



U.S. Small Business Administration

DISASTER NEWS

Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses

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SBA Offers Disaster Assistance to Missouri Small Businesses Economically Impacted by Severe Winter Storms

Sacramento, CA – Administrator Karen G. Mills of the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) today announced that the SBA is making low-interest Economic Injury Disaster Loans available to small businesses economically impacted by severe winter storms in Missouri that occurred from January 26 through January 28, 2009. SBA acted under its own authority to declare a disaster in response to Governor Jay Nixon’s request which SBA received on April 13.

The declaration covers the Missouri counties of Butler, Douglas, Dunklin, Mississippi, Oregon, Pemiscot, Shannon, Stoddard and Stone, as well as the neighboring counties of Barry, Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Carter, Christian, Dent, Howell, Lawrence, New Madrid, Ozark, Reynolds, Ripley, Scott, Taney, Texas, Wayne, Webster and Wright in Missouri; Carroll, Clay, Craighead, Fulton, Greene, Mississippi, Randolph and Sharp in Arkansas; Alexander in Illinois; Ballard, Carlisle, Fulton and Hickman in Kentucky and Dyer and Lake in Tennessee.

“The U.S. Small Business Administration is strongly committed to providing the most effective and customer-focused response possible to assist Missouri’s small businesses with federal disaster loans,” said Mills. “We will be swift in our efforts to help these small businesses recover from the financial impacts of this disaster,” said Administrator Mills.

According to A. Dean Cotton, SBA’s Acting Regional Administrator, SBA is offering working capital loans of up to \$2 million at an interest rate of 4 percent with terms up to 30 years. “These loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills that can’t be paid because of the disaster’s impact. These loans can provide vital economic assistance to small businesses affected by the severe winter storms to help overcome the temporary financial impacts they are experiencing,” Cotton said.

“Due to the economic loss the severe winter storms caused small businesses in Missouri, we want to provide every available service to help get them back on their feet,” Cotton continued. SBA is opening a Disaster Loan Outreach Center where SBA customer service representatives will be available to meet individually with each business owner to explain how an SBA disaster loan can help finance their recovery.

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“We can answer your questions about SBA’s disaster loan program, explain the application process and accept your completed application,” he said. The SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center will be open at the following location on the days and times indicated.

Kennett Chamber of Commerce
1601 1st Street
(across from Wal-Mart Super Center,
adjacent to the Kennett Fairgrounds and American Legion)
Kennett, MO

Opens: Tuesday, April 21
Mondays through Fridays 9 am-6 pm,
Closes: Thursday, May 7

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA’s secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

Disaster loan information and application forms may also be obtained from SBA’s Customer Service Center by calling toll-free (800) 659-2955, emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov, or visiting SBA’s Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339.

The deadline to apply for these loans is **January 19, 2010**.

For more information visit SBA’s website at www.sba.gov.

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