



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 Business Recovery Center in Monroe County, Florida for Small Businesses Affected by the Deepwater BP Oil Spill

ATLANTA - The U. S. Small Business Administration announced that it will open a Business Recovery Center in **Monroe County, Florida Monday, August 9 at 1 p.m.** to help small businesses and most private non-profit organizations 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 Florida, we want to make it convenient for affected small 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 Disaster Field Operations Center East in Atlanta.

The New Center location and hours of operation are:

Monroe County
Florida Keys Community College 5901 College Road Building A, Room 127 Key West, FL 33040 Open: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., until further notice

SBA existing Centers’ locations and hours of operation are:

SBA Business Recovery Centers

Open Monday-Friday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

<u>Bay County</u> Bay County Fairgrounds 2230 East 15 th Street. Panama City, FL 32407	<u>Escambia County</u> Small Business Development Center 401 E. Chase Street - Ste. 100 Pensacola, FL 32502	<u>Franklin County</u> Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce 122 Commerce Street Apalachicola, FL 32320	<u>Gulf County</u> Economic Dev. Council 406 Marina Drive Port St. Joe, FL 32456
<u>Okaloosa County</u> Community Center Annex (Senior Center) 108 Stahlman Avenue Destin, FL 32541	<u>Santa Rosa County</u> Navarre Beach Chamber of Commerce 8543 Navarre Parkway Navarre, FL 32566	<u>Wakulla County</u> Wakulla Agriculture Center 84 Cedar Avenue Crawfordville, FL 32327	<u>Walton County</u> Walton Area Chamber of Commerce 63 S. Centre Trail Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459

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Eligible small businesses in the primary counties of Bay, Citrus, Collier, Dixie, Escambia, Franklin, Gulf, Hernando, Hillsborough, Jefferson, Lee, Levy, Manatee, Monroe, Okaloosa, Pasco, Pinellas, Santa Rosa, Sarasota, Taylor and Walton. The adjacent counties of Alachua, Broward, Calhoun, Charlotte, Desoto, Gilchrist, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Holmes, Jackson, Lafayette, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Marion, Miami-Dade, Polk, Sumter, Wakulla and Washington in the state of **Florida**; the **Alabama** counties of Baldwin, Covington, Escambia and Geneva, and the adjacent **Georgia** counties of Brooks and Thomas 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. 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. 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.