

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## **Disaster Field Operations Center West**

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18233-01, 18234-01, 18235-01

## SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans Available to Texas Small Businesses

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.** – Small nonfarm businesses in the following counties are now eligible to apply for low-interest federal disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration. These loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by adverse weather conditions that occurred in the following primary counties in Texas announced Director Jeffrey Lusk of SBA's Disaster Field Operations Center-West.

Declaration Number	Primