

Disaster Field Operations Center East

Release Date: April 22, 2024

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Release Number: 24-328, ME 20172/20173

SBA Opens Business Recovery Center in Lincoln County, Maine

ATLANTA - <u>U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)</u> announced today it will open a Business Recovery Center (BRC) in **Lincoln County** on **Tuesday, April 23**, at the Willing Workers Hall in New Harbor, ME. SBA is opening the Center to assist Maine businesses with losses due to the severe storms and flooding that occurred on Jan. 9-13.

"Our Business Recovery Centers are one of the most powerful resources at SBA's disposal to support business owners," said "<u>Francisco Sánchez, Jr., associate administrator for the Office of Disaster</u> <u>Recovery and Resilience at the Small Business Administration</u>. "Business owners can meet in-person with our specialists to apply for SBA disaster loans and get information on the full breadth of our programs designed to help them navigate their recovery."

The disaster declaration covers Cumberland, Hancock, Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc, Waldo, Washington, and York counties in **Maine**, 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): Androscoggin, Aroostook, Kennebec, Oxford, Penobscot, and Somerset in **Maine**; Strafford, Rockingham, and Carroll in **New Hampshire.**

Customer Service Representatives at SBA's Business Recovery Centers will assist business owners complete their disaster loan application, accept documents for existing applications, and provide updates on an application's status. The Centers will operate as indicated below until further notice:

Business Recovery Center		<u>Business Recovery Center</u>	
Cumberland County		Hancock County	
Currency Institute		General Bryant E. Moore Community Center	
<u>701 US-1, Suite 4</u>		<u>125 State Street</u>	
Yarmouth, ME 04096		Ellsworth, ME 04605	
Hours: Closed:	Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday	Hours:	Monday - Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
		Closed:	Sunday

<u>Business Recovery Center</u>		<u>Business Recovery Center</u>	
Lincoln County		York County	
Willing Workers Hall		Keller Williams Coastal and Lakes & Mountains	
<u>2604 Bristol Rd.</u>		<u>1000 US-1 Suite 102</u>	
New Harbor, ME 04554		York, ME 03909	
<mark>Opening:</mark> Hours:	Tuesday, April 23, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.	Hours:	Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday
Closed:	Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday	Closed:	Sunday

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. SBA can also lend additional funds to businesses and homeowners to help with the cost of improvements to protect, prevent or minimize future disaster damage.

For small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations of any size, <u>Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs)</u> help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. Economic injury assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage.

Disaster loans up to \$500,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace disaster-damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$100,000 to repair or replace disaster-damaged or destroyed personal property.

Interest rates are as low as **4%** for businesses, **3.25%** for nonprofit organizations, and **2.688%** for homeowners and renters, with terms up to 30 years. Interest does not begin to accrue, and monthly payments are not due, until 12 months from the date of the initial disbursement. 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 <u>DisasterAssistance.gov</u> 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 and receive additional disaster assistance information at <u>SBA.gov/disaster</u>. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email <u>disastercustomerservice@sba.gov</u> for more information on SBA disaster assistance. For people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is <u>May 20, 2024</u>. The deadline to return economic injury applications is <u>Dec. 23, 2024</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 goto 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>.