



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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Contact: Michael Lampton

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Phone: 404-331-0333

DO NOT WAIT FOR INSURANCE SETTLEMENT; APPLY NOW FOR SBA DISASTER ASSISTANCE

ATLANTA. – Disaster survivors should not wait to settle with their insurance company before applying for disaster loan assistance. The SBA encourages survivors of the severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding in North Carolina that occurred on April 16, 2011 to return their completed applications, even if they have not settled with their insurance company.

“Waiting to file an SBA application could cause unnecessary delays in receiving disaster assistance, and the survivors may miss the application deadline,” said Frank Skaggs, director of SBA Field Operations Center East. SBA’s Disaster Customer Service Representatives are available at the Disaster Recovery Centers to assist people with completing the applications.

Survivors who receive SBA disaster home loan applications should submit them as soon as possible to receive consideration for a loan or referral to FEMA for grant assistance that covers personal property, vehicle repair and moving and storage expenses. “I encourage anyone who has not completed their disaster loan application to meet with one of the Customer Service Representatives at one of the Centers located throughout the disaster area for one-on-one assistance,” Skaggs added.

The disaster declaration covers the North Carolina counties of Bertie, Bladen, Craven, Cumberland, Currituck, Greene, Halifax, Harnett, Hertford, Hoke, Johnston, Lee, Onslow, Pitt, Robeson, Sampson, Wake and Wilson, which are eligible for both Physical and Economic Injury Disaster Loans from the SBA. Small businesses and most private non-profit organizations are eligible to apply only for SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans in Beaufort, Camden, Carteret, Chatham, Chowan, Columbus, Dare, Duplin, Durham, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gates, Granville, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Moore, Nash, Northampton, Pamlico, Pender, Richmond, Scotland, Warren, Washington and Wayne counties in North Carolina; Dillon, Horry and Marlboro counties in South Carolina; and Southampton County and the Independent Cities of Chesapeake and Virginia Beach in Virginia.

If a survivor does not know how much of their loss will be covered by insurance or other sources, SBA will consider making a loan for the total loss up to its loan limits, provided the borrower agrees to use insurance proceeds to reduce or repay their SBA loan.

Disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace disaster damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible up to \$40,000 to repair or replace disaster damaged or destroyed personal property.

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Businesses and private non-profit organizations of any size may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace disaster damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. 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 enterprises and most private non-profit organizations of all sizes, the SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. Economic Injury Disaster Loan assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any physical property damage.

Interest rates are as low as 2.563 percent for homeowners and renters, 3 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.

To be considered for all forms of disaster assistance call the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at 800-621-FEMA (3362), TTY 800-462-7585 for people with speech or hearing disabilities. The locations of Disaster Recovery Centers and the loan application process can be obtained by calling the SBA 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. ET or by sending an e-mail to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Those affected by this disaster may fill out a loan application online by visiting SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is **June 20, 2011**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **January 20, 2012**.

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