

## Application deadline extended to December 2016 for SBA Sandy assistance

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The U.S. Small Business Administration has reopened the filing application period for home owners, renters, businesses and non-profit organizations in New Jersey affected by Superstorm Sandy to request disaster loan assistance.

The additional time offers another opportunity for anyone affected by the storm to request low-interest disaster loans to rebuild, according to the SBA. The new application deadline is Dec. 1, 2016.

SBA Administrator Maria Contreras-Sweet reopened the filing period effective Dec. 2, following the recently approved Recovery Improvements for Small Entities (RISE) After Disaster Act of 2015. This act allows those affected by Superstorm Sandy another chance to seek assistance.

Businesses and private nonprofit organizations may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace disaster damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. Loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for loans up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property.

Assistance is available regardless of whether the business sustained any physical property damage for small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most nonprofit organizations to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster.

Rates are as low as 1.688 percent for home owners and renters, 3 percent for non-profits, and 4 percent for businesses, with repayment terms of up to 30 years.

If your application was previously approved, declined, or withdrawn and you need to recover, you should submit an application to the SBA to be considered for disaster loan assistance.

SBA's customer service representatives are available at Disaster Loan Outreach Centers to answer questions and help people complete their applications as follows:

Atlantic County, 1301 Bacharach Blvd., Room 129, Atlantic City, NJ 08401. Hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Bergen County, Bergen County Office of Emergency Management, 285 Campgaw Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Monmouth County, Monmouth County Emergency Operations Center, 300 Halls Mill Road, Freehold, NJ 07728. Hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Ocean County, Miller Air Park, Sheriff's Office of Emergency Management, County Road 530 at Mule Road, Berkeley, NJ 08757. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

Or call SBA's Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing), or by emailing [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov).

Completed applications should be returned to the centers or mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155. The filing deadline is Dec. 1, 2016.

The disaster declaration covers Atlantic, Bergen, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Essex, Gloucester, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Salem, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren in New Jersey; New Castle in Delaware; Bronx, New York, Orange, Rockland and Westchester in New York; Bucks, Delaware,

Monroe, Northampton, Philadelphia and Pike in Pennsylvania.