



# 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 **40** Colorado counties and **13** neighboring counties in Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Wyoming 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 the drought that began January 1, 2008 in the primary Colorado counties, 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 on the incident dates in each disaster:

**Primary Colorado counties:**

Adams	Arapahoe	Baca	Bent	Cheyenne	Crowley
Douglas	El Paso	Elbert	Huerfano	Kiowa	Kit Carson
Las Animas	Lincoln	Logan	Otero	Park	Prowers
Pueblo	Teller	Washington	Weld		

**Neighboring Colorado counties:**

Alamosa	Boulder	Broomfield	Chaffee	Clear Creek	Costilla
Custer	Denver	Fremont	Jefferson	Lake	Larimer
Morgan	Phillips	Saguache	Sedgwick	Summit	Yuma

**Neighboring Kansas counties:**

Cheyenne	Greeley	Hamilton	Morton	Sherman	Stanton
Wallace					

**Neighboring Nebraska counties:**

Cheyenne	Kimball
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**Neighboring New Mexico counties:**

Colfax	Union
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**Neighboring Oklahoma County:**

Cimarron

**Neighboring Wyoming County:**

Laramie

Small businesses and most private, non-profit organizations of any size may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) of up to \$2 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 Ed Schafer 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.

Information and application forms are available from SBA’s Customer Service Center by calling **(800) 659-2955**, emailing [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov), or visiting SBA’s website at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance). Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339. The Electronic Loan Application (ELA) is accessible via SBA’s secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

The deadline to apply is **May 11, 2009**.