



DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of all Sizes

SBA Disaster Assistance – Field Operations Center- East – 101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30303

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SBA Offers Disaster Assistance to Alabama Residents Affected by Severe Storms

WASHINGTON – Alabama residents and businesses affected by the severe storms on March 18-19 can apply for low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration, SBA Administrator Karen G. Mills announced today.

Administrator Mills made the loans available in response to a letter from Governor Robert Bentley on March 29, requesting a disaster declaration by the SBA. The declaration covers DeKalb and Etowah counties and the adjacent Blount, Calhoun, Cherokee, Jackson, Marshall and Saint Clair counties in **Alabama**; Chattooga, Dade and Walker counties in **Georgia**.

“The SBA is strongly committed to providing the people of Alabama with the most effective and customer-focused response possible to assist homeowners, renters, and businesses of all sizes with federal disaster loans,” said Administrator Mills. “Getting businesses and communities up and running after a disaster is our highest priority at SBA.”

“Loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for loans up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property,” said Frank Skaggs, director of SBA’s Field Operations Center East in Atlanta. SBA’s customer service representatives will be available at the Disaster Loan Outreach Centers to answer questions about the disaster loan program, explain the process, issue and help individuals complete their applications.

The centers located in the following community and are open as indicated:

DeKalb County

Kilpatrick Volunteer Fire Department
101 County Road 370
Crossville, AL 35962

Opening: Tuesday, April 9 at 9 a.m.

Hours: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Tuesday – Friday
9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Saturday

Closing: Saturday, April 13 at the close of
business

Etowah County

The Chamber Gadsden/Etowah Commerce
1 Commerce Square
Gadsden, AL 35901

Opening: Tuesday, April 9 at 9 a.m.

Hours: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Tuesday – Friday
9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Saturday

Closing: Saturday, April 13 at the close of
business

“Businesses and non-profit organizations of any size may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets,” said Thomas Todt, SBA’s Alabama district director.

The SBA may increase a loan up to 20 percent of the total amount of disaster damage to real estate and/or leasehold improvements, as verified by SBA, to make improvements that lessen the risk of property damage by future disasters of the same kind.

For small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small aquaculture businesses and most private nonprofit organizations of all sizes, the SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any physical property damage.

Interest rates are as low as 1.688 percent for homeowners and renters, 2.875 percent for non-profit organizations and 4 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant’s financial condition.

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

Individuals and businesses unable to visit the centers in person may also obtain information and loan applications by calling the SBA’s Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing), or by sending an email to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Loan applications can also be downloaded from the SBA’s website at www.sba.gov. Completed applications should be returned to the centers or mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is **June 3, 2013**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **January 6, 2014**

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