



# DISASTER NEWS

*Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes*

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## **SBA Offers Disaster Assistance to Arkansas Residents and Businesses Affected by Severe Storms and Flooding**

**Sacramento, CA** – Low-interest federal disaster loans are now available in Arkansas for residents and business owners affected by the severe storms and flooding that occurred December 23, 2009 through January 2, 2010, U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Administrator Karen G. Mills announced today. SBA acted under its own authority to declare a disaster in response to a request received from Governor Mike Beebe on February 4.

The disaster declaration makes SBA assistance available in the counties of **Cleburne, Faulkner, Grant, Independence, Jackson, Jefferson, Lonoke, Perry, Prairie, Pulaski, Saline, White and Woodruff.**

“The U. S. Small Business Administration is strongly committed to providing the most effective and customer-focused response possible to assist Arkansas residents and businesses with federal disaster loans,” said Mills. “Getting our businesses and communities up and running after a disaster is our highest priority at SBA.”

“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 Linda Nelson, SBA’s Arkansas District Director. “Beginning Friday, February 12, SBA customer service representatives will be on hand at the following SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Centers to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA’s disaster loan program, explain the application process and help each individual complete their application,” Nelson continued. The centers will be open on the days and times indicated. No appointment is necessary.

### **Pulaski County**

SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center  
Walnut Grove Ministries  
1000 I Street  
North Little Rock, AR 72114

Mondays through Fridays, 9:00 am to 5:30 pm

Open Friday, February 12  
through  
Thursday, March 4

### **White County**

SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center  
Beebe City Hall/Community Center  
321 North Elm Street  
Beebe, AR 72012

Mondays through Fridays, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Open Friday, February 12  
through  
Thursday, March 4

***Both locations will be closed on Monday, February 15, in observance of President’s Day***

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.

Interest rates can be as low as 2.562 percent for homeowners and renters and 4 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by SBA and are based upon each applicant's financial condition.

Disaster loan information and application forms are also available from SBA's Customer Service Center by calling SBA toll-free at (800) 659-2955, emailing [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov), or visiting SBA's Web site at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance). Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339. Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

The filing deadline to return applications for property damage is **April 12, 2010**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **November 10, 2010**.

*For more information visit SBA's Web site at [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov).*  
**SBA Field Operations Center - West, P.O. Box 419004, Sacramento, CA 95841**  
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