



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 30303

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SBA to Open an Additional Business Recovery Center in Hancock County for Businesses Affected by the Deepwater BP Oil Spill

ATLANTA - The U.S. Small Business Administration announced that it will open an additional Business Recovery Center in Hancock County, Monday, June 7 to help small businesses and most private non-profit organizations of all sizes affected by the Deepwater BP Oil Spill that began on April 20, 2010.

“Due to the amount of economic losses caused by the BP Oil Spill in Mississippi, we want affected businesses to have a resource where they can meet individually with SBA representatives and find out how a low-interest disaster loan can help them recover,” said Frank Skaggs, director of SBA’s Field Operations Center East in Atlanta.

The New Center location and hours of operation are:

Hancock County
Hancock Chamber of Commerce Colonial Plaza 412 Hwy 90 – Suite 6 Bay St. Louis, MS 39520 Open: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The existing Centers are located in the following communities:

Open: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. until further notice

George County	Hancock County
George County Emergency Operations Center 355 Cox Street – Suite J Lucedale, MS 39452	Civic Center 335 Coleman Avenue Bay St. Louis, MS 39520
Jackson County	Harrison County
Jackson County Fairgrounds, Ticket Office 2902 Shortcut Rd. Pascagoula, MS 39567	SBA Gulfport Branch Office Hancock Bank Plaza 2510 14 th Street – Suite 103 Gulfport, MS 39501

Stone County
Stone County Courthouse 323 E. Cavers Avenue Wiggins, MS 39577

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Eligible small businesses in Forrest, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Lamar, Marion, Pearl River, Perry and Stone counties in **Mississippi** may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans up to \$2 million. The SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster.

Interest rates are 3 percent for non-profit organizations and 4 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. Eligibility for an EIDL is determined by the SBA based on the size and type of business and its financial resources. The SBA sets loan amounts and terms based on each applicant's financial condition.

Business Owners unable to visit one of the Centers may obtain applications and program information by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for people with speech or hearing disabilities) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EDT or by sending an e-mail to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Business loan applications can also be downloaded from the SBA website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Completed applications should be returned to one of the Centers or mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

Business Owners may apply for disaster loans on SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

The deadline to return economic injury applications is **February 14, 2011**.

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