

For More Information

Bayers Road Centre
7071 Bayers Road
2nd Floor Towers
Halifax, NS B3L 4P3
9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday to Friday
Email: contact@halifax.ca

Alderney Gate
40 Alderney Drive, 1st Floor
Dartmouth, NS B2Y 2N5
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday to Friday
Email: contact@halifax.ca

Have a question?
Call 311 or visit halifax.ca

Permanent Commercial Signage in Downtown Halifax



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Permanent Signage

Businesses advertising by on-site permanent signage in HRM are required to first obtain a permit. In obtaining a permit, details of the proposed signage are required. Permanent signs can include projecting signs, fascia signs, window signs, and canopy and awning signs. Additional approvals may be required for registered heritage buildings and for signs that project into the street.



Downtown Halifax Business Boundary

Do I require a permit for a permanent sign?

Yes, a sign requires a construction permit and a Non-Substantive Site Plan Approval application. Forms for both are available at the time of application at the locations noted above.

Frequently Asked Questions

What information is required at the time of application?

You must submit three colour copies that contain the dimensions and specifications of the sign. Additional information may include: the dimensions of the building wall for fascia sign applications, window dimensions for signs attached to windows, dimensions of the awning, and length of the text for canopy/awning signs.

What type of signs are prohibited in the Downtown?

Billboards, ground signs, third party advertising, roof signs and signs with fluorescent colours are some prohibited signs in the Downtown. For a complete list of prohibited signs, please refer to Section 13(6) of the [Downtown Halifax Land Use Bylaw](#).

What types of signs can be considered?

You can apply for fascia signs, window signs, and canopy/awning signs. Requirements for signs are found in Section 13(1) to (17) of the [Downtown Land Use By-law](#).

What about temporary signs?

Temporary signs are regulated under By-law S-801 and require a license. Please visit our website for information regarding [temporary signs](#).

I am leasing commercial space. Do I need additional approvals?

If you are proposing to occupy a new leasehold space, you may also require an occupancy permit. If there are renovations involved, you may require a construction permit. Please contact 902-490-5650.

How much does an application cost?

A construction permit costs \$30 per sign (non-illuminated) and \$35 per sign (illuminated). A Non-Substantive Site Plan Approval application costs \$100.

Frequently Asked Questions

What other applications may be required?

Encroachment License

If a sign projects or extends over any portion of the street, you may require approval under the [Encroachment By-law](#) and/or the [Streets and Services By-Law](#).

Certificate of Appropriateness

If your property is in a Heritage Conservation District, you may require a Certificate of Appropriateness and may have to meet the requirements of the Downtown Halifax Land Use By-law [Design Manual](#).

Certain types of signs within the Heritage Conservation District may be prohibited. For further information, please contact the [Heritage Property Program](#).

For information about sidewalk closures and **Pedestrian Management Plans**, please see the [Construction Site Management Administrative Order](#).