



U.S. Small Business Administration

DISASTER NEWS

Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses

SBA Disaster Assistance – Field Operations Center East – 101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 300303

Release Date: September 17, 2009

Contact: Michael Lampton

Release Number: 09-696, AL 11656

Phone: 404-331-0333

SBA DISASTER LOAN DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 13; SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS STILL HAVE TIME TO APPLY

ATLANTA - The U.S. Small Business Administration is reminding small businesses that **October 13** is the filing deadline for federal economic injury disaster loans that are available in Itawamba, Lowndes, Monroe and Tishomingo counties in the State of Mississippi as a result of the drought that occurred from January 1 through December 31, 2008.

“These counties are eligible because they are contiguous to one or more primary counties in the State of Alabama. SBA recognizes that disasters do not usually stop at the county or state lines. For that reason, counties adjacent to primary counties named in the declaration are included,” said Frank Skaggs, Director of SBA’s Field Operations Center East.

“When the Secretary of Agriculture issues a disaster declaration to help farmers recover from damages and losses to crops, the Small Business Administration issues a declaration to assist small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives and most private non-profit organizations affected by the same disaster,” Skaggs added.

Under this declaration, SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program is available to farm-related and nonfarm-related small business concerns, small agricultural cooperatives and most private non-profit organizations of all sizes 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 \$2 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 of the applicant, type of activity and its financial resources. Loan amounts and terms are set by SBA and are based on each applicant’s financial condition. Under this disaster declaration, SBA cannot provide loans to agricultural producers.

Disaster loan information and application forms may be obtained by calling the SBA’s Customer Service Center 1-800-659-2955 at (1-800-877-8339 for the hearing-impaired) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. EDT or by sending an email to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Loan applications can be downloaded from the SBA’s Web site at 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.

Those affected by the disaster may apply for disaster loans from SBA’s secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

Completed loan applications must be returned to SBA no later than October 13, 2009.

###

For more information about the SBA’s Disaster Loan Programs, visit our Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance.