



Disaster Field Operations Center East

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Contact: Michael Lampton (404) 331-0333

Michael.Lampton@sba.gov

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SBA Opens Three Business Recovery Centers in Clay, Letcher and Perry Counties; Adds Counties to Eastern Kentucky Disaster Declaration

ATLANTA – The [U.S. Small Business Administration \(SBA\)](#) announced today that **Floyd** and **Pike counties** are now included as primary counties in the disaster declaration in Eastern Kentucky, and the SBA will open three Business Recovery Centers (BRCs) this week. One BRC opens in **Perry County** Wednesday, Aug. 3, and BRCs in **Clay** and **Letcher** counties open Thursday, Aug. 4. The BRCs are established to provide one-on-one assistance in submitting a disaster loan application for Kentucky businesses impacted by the severe storms, flooding, landslides and mudslides that began July 26.

The disaster declaration covers Breathitt, Clay, **Floyd**, Knott, Letcher, Perry and **Pike** 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 (EIDLs): Bell, Harlan, Jackson, **Johnson**, Knox, Laurel, Lee, Leslie, Magoffin, **Martin**, Owsley and Wolfe in **Kentucky**; **Buchanan**, **Dickenson** and Wise in **Virginia**; and **Mingo** in **West Virginia**.

The SBA’s Business Recovery Centers will be open as indicated below until further notice:

<p><u>Perry County -SBA Business Recovery Center</u></p> <p>Hazard Community and Technical College Jolly Classroom Center 1 Community College Drive Hazard, KY 41701</p>	<p>Opening: Wednesday, Aug. 3, noon – 6 p.m.</p> <p>Hours: Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.</p> <p>Closed: Sunday</p>
<p><u>Clay County -SBA Business Recovery Center</u></p> <p>Eastern Kentucky University - Manchester 50 University Drive Manchester, KY 40962</p>	<p>Opening: Thursday, Aug. 4, noon – 6 p.m.</p> <p>Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.</p> <p>Closed: Sunday</p>
<p><u>Letcher County -SBA Business Recovery Center</u></p> <p>Appalachian Groundswell 229 East Main Street Whitesburg, KY 41858</p>	<p>Opening: Thursday, Aug. 4, noon – 6 p.m.</p> <p>Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.</p> <p>Closed: Sunday</p>

Customer Service Representatives will be available as indicated above at the BRCs 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 BRCs 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 of 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 \(EIDLs\)](#) 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 **3.04** percent for businesses, **1.875** percent for nonprofit organizations and **2.188** 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.

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.

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 # 17546.

Disaster loan information and application forms may also be obtained by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (if you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services) or by sending an email to DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov. Loan applications can be downloaded from the SBA's website 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 physical loan application deadline is **Sept. 28, 2022**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **May 1, 2023**.

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About the U.S. Small Business Administration

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 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 www.sba.gov.