



# ***DISASTER NEWS***

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

**Release Date:** October 8, 2004

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**Release Number:** 05 - 02 NY

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## **FREE APPLICATION ASSISTANCE FOR BUSINESSES**

### **SBA resource partner to help business owners with disaster loan applications**

**Binghamton, NY**---The U.S. Small Business Administration announced today that its resource partner will join SBA in providing assistance for victims of Tropical Depression Ivan that caused damage to several counties in Central New York. The New York Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is offering free help in preparing loan applications for small businesses impacted by the disaster.

According to SBA Disaster Area Director William E. Leggiero, Jr., "Affected businesses now have additional locations throughout Central New York staffed with experienced personnel who can assist them in applying for low-interest disaster loans. SBA is committed to providing the resources necessary to help businesses recover quickly, and this partnership between SBA and its resource partner furthers that goal."

In addition to assisting business owners complete the SBA loan application package, representatives from the SBDC are also prepared to provide technical assistance and business counseling at **no cost**.

Interested businesses are advised to contact their nearest SBDC office to set an appointment to obtain an SBA disaster loan application and assistance. Area SBDCs are open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. It is recommended that interested owners call for an appointment.

Businesses in the primary declared counties of Broome, Chenango, Delaware, Orange, Sullivan and Ulster may apply for low-interest SBA disaster loans to repair or replace uninsured or otherwise uncompensated disaster-damaged business property and contents. Additionally, through the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program, SBA can provide eligible small businesses with working capital to meet continuing operating expenses and debt payments until normal operations resume. Small businesses in the primary counties, as well as contiguous counties may apply for EIDLs. SBA business disaster loans carry interest rates as low as 2.9 percent with terms of up to 30 years.

The filing deadline to apply for loans to cover physical damages is November 30, 2004, and the deadline to apply for loans to cover economic injury is July 1, 2005.

Business owners are encouraged to register with FEMA at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362). Once registered, an application will be automatically mailed. Business loan applications may also be obtained via SBA's website at [www.sba.gov/disaster](http://www.sba.gov/disaster).

For more information regarding SBA's disaster loan program or for a disaster recovery center nearest you visit SBA's website or call 1-800-659-2955. The hearing-impaired may call SBA via the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

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**Note to Editors:**

SBDC locations

Kingston SBDC  
One Development Court  
Kingston, NY 12401  
845-339-0025

Corning Community College  
Small Business Development Center  
24 Denison Parkway West  
Corning, NY 14830-2607  
(607) 962-9461

Binghamton SBDC  
Binghamton University  
Binghamton, NY  
607-777-4024

Mercy College  
Westchester I-Park, Building 3  
Yonkers, NY 10701-2752

*For more information visit SBA's website at [www.sba.gov/disaster](http://www.sba.gov/disaster)  
SBA Disaster Assistance Office/Area 1 - 360 Rainbow Blvd., South - Niagara Falls, NY 14303*