

# CITY OF PHILADELPHIA BUSINESS SECURITY CAMERA PROGRAM

The Department of Commerce is the umbrella organization for all economic development activity in Philadelphia.

Improve security in public

areas outside your business by

installing external security cameras

and get reimbursed up to \$3,000



The City encourages businesses to install external security cameras to increase safety in public areas for shoppers, employees and residents by reimbursing the cost of equipment and installation. Through the program, the Commerce Department awards applicants up to 50% of the total cost of eligible improvements with a maximum reimbursement of \$3,000 per single commercial property. Business Associations or other organizations may apply for the award collectively for cameras to be placed on multiple properties within an area and receive 50% reimbursement for the project costs.

## ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be the owner of a commercially occupied property, an operating tenant business, or an established business association or community-based organization. All applicants must certify to make "best and good faith efforts" to include businesses owned and controlled by women, minority or disabled persons. Potential participants can be found in the Office of Economic Opportunity Directory of Certified Firms, found at [www.phila.gov/commerce](http://www.phila.gov/commerce) or by calling 215-686-6232. Businesses must be operating legally, properly registered, licensed with the City of Philadelphia and current with all city taxes, including but not limited to revenue, licenses, water revenue billings, etc.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Program specifications for surveillance system equipment are provided in the application. Applicants must register their cameras with the Philadelphia Police Department to allow police to quickly locate surveillance footage in the event of a crime.

## CONTACT

Linda Lawrence, Manager of the Business Security Plan Program, at [Linda.Lawrence@phila.gov](mailto:Linda.Lawrence@phila.gov) or 215.683.2172.

## HOW TO APPLY

**STEP ONE:** Call (215) 683 - 2172 to request an application or visit: <https://business.phila.gov/documents/businesscamerapplication.pdf>.

**STEP TWO:** Plan your project and get at least two contractor estimates.

**STEP THREE:** Submit your application. You will need:

- Photographs of your entire storefront and of the locations where cameras will be installed.
- Estimates from two (2) licensed contractors detailing camera specifications.
- A letter from the building owner (if not you) granting permission for the work.

Send completed applications to [Linda.Lawrence@phila.gov](mailto:Linda.Lawrence@phila.gov) or Linda Lawrence, Department of Commerce, 1515 Arch St, 12th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

You must wait for approval before beginning work. Application approval usually takes two to three weeks.

**STEP FOUR:** If required, get an electrical permit and complete the work.

**STEP FIVE:** Register your camera with the Police and submit for reimbursement. Cameras must be registered with the Police Department SafeCam program: <http://safecam.phillypolice.com/registration>

For reimbursement, submit copies of invoices, proof of payment, photos of the installed cameras, a screenshot showing all camera views and a copy of SafeCam registration.