



## Benefits & Requirements

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Each year, the Texas Historical Commission selects up to five Texas cities and urban areas as official Texas Main Street cities. Selected communities are eligible to receive a range of services.

### Requirements

Texas cities with historic commercial buildings in their downtowns and neighborhood business districts may apply for Main Street designation. [Applications](#) are available by May 15 and due no later than 5 p.m. Central Standard time on the last working day of July for the following program year.

#### **Cities with populations up to 50,000**

Must agree to hire a full-time Main Street manager for three years and provide funding for the local program.

#### **Cities with a population of more than 50,000**

- Must cooperate with a private nonprofit organization.
- Hire a full-time staff of two for at least five years and provide funding for the local program.
- Pay a graduated fee of \$7,500 the first year, \$2,500 the second year and \$1,500 each year thereafter.

**Cities that complete the first three-year cycle of the program are encouraged to continue participation in the network as a Sustaining Main Street City.**

**A community may be designated a Provisional Texas Main Street city if it applies for the official program the previous year and meets other program requirements.**

### Benefits

- Ongoing comprehensive training for Main Street managers and board members
- Training for communities in successful economic development approaches
- A three-day, on-site evaluation and full report with recommendations
- Design assistance
- Consultation with downtown merchants about visual merchandising and window display
- Advice on heritage tourism programs and marketing
- Participation in the [First Lady's Tour](#) of Main Street cities