



# DISASTER NEWS

*Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses*

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## *Disaster Assistance Available for Small Businesses*

**Sacramento, CA** - Small, non-farm businesses in 8 Colorado counties (plus a neighboring county in Utah) may now apply for low-interest disaster loans from the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA). These disaster loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by adverse weather conditions throughout the state, announced Alfred E. Judd, Director of SBA’s Disaster Field Operations Center - West.

Small businesses in the following primary and neighboring counties may apply for working capital loans to offset economic losses that are attributable to the impact of the following weather conditions in the primary counties on the incident dates in each disaster:

EIDL	Primary Counties	Neighboring Counties	Incident Type and Dates	Deadline
11016	Rio Blanco	Garfield, Moffat and Routt; and Uintah in Utah	Combined effects of frost and freezing temperatures on 06/10/07 and 06/21/07; ongoing drought beginning 05/01/07	04/21/08
11018	Delta	Gunnison, Mesa and Montrose	Freeze on 04/11/07 through 04/19/07	04/21/08

Small businesses may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) of up to \$1.5 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disaster not occurred. “Eligibility for these loans is based on the financial impact of the disaster only and not on any actual property damage. These loans have an interest rate of 4%, a maximum term of 30 years, and are restricted to small businesses without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship,” Judd said.

By law, SBA makes EIDLs available when the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. Secretary Mike Johanns declared these disasters at the request of Governor Bill Ritter.

Businesses primarily engaged in farming or ranching are not eligible for SBA disaster assistance. Agricultural enterprises should contact the Farm Services Agency (FSA) about the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) assistance made available by the Secretary’s declaration. However, in drought disasters nurseries are eligible for SBA disaster assistance.

For information and application, forms call toll-free **(800) 659-2955**, or visit SBA’s website at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance). Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339.

*For more information visit SBA’s website at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance).*

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