



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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STILL TIME FOR MICHIGAN SMALL BUSINESSES TO APPLY; SBA DISASTER LOAN DEADLINE IS AUGUST 31

ATLANTA - The U.S. Small Business Administration is reminding small businesses that **August 31** is the filing deadline for federal economic injury disaster loans available in the State of Michigan. The SBA declared a disaster as a result of storms with excessive rain, flooding and high winds that occurred from April 12, 2008 through September 16, 2008.

These loans are available in the following counties: Alcona, Alger, Allegan, Antrim, Arenac, Barry, Bay, Benzie, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Charlevoix, Chippewa, Clare, Clinton, Crawford, Eaton, Genesee, Gladwin, Grand Traverse, Gratiot, Hillsdale, Huron, Ingham, Ionia, Iosco, Isabella, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Kalkaska, Kent, Lake, Lapeer, Leelanau, Lenawee, Livingston, Luce, Mackinac, Macomb, Manistee, Mason, Midland, Missaukee, Monroe, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oakland, Oceana, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Ottawa, Roscommon, Saginaw, Saint Clair, Saint Joseph, Sanilac, Schoolcraft, Tuscola, Van Buren, Washtenaw, Wayne and Wexford in the State of Michigan.

“When the Secretary of Agriculture issues a disaster declaration to help farmers recover from damages and losses to crops, the Small Business Administration issues a declaration to assist small businesses and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes affected by the same disaster,” said Frank Skaggs, Director of SBA Field Operations Center East.

Under this declaration, the SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan program is available to farm-related and nonfarm-related small business concerns, small agricultural cooperatives and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes that suffered financial losses as a direct result of this disaster. Farmers and ranchers are not eligible to apply to SBA.

Eligible small businesses and non-profit organizations may qualify for loans up to \$2 million. These loans are available at a 4 percent interest rate with loan terms up to 30 years. The SBA determines eligibility based on the size of the applicant, type of activity and its financial resources. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant’s financial condition. Under this disaster declaration, the SBA cannot provide loans to agricultural producers.

Interested small businesses should contact the SBA’s Customer Service Center by calling 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the hearing-impaired) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. EDT or by sending an email to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Loan applications can be downloaded from the SBA’s Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

Small businesses may visit SBA’s secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/> to apply for disaster loans.

Completed loan applications must be returned to SBA no later than August 31, 2009.

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