I registered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and then I received a disaster loan application from the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA). I don’t have a small business, so why do I need to apply to SBA? Homeowners, renters, and non-farm businesses of all sizes (including rental properties and aquaculture businesses) whose property was damaged by Hurricane Isaac which occurred August 26 through September 10, should apply for a low-interest SBA disaster loan. For disaster damage to private property that is not fully covered by insurance, the basic form of Federal disaster assistance is an SBA disaster loan. SBA is the primary source of Federal money for long-term disaster recovery.

I was told by a disaster official that my damages are not eligible. Therefore, I can’t apply for an SBA disaster loan. If you received this mailing, you probably are eligible to apply to SBA for a disaster loan. Homeowners, renters, and non-farm businesses of all sizes (including rental properties and aquaculture businesses) are eligible to apply to SBA for funds to meet repair costs not fully covered by insurance. You should apply to SBA and give us a chance to try and help you.

My homeowner’s or flood insurance will cover my loss. Why do I need to apply for an SBA disaster loan? In past disasters, SBA has learned that many property owners can’t recover all of their rebuilding costs from their insurance settlement. That’s because of policy limits, actual replacement costs that exceed what the policy covers, the extra costs of code required upgrades imposed after the disaster, deductibles and other factors. Even people who believe they have complete insurance coverage often find they have a substantial shortfall and they need additional financial help. That’s where a disaster loan from SBA can help. It can cover the costs that aren’t fully covered by your flood or homeowner’s insurance policies.

I have homeowners’ insurance and I know I am going to get some insurance money, but I don’t know how much or when. Should I find out how much my insurance settlement will be before applying for a disaster loan? No, you don’t need to wait for an insurance settlement before filing your application. SBA can lend you the full amount of your damages (up to our lending limits) even before you receive your insurance recovery. Then you can use the insurance funds to reduce the balance of your SBA disaster loan.

Can I use my insurance recovery money to voluntarily pay off my mortgage? If your mortgage lender requires that you apply your insurance recovery to the mortgage, you should obtain an official letter from your lender clearly stating they require you to apply your insurance proceeds to your mortgage. If your mortgage lender does not require it, but you voluntarily pay off your mortgage anyway, SBA may reduce your eligible loss by the amount you voluntarily paid to your lender.

I have already received money from FEMA. Can I still apply to SBA for a disaster loan? Yes, FEMA has provided temporary housing money to many homeowners and renters. If your home was destroyed or was not habitable, you may have received money to pay for temporary accommodations elsewhere. If your home was not livable, you may have received
Homeowners, renters, and businesses of any size may need an SBA disaster loan to get back on their feet quickly.

Money to pay for essential repairs so you could stay there. In both cases, FEMA funds were not intended to pay for all the costs of repairing your damaged home, or for replacing your personal property. SBA disaster loans are available to cover the amount of your repair and replacement costs not covered by FEMA funds, insurance or other recoveries.

I don't know how much it will cost to repair or rebuild yet. Should I find out first before applying for a disaster loan?
No, you don't need to know how much your repairs will cost before applying for an SBA disaster loan, and you don't need a contractor’s estimate. Also, you don’t need to wait for an insurance settlement. After you apply, SBA will inspect your property and prepare an estimate of your repair costs.

I have good credit and I can borrow from my bank. Will I qualify for a disaster loan?
Having a good credit record and a good income does not disqualify you from receiving a disaster loan. Paying for disaster repairs is an unplanned expense, and most people need some help to get back on their feet quickly.

You may be surprised to know that SBA disaster loans have affordable terms.

I already have a mortgage and I can’t afford another loan. Can SBA help me?
SBA tries to make a disaster loan fit within the budget of each disaster victim. Moreover, when your property is substantially damaged and you need help to pay both your mortgage and your repair costs, SBA may be able to refinance your mortgage. In such cases, an SBA disaster loan can both pay off the pre-disaster mortgage and fund the disaster repairs. Often the disaster loan will have a monthly payment about the same as your mortgage payment before the disaster. If you think you need this kind of assistance, you should discuss your case directly with an SBA representative.

I have questions about the loan application paperwork. Will SBA help me complete the paperwork?
Yes, you should visit with an SBA representative at one of the disaster centers listed in this mailing. You may stop by at your convenience, and you don’t need an appointment. SBA is eager to meet with you to answer your questions, discuss any concerns you have, and help you complete your loan application. If you can’t meet with us in person, you may call our toll free telephone number (800) 659-2955 to get help.
Let us help you with your application

No appointment is necessary. SBA representatives are at the locations listed below to meet with you to:

- explain how SBA may help you recover from this disaster;
- answer all your questions;
- help you prepare your disaster loan application.

You may apply online via SBA’s secure Web site at https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela. Information and applications are also available from SBA’s Customer Service Center. You may call (800) 659-2955, e-mail disastrcustomerservice@sba.gov, or visit SBA’s Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339.

SBA is providing one-on-one service at the following locations:

All centers are currently open Mondays through Saturdays, 8 am to 6 pm

These hours and locations are subject to change.

Please call (800) 659-2955 to confirm hours and locations.

JEFFERSON PARISH
Disaster Recovery Center
Grand Isle Multiplex Center
3101 LA Highway 1
Grand Isle, LA 70358

JEFFERSON PARISH
Disaster Recovery Center
Cherokee City Community Center
530 West Bluff Street
Lafitte, LA 70067

PLAQUEMINES PARISH
Disaster Recovery Center
Bethlehem Baptist Church
111 Bethlehem Street
Braithwaite, LA 70040

PLAQUEMINES PARISH
Disaster Recovery Center
Plaquemines Parish Gov’t Center
28028 Highway 23
Port Sulphur, LA 70083

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH
Disaster Recovery Center
1931 West Airline Highway
La Place, LA 70068

ST. TAMMANY PARISH
Disaster Recovery Center
Mandeville Public Works Dept.
1100 Mandeville High Boulevard
Mandeville, LA 70471

ST. TAMMANY PARISH
Disaster Recovery Center
St. Tammany Admin Complex
Tower Building
520 Old Spanish Trail
Slidell, LA 70458

To receive the best service, we urge you to bring your loan application to one of the centers listed above. If this is not convenient, please mail it to:
SBA Disaster Assistance
Loan Processing & Disbursement Center
14925 Kingsport Road
Ft. Worth, TX 76155-2243