



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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Connecticut Small Businesses Economically Impacted by a Fire in Southbury Can Apply for SBA Disaster Loans

WASHINGTON – Low-interest disaster loans are available to Connecticut small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private non-profit organizations that were affected by the February 18 fire that destroyed a commercial plaza on Main Street in Southbury, Connecticut.

SBA Administrator Karen Mills made the loans available following a request from Connecticut Gov. Dannel Malloy on April 20 for a disaster declaration by the SBA. The declaration covers New Haven County and the adjacent counties of Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield and Middlesex in Connecticut.

“The Small Business Administration is strongly committed to providing the most effective and customer-focused response possible to help small businesses and non-profits in Connecticut with their federal disaster loans,” said Mills. “Getting our businesses and communities up and running after a disaster is our highest priority at SBA.”

“The SBA can help affected small businesses and non-profit organizations overcome their economic losses by offering working capital loans, but the help cannot start until they submit an SBA Disaster Loan application to us,” said Bernard Sweeney, SBA’s Connecticut district director.

Eligible entities may qualify for loans up to \$2 million. The SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. The rates on these loans are 3 percent for non-profit organizations and 4 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. The SBA determines eligibility for the loans based on the size and type of business and its financial resources. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant’s financial condition.

Applications and program information are available 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 8:00 a.m to 4:30 p.m. ET 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/services/disasterassistance. Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

Those impacted may apply for disaster loans from SBA’s secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

The deadline to return economic injury applications is **February 6, 2012**.

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For more information about the SBA’s Disaster Loan Programs, visit our website at www.sba.gov.