

2024 Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant Program

Accessible, adaptable and inclusive designs for occupants 60+

The County of Simcoe has established an annual fund in the amount of \$500,000 for eligible Seniors Housing Grant Program projects. Grant amounts will be distributed based on the number of applications received and ability to meet funding criteria.

ARE YOU ELIBLE TO APPLY?

If you are interested in applying for an Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant, you must meet the following criteria:

- Housing projects must be located within the 16 municipalities of the County of Simcoe. *Does not include Barrie and Orillia.*
- Applicants can be homeowners of principal residences or developers.
- Housing must be dedicated to occupants 60 years and older.
- Individual homes or multi-unit residential
- Applicant has not already received an Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant in the past three (3) years; or capital funding from the County of Simcoe for the same project.



GRANT CATEGORIES

Accessible Housing Design for Seniors

- Universal design.
- Visitible home design.
- Inclusive design for getting outdoors.
- Community design.

Design for People Suffering Dementia

- Housing design reflecting the best practices of Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Housing Options for People Living with Dementia, Volumes 1, 2, 3 and/or Dementia Services Development Centre, Improving the Design of Housing to Assist People with Dementia criteria.

Support Services

- Capital projects that facilitate support services for seniors, for example: congregate social areas.
- If you are constructing or renovating a multiunit building, we could fund for enhanced aspects of accessibility over and above compliance with AODA and building code standards for residential units.

**Deadline for 2024 Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant Applications is
March 31, 2024**

Eligible Projects

Any modifications started or completed on the property prior to approval are not eligible for the Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant

Projects that want to incorporate enhanced accessible, adaptable, and inclusive designs and features that would allow seniors to continue to live independently and participate in their community for as long as possible.

Examples of housing types include:

- Single detached
- Semi-detached
- Townhouse/row
- Mobile/modular
- Co-housing
- Supportive housing
- Assisted living
- Independent living and active lifestyle

Permanent modifications to improve accessibility for seniors aged 60+. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Main Entrance Modifications (ramp/ accessibility portion only)
- Handrails
- Chair and bath lifts
- Grab bars
- Cues for doorbells/ fire alarms
- Bathroom modifications

COSTS NOT COVERED

The following expenditures are not eligible for the Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant:

- **Applicants who have already received Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant in the last 3 years**
- Modifications completed prior to grant approval
- Construction projects that do not have local municipal building approval, where applicable
- Project receiving capital support from other County of Simcoe grant programs
- Cosmetic renovations and repairs
- Purchase of land
- Landscaping (extended pathways, retaining walls, gardens, hot tubs, etc.)
- Routine maintenance (kitchen repairs, roof, heating system, generator, etc.)
- Medical equipment (wheelchairs, walkers, mechanical lifts other than stair lifts)

GRANT

Grants will be awarded based on the following:

- The number of eligible applicants, and the ability to meet funding criteria
- Proof of capital expenses and confirmation the Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant criteria has been met
- A landlord must provide the number of tenants, proof of age of tenants, and lease documentation
- Note: Work that has been approved for a grant is subject to inspection before funds are allocated

HOW TO APPLY

Grant applications are available online at simcoe.ca/age-friendly or contact the County of Simcoe Age-Friendly Project Assistant at (705) 726-9300 ext. 1211 to receive a copy or for further assistance.

Mail or hand-deliver a copy of your application with attachments (postmarked by March, 31, 2024) to:

Attn: Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant
Health & Emergency Services Division
County of Simcoe
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, ON L9X 1N6

Alternatively, **email** your completed application with attachments to agefriendly@simcoe.ca by the closing date of March 31, 2024.

Note: Information in this fact sheet is subject to change at the discretion of the County of Simcoe.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Applications are subject to funding availability.
- Grants will be awarded based on the number of eligible applicants and funding criteria.
- Funding will be paid to approved applicants once all required receipts and photos have been received and criteria has been met and approved.
- Homeowner must attach a minimum of two quotations per project that clearly itemizes the work and materials required for each project.
- Modifications started or completed on the property prior to approval will not be eligible for the Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant.
- Work that has been approved may be subject to inspection before funds are allocated.
- One or more of the applicants in the household must be 60 years of age or older. Two copies of identification must be provided with the application (example: driver's license, passport, copy of a recent utility bill that shows name and address, rental receipt showing name and address).
- Landlord / homeowner / in-law suite submitting application for tenant/s must provide proof of age of tenants, copy of lease agreement/rental agreement.

SUPPORTING MATERIAL

Applicants must submit supporting material with their application as follows:

Completed and signed application

Two (2) professional contractor estimates/quotes per project

Current photos of area to be improved

Please retain a copy of all materials submitted for your own records. Note: the grant sub-committee will not return the materials to the applicant.

Applications are received and reviewed by an Age-Friendly Seniors Grant Committee and shared with the Simcoe County Age-Friendly Communities Advisory Committee for endorsement. The applications will be evaluated according to the evaluation criteria included in the guidelines. The submission of an application does not in itself constitute any commitment on the part of the County of Simcoe Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant Program.

The County of Simcoe will confirm receipt of your application within five (5) business days of receipt. Please ensure you have a contact phone number or email address.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Closing date is March 31, 2024.



APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS

You may submit your application in any of the following ways:

Email your application, declaration, and all relevant documents to agefriendly@simcoe.ca

Hand-deliver your application, declaration, and all relevant documents to the County of Simcoe Administration Centre customer service desk (address below).

