



# ***DISASTER NEWS***

*Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of all Sizes*  
SBA Disaster Assistance – Field Operations Center- East – 101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30303

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## **SBA's Deadline for Physical Damage Disaster Loan Applications Is June 29**

**ATLANTA** – The U.S. Small Business Administration reminds homeowners, renters, businesses and non-profit organizations located in Florida of the deadline to submit disaster loan applications for damage caused by the severe storms, flooding and tornadoes that occurred from March 26, through May 5, 2009. The deadline to file an application for physical damage is **June 29, 2009**.

Homeowners, renters, most private, non-profit organizations and businesses of all sizes in the following counties are eligible to apply for physical and economic injury disaster loan assistance: Calhoun, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Holmes, Jackson, Lafayette, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Suwannee, Wakulla, Walton and Washington in Florida.

Small businesses, and most private, non-profit organizations in the adjacent counties of Alachua, Bay, Citrus, Columbia, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jefferson, Marion and Taylor in **Florida**, Covington, Escambia, Geneva and Houston in **Alabama**, Brooks, Echols, Grady, Lowndes, Seminole and Thomas in **Georgia** are eligible to apply for only SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans.

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 2.187 percent for homeowners and renters and 4.000 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.

Additionally, disaster survivors with insurance should not wait for an insurance settlement before applying to the SBA. If survivors do not know how much of their loss will be covered by insurance or other sources, the SBA will consider making a loan for the total loss up to its loan limits, provided the borrower agrees to use insurance proceeds to reduce or repay their SBA loan.

The SBA also offers mitigation funds to disaster victims based on 20 percent of the verified damage. These funds are designed to help borrowers pay for protective measures which may prevent damages of the same kind in the future.

Anyone unable to visit one of the Centers located throughout the disaster area 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. EDT or by emailing the Customer Service Center at [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.

Survivors 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 **June 29, 2009**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **January 28, 2010**.

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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).