



DISASTER NEWS

Physical and Economic Injury Loans for Businesses

SBA Disaster Assistance – Field Operations Center- East – 101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30303

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SBA Disaster Loan Centers Closed on Thanksgiving Day; Deadline to Apply for Assistance is December 16

ATLANTA – The U.S. Small Business Administration announces today that its Disaster Loan Outreach Centers will close **Thursday, November 27** in recognition of Thanksgiving Day. The Centers will resume normal operating hours Friday, November 28.

“I encourage everyone who needs help with their disaster loan application to meet with our Customer Service Representatives at one of the Centers located throughout the disaster area for one-to-one assistance as quickly as possible before the **December 16, deadline,**” said Brenda Ballew, Acting Director of SBA’s Disaster Field Operations Center in Atlanta.

Individuals and businesses impacted by the severe storms and flooding that occurred from September 13 through October 5, 2008 with uninsured losses are urged to first register with FEMA by calling 1-800-621-3362 (FEMA).

“Registrants that were issued an SBA disaster home loan application should complete and return it before the deadline even if they don’t want a loan. Homeowners and renters who are not approved for an SBA disaster loan may be referred to FEMA for possible grant assistance,” added Ballew.

The Centers are located in the following communities and locations:

SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Centers (DLOCs)

Open: Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., until further notice

All DLOCs will be closed Thursday, Nov. 27 for Thanksgiving Day

Oak Forest Hospital	Des Plaines-next to theatre building
15900 South Cicero Avenue	1486 Miner Street
Oak Forest, IL 60452	Des Plaines, IL 60016

The SBA offers loans up to \$200,000 to repair disaster damaged primary residences. Homeowners and renters are eligible for loans up to \$40,000 to replace personal property such as furniture, appliances and clothing. Loans to businesses of all sizes and non-profit organizations are available up to \$2 million to repair damage to real estate, machinery, inventory and equipment.

SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) are available to small businesses, and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage.

Interest rates are as low as 2.875 percent for homeowners and renters and 4 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by SBA and are based on each applicant’s financial condition.

Victims unable to visit a Center may obtain an application by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the hearing-impaired) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. EST or by emailing the Customer Service Center at 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.

Victims may apply for disaster loans from SBA's secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical damage is **December 16, 2008**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **July 3, 2009**.

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