Mail a copy of your application, declaration, and all relevant documents to the following address:

Attention: Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant Program
Health and Emergency Services
The County of Simcoe
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, Ontario
L9X 1N6

EVALUATION PROCESS

The Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant Committee does not disclose the detailed evaluation scores. Any evaluation carried out by the Committee shall be considered to be fair and accurate to all applicants for all purposes and shall not be subject to review.

The grant applications are reviewed to ensure all requested documents and securities are received and found to be satisfactory. Members of the Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant Committee will then review and evaluate each submission in two (2) phases.

Phase 1:

Grant submissions will be evaluated to determine if all the minimum eligibility criteria has been met. If minimum criteria is met, the submission will proceed to phase 2. Submissions that do not meet the eligibility criteria will be removed from further evaluation or consideration.

Phase 2:

Grant allotments will be based on a needs prioritization process in alignment with the County of Simcoe's Positive Aging Strategy: older Adults Strengthening our Communities and Planning Framework.

Evaluations will be based on the written grant submissions upon full completion of all sections of the application. Once submissions have been evaluated, applicants will receive a letter of approval, partial-approval, or denial.

Should the County receive a funding application after the expiry date, the Committee will evaluate the application based on the following criteria: eligibility, availability of funds, and time sensitive needs.



APPLICATION

Section 1: Applicant Information

Homeowner Developer/Corporation

Last Name	First Name
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Developer / Corporation Name (if applicable)

Phone	Cell	Email
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Does the owner reside at this address? Yes No

Are there any other owners? Yes No Please specify: _____

One or more of the residents must be over the age of 60. Proof of age must be provided by the owner/ landlord/tenant (examples: birth certificate, driver's license, copy of utility bill accompanying photo ID)

60-65 65-70 70-75 75+

Do one or more tenants currently use the following medical devices?:

Wheelchair Walker Other: _____

Section 2: Property Address

Number	Street	Unit/Suite/P.O. box
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City/Town	Province	Postal Code
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Owner's Mailing Address (if different than property address)

Number	Street	Unit/Suite/P.O. box
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City/Town	Province	Postal Code
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Section 3: Housing Type

Single Detached Semi-Detached Townhouse Mobile/Modular Home

Seniors Apartment Assisted Living Co-housing Supportive Housing

Landlord / In-law suite Other (please specify) _____

Section 4: Scope of Work (Accessibility Modifications)

Estimated total cost of accessibility modifications \$ _____

Do you currently receive in-kind support or any other subsidies from the County of Simcoe?

Yes No

Have you previously received grants from the County of Simcoe?

Yes No

If you answered 'Yes', what grant did you receive. If you received the Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant, what year did you receive this grant?

Please note: Applicants who have already received funding from the Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant in the past three (3) years are not eligible to apply.

All submissions require a signed application and declaration, a copy of proof of age ID, two (2) professional/contractor estimates and current photo(s) of the area(s) to be improved.

Select Applicable Grant Category

See Age-Friendly Housing Checklist for more information

Accessible Housing Design for Seniors

Does your home require renovations to make it easier to move about within and outside? Some examples include: ramps to an entranceway, handrails in hallways, stairs or bathrooms, walk-in showers, wider door frames for walkers or wheelchairs.

Definition: Under this stream, grants are provided for housing designs that support the following design elements: Universal design, visitable homes, community design, and inclusive design for getting outdoors.

Please add details below:

Accessible Design for People Suffering with Dementia

Does your home require items to aid those with Dementia? For example: better lighting, security to prevent wandering, directional signage, stairway markings, flooring improvements, etc.

Definition: Under this stream, grants are for housing design reflecting the best practices of Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) Housing Options for People Living with Dementia, Volumes 1,2,3 and/or in the criteria under the Dementia Services Development Centre (DSDC) for Improving Design of Housing to Assist People with Dementia.

Please add details below:

Supportive Services for Older Adults

For a housing complex, does it include common areas for meals, seniors programs, safety features for older adults with or without dementia, mobility aids such as walk-in showers, handrails, etc.?

Definition: Under this stream, grants are for the provision of capital projects for buildings that facilitate support services specifically for seniors, for example: congregate dining

Please add details below:

The information on this form is being collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001. The Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant Committee does not disclose the detailed evaluation scores of an applicant, other than to the applicant whose score it is. The grant applications are reviewed to ensure all requested documents and securities are received and found to be satisfactory. The Committee will use its best efforts to ensure that evaluations are fair and accurate. Results of the evaluations are not subject to review and the applicant agrees to be bound by the decisions of the Committee. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Age-Friendly Lead, 1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario, L9X 1N6, 705-726-9300 ext. 3127 or email to agefriendly@simcoe.ca



DECLARATION (applicant is an individual)

The applicant for the Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant do(es) hereby:

- a. certify that all information contained in this application is true and complete in every respect.
- b. acknowledge that if the applicant knowingly makes a false declaration, the County of Simcoe shall have the right to cancel the approval and recover any paid funds.
- c. acknowledge that if the application is accepted it will not apply to work started or completed prior to final approval.
- d. authorize the County of Simcoe and/or its authorized representatives to contact the individual identified in Section 1, if clarification is necessary.
- e. consent to the collection, use, disclosure, transfer and exchange of information contained in this application for the purpose of verifying the validity and accuracy of the information provided and determining the eligibility of the applicant to receive the Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant.

The applicant has read, understood, and agrees to the terms and conditions listed above.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 20____.

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____

Notice of collection, use, and disclosure

Personal information is being collected on this form pursuant to Section 107 of the Municipal Act and will be used to determine your eligibility for the Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant Program. Questions regarding the collection of this information and how it is used may be directed to the Age-Friendly Lead, County of Simcoe, 1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6 (705) 726-9300 ext. 3127.