for grants through the BEREC can contact a Neighborhood Business Specialist at 716-842-6923 or applications can be found online by clicking on the "CARE Program" link at www.berc.org.

What areas are currently included in the CARE Program?

Business districts currently in the Commercial Area Revitalization Effort include Jefferson Avenue, Lower Niagara Street, Grant/Ferry Streets, Bailey Avenue, Seneca Street and Lovejoy Street.

What other grants are available if a business is not located in one of the CARE areas?

There may be grant funds for façade improvements available through Sign and Storefront Programs in certain council districts. Please contact a Neighborhood Business Specialist at 716-842-6923 for specific details.

Grant Programs

The BEREC offers façade improvement grants through the Commercial Area Revitalization Effort Program. Eligible business may be entitled to the following grants:

FACELIFT Grant - The BEREC will offer funding up to \$2,000 for the removal or replacement of deteriorating signage and other eligible repairs to storefronts in business districts targeted for revitalization.

Facade Grant - The BEREC will match up to 50% of the cost of eligible storefront improvements. Eligible applicants can receive up to a maximum of \$8,000 per storefront..

Security Grant - The BEREC will match up to 50% of the cost of recommended improvements in security up to a maximum of \$3,000 per storefront..

Restrictions:*The BEREC does not offer any grant funds for the start up of businesses. The BEREC does have loan programs for the start up of businesses. Contact a Lending Officer at 716-842-6923 for additional information. Applicants must be current on all taxes, user fees, etc. In addition, applicants must be current with any other loan payments to the BEREC. BEREC will not fund liquor stores, gun shops, adult video/entertainment facilities, gambling facilities or home-based businesses.*



The Buffalo Economic Renaissance Corporation
920 City Hall • Buffalo, NY 14202 • (716) 851-5035 • www.berc.org