



# DISASTER NEWS

*Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses and Small Agricultural Cooperatives*  
SBA Disaster Assistance – Field Operations Center- East – 101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30303

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**Contact:** Mark Ihenacho  
**Phone:** 404-331-0333

## **SBA Disaster Loan Deadline is July 28; Small Business Owners Still Have Time to Apply**

**ATLANTA** - The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is reminding businesses that July 28 is the filing deadline for federal economic injury disaster loans that are available to small businesses in the counties of Brooks, Camden, Charlton, Clinch, Decatur, Echols, Grady, Lowndes, Seminole, Thomas and Ware located in the State of Georgia due to drought conditions beginning January 1, 2007.

“When the Secretary of Agriculture issues a disaster declaration to help farmers recover from damages and losses to crops, SBA issues a declaration to assist small businesses affected by the same disaster,” said Frank Skaggs, Director of SBA Field Operations Center East.

Under this declaration, SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program is available to farm-related and nonfarm-related small business concerns and small agricultural cooperatives that suffered financial losses as a direct result of this disaster. Farmers and ranchers are not eligible to apply to SBA but nurseries are eligible to apply for economic injury disaster loans for losses caused by drought conditions.

Eligible small businesses may qualify for loans up to \$1.5 million. These loans are available at a 4 percent interest rate with loan terms up to 30 years. SBA determines eligibility for the program based on the size and type of business and its financial resources. Loan amounts and terms are set by SBA and are based upon each applicant’s financial condition. Under this disaster declaration, SBA cannot provide loans to agricultural producers.

Interested business owners should contact SBA’s Customer Service Center by calling 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the hearing-impaired) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and 9 a.m. to 6 p. m. EDT on Saturday and Sunday or by emailing our customer service center at [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov). Loan applications can also be downloaded from the SBA’s website at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance). Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

**Completed loan applications must be returned to SBA no later than July 28, 2008.**

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*For more information about the SBA’s Disaster Loan Programs, visit our website at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance).*