



DISASTER NEWS

Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses

SBA Disaster Assistance Area 3 – 14925 Kingsport Road – Ft. Worth, TX 76155

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SBA Economic Injury Loans Available *Business owners urged to apply*

FORT WORTH, TX -- Businesses in some Iowa, Nebraska, and Missouri counties can now apply for disaster loan assistance from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). Economic Injury Disaster Loans are available to eligible small businesses that suffered a substantial loss of income as a result of severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding that occurred May 19 – June 24, 2004. These loans are not intended to cover physical damages resulting from the disaster. Businesses in the following counties are eligible to apply:

Iowa:

The entire State of Iowa **except** the following counties:

Lyon Monona Plymouth Sioux Woodbury

Nebraska:

Cass Douglas Otoe Sarpy Washington

Missouri:

Atchison Nodaway Schuyler
Mercer Putnam Scotland

To obtain an application, interested businesses should call the SBA toll-free number 1-800-366-6303 or TDD 817-267-4688 for the hearing impaired. The deadline for filing an application is **February 25, 2005**.

This disaster loan is a working capital loan that can help a business meet installments on long-term debt, accounts payable, and overhead expenses that would have been met had the disaster not occurred. Refinancing of long-term debt, however, is not eligible under this loan program. The loan program is designed for those businesses with substantial disaster-related needs and will supplement monies the business owner can provide from other sources.

Loans are available for up to \$1,500,000 for actual disaster-related financial needs of the business. Interest rates are 2.75 percent and terms may extend to thirty (30) years, depending upon the repayment ability of the individual applicant. To qualify, businesses must be small by SBA size standards. Businesses that can meet their financial needs through other sources are not eligible. Farmers and ranchers are not eligible for these loans; however, they may be eligible for disaster assistance from other Federal agencies.

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For more information visit SBA's website at www.sba.gov/disaster.