



DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

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SBA Offers Disaster Assistance to Oklahoma Residents and Businesses Affected by the Severe Storms, Tornadoes and Flooding in Kay County

SACRAMENTO – Sandy K. Baruah, Acting Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), today announced that low-interest disaster loans are now available to Oklahoma residents and business owners who were affected by the severe storms, tornadoes and flooding that occurred from September 11 through September 18, 2008 in Kay County. SBA acted under its own authority to declare the severe storms, tornadoes and flooding a disaster following the October 6 denial of the state’s request for a major disaster declaration.

By declaring a disaster, Acting Administrator Baruah’s action makes the SBA assistance available. The declaration covers the Oklahoma counties of **Garfield, Grant, Kay, Noble and Osage** and the Kansas counties of **Cowley and Sumner**.

“We look forward to working with Oklahoma and the people affected by the severe storms, tornadoes and flooding and to make SBA disaster loans available to homeowners, renters and businesses,” said Acting Administrator Baruah.

“Low-interest Federal disaster loans are available to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private, non-profit organizations whose property was damaged or destroyed by the disaster,” said, Dorothy Overall, SBA’s Oklahoma District Director. “SBA customer service representatives will be on hand beginning **Friday, October 10 at 9 am** at the following Disaster Loan Outreach Center to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA’s disaster loan program, explain the application process and help each individual complete their application,” she continued. The center will be located in the following community and will be open on the days and time indicated:

Blackwell, OK

Blackwell Chamber of Commerce

120 S Main Street

Open Friday, October 10 through Thursday, October 30

Mondays thru Fridays 9 am – 6 pm

The center will close Thursday, October 30

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

(more)

Businesses of any size and private, non-profit organizations may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. SBA can also lend additional funds to homeowners and businesses to help with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

For small businesses and most private, non-profit organizations of any size, 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 property damage.

Individuals and business owners unable to visit SBA's Disaster Loan Outreach Center may contact SBA's Customer Service Center by calling toll-free (800) 659-2955 or by emailing SBA at disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Hearing impaired individuals may call toll-free (800) 877-8339 or visit SBA's website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Additionally, disaster victims may now go online to file an SBA application for disaster loan assistance. The Electronic Loan Application (ELA) is accessible via SBA's secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

The filing deadline to return applications for property damage is **December 8, 2008**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **July 8, 2009**.

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

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