



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 Centers in Florida for Businesses Affected by the Deepwater BP Oil Spill

**ATLANTA** - The U.S. Small Business Administration announced that it will open eight Business Recovery Centers in Florida Tuesday, May 18 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 Florida, 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 Disaster Field Operations Center in Atlanta.

The Centers’ locations and hours of operation are:

### SBA Business Recovery Centers (BRCs) **Opens Tuesday, May 18** **Open Monday-Saturday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

<p><b><u>Bay County</u></b> Panama City Beach Chamber of Commerce 309 Richard Jackson Blvd. Panama City, FL 32407</p>	<p><b><u>Escambia County</u></b> Small Business Development Center 401 E. Chase Street - Ste. 100 Pensacola, FL 32502</p>	<p><b><u>Franklin County</u></b> Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce 122 Commerce Street Apalachicola, FL 32320</p>	<p><b><u>Gulf County</u></b> Chamber of Commerce 150 Captain Fred’s Place Fort St. Joe, FL 32456</p>
<p><b><u>Okaloosa County</u></b> Community Center Annex (Senior Center) 108 Stahlman Avenue Destin, FL 32541</p>	<p><b><u>Santa Rosa County</u></b> Navarre Beach Chamber of Commerce 8543 Navarre Parkway Navarre, FL 32566</p>	<p><b><u>Wakulla County</u></b> Wakulla Agriculture Center 84 Cedar Avenue Crawfordville, FL 32327</p>	<p><b><u>Walton County</u></b> Walton Area Chamber of Commerce 63 S. Centre Trail Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459</p>

Eligible small businesses in Alachua, Bay, Calhoun, Charlotte, Citrus, DeSoto, Escambia, Franklin, Gilchrist, Gulf, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Manatee, Marion, Okaloosa, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Santa Rosa, Sarasota, Sumter, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton and Washington counties in **Florida**; Baldwin, Covington, Escambia and Geneva counties in **Alabama**; and Brooks and Thomas counties in **Georgia** 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.

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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.; Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EDT or by sending an e-mail to [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov). Business loan applications can also be downloaded from the SBA website at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://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](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance).*