

NEWS RELEASE

Disaster Field Operations Center East

Release Date: Aug. 16, 2022

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Release Number: 22-372, TN 17532/17533 **Fo**

SBA Physical Disaster Loan Deadline Approaching in Eastern Tennessee for Wind, Severe Weather and Wildfires

ATLANTA – <u>The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)</u> is reminding businesses of all sizes, private nonprofit organizations, homeowners and renters in **Tennessee** of the **Sept. 19** deadline to apply for physical damage disaster loans. Anyone in the declared counties with physical property damage caused by wind, severe weather and wildfires from March 30 through April 6 should apply for the low-interest disaster loan program.

"Waiting to file an SBA application could cause unnecessary delays in receiving disaster assistance, and survivors may miss the application deadline. Submitting the loan application is an essential part of the disaster recovery process," said Kem Fleming, director of SBA Field Operations Center East.

The declaration covers Sevier County and the adjacent counties of Blount, Cocke, Jefferson and Knox in **Tennessee**; and Haywood and Swain in **North Carolina**.

Interest rates are as low as **2.94** 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 <u>DisasterLoanAssistance.sba.gov/ela/s</u> and should apply under SBA declaration # 17532.

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 emailing <u>DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov</u>. Loan applications may be downloaded at <u>sba.gov/disaster</u>. 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 **<u>Sept. 19, 2022</u>**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **<u>April 20, 2023</u>**.

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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 <u>www.sba.gov</u>.