



## Disaster Field Operations Center East

**Release Date:** July 7, 2023

**Contact:** Michael Lampton (404) 331-0333

[Michael.Lampton@sba.gov](mailto:Michael.Lampton@sba.gov)

**Release Number:** 23-520, IL 17983

**Follow us on** [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Blogs](#) & [Instagram](#)

### **SBA Offers Disaster Assistance to Illinois Small Businesses Affected by Severe Storms on March 31**

**WASHINGTON** – Illinois small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small aquaculture businesses, and private nonprofit organizations affected by the severe storms in Illinois, on March 31, 2023, may apply for low-interest Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) from the U.S. Small Business Administration, [SBA Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman](#) announced today.

Administrator Guzman made the loans available in response to a letter from Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker on June 29, 2023, requesting a disaster declaration by the SBA. Eligible applicants in the declared area can now apply for low-interest disaster loans from the SBA. The declaration covers Boone, DuPage, Lee and Sangamon counties and the adjacent counties of Bureau, Cass, Christian, Cook, DeKalb, Kane, Kendall, LaSalle, Logan, Macon, Macoupin, McHenry, Menard, Montgomery, Morgan, Ogle, Whiteside, Will and Winnebago in **Illinois**; and Rock and Walworth in **Wisconsin**.

“SBA’s mission-driven team stands ready to help Illinois small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small aquaculture businesses, and private nonprofit organizations impacted by the March 31 severe storms in Illinois,” said Administrator Guzman. “We’re committed to providing federal disaster loans swiftly and efficiently, with a customer-centric approach to help businesses and communities recover and rebuild.”

“For eligible applicants, the SBA offers [Economic Injury Disaster Loans \(EIDL\)](#) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster,” said SBA’s Illinois Acting District Director Mark Ferguson.

Interest rates are **4** percent for businesses and **2.375** percent for nonprofit organizations, 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 [DisasterLoanAssistance.sba.gov/ela/s](https://DisasterLoanAssistance.sba.gov/ela/s) and should apply under SBA declaration **#17983**, not for the COVID-19 incident.

Disaster loan information and application forms may also be obtained by calling the SBA’s Customer Service Center at **800-659-2955** (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing) or emailing [DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov](mailto:DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov). Loan applications may be downloaded at [sba.gov/disaster](https://sba.gov/disaster). Completed applications should be returned to the center or mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The filing deadline to return economic injury applications is **April 3, 2024**.

###

### **About the U.S. Small Business Administration**

Recently, U.S. SBA Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman [announced a policy change](#) granting 12 months of no payments and 0 percent interest. This pertains to all disaster loans approved in response to disasters declared on or after Sept. 21, 2022, through Sept. 30, 2023. This policy change will benefit disaster survivors and help them to decrease the overall cost of recovery by reducing the amount of accrued interest they must repay. Details are available through the SBA Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955. Individuals with verbal or hearing impairments may dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET, Monday to Friday, or email: [DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov](mailto:DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov).

The U.S. Small Business Administration helps power the American dream of business ownership. 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, 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 [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov).