



Disaster Field Operations Center East

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SBA Opens Business Recovery Center to Assist Kentucky Businesses Affected by Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding and Tornadoes

WASHINGTON – The [U.S. Small Business Administration](#) announced today the opening of a Business Recovery Center (BRC) at the Joe Creason Community Center in Benton on Wednesday, **Dec. 15** to provide **Kentucky** businesses with one-on-one assistance in submitting a disaster loan application if they were impacted by the severe storms, straight-line winds, flooding, and tornadoes on Dec. 10, 2021.

The disaster declaration covers Caldwell, Fulton, Graves, Hopkins, Marshall, Muhlenberg, Taylor, and Warren counties in **Kentucky**, which are eligible for both Physical and Economic Injury Disaster Loans from the SBA. Small businesses and most private nonprofit organizations in the following adjacent counties are eligible to apply only for SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans: Adair, Allen, Barren, Butler, Calloway, Carlisle, Casey, Christian, Crittenden, Edmonson, Green, Hickman, Larue, Livingston, Logan, Lyon, Marion, McCracken, McLean, Ohio, Simpson, Todd, Trigg, and Webster in **Kentucky**; Mississippi and New Madrid in **Missouri**; and Henry, Lake, Obion, and Weakley in **Tennessee**.

To assist businesses affected by the disaster, the SBA will open a Business Recovery Center (BRC) on Wednesday, Dec. 15 in Marshall County at the Joe Creason Community Center as indicated below:

SBA Business Recovery Center

Marshall County

Joe Creason Community Center

The Joe Creason Room

[1600 Park Ave.](#)

Benton, KY 42025

Opening: Wednesday, Dec. 15, noon – 6 p.m.

Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 18, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. This is the only Saturday.

Closed: Sunday

Customer Service Representatives will be available until further notice at the BRC to answer questions about the disaster loan program and assist business owners in completing their applications. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the SBA has established protocols to help protect the health and safety of the public. All visitors to the DLOC are encouraged to wear a face mask.

Businesses and private nonprofit 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. Applicants may be eligible for a loan amount increase up to 20 percent of their physical damages, as verified by the SBA, for mitigation purposes. Eligible mitigation improvements may include a safe room or storm shelter, sump pump, elevation, retaining walls, and landscaping to help protect property and occupants from future damage caused by a similar disaster.

For small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations, 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.

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 for up to \$40,000 to repair or replace disaster-damaged or destroyed personal property.

Interest rates are as low as **2.83** percent for businesses, **1.875** percent for nonprofit organizations and **1.438** percent for homeowners and renters, 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://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/ela/s/>, and should apply under SBA declaration # 17286, not for the COVID-19 incident.

To be considered for all forms of disaster assistance, applicants should register online at DisasterAssistance.gov or download the FEMA mobile app. If online or mobile access is unavailable, applicants should call the FEMA toll-free helpline at 800-621-3362. Those who use 711-Relay or Video Relay Services should call 800-621-3362.

Businesses and individuals 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 emailing DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov. Loan applications can also be downloaded at sba.gov/disaster. Completed applications should be 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 **Feb.10, 2022**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **Sept. 12, 2022**.

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About the U.S. Small Business Administration

The U.S. Small Business Administration makes the American dream of business ownership a reality. As the only go-to resource and voice for small businesses backed by the strength of the federal government, the SBA empowers entrepreneurs and small business owners with the resources and support they need to start, grow or expand their businesses, or recover from a declared disaster. It delivers services through an extensive network of SBA field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations. To learn more, visit sba.gov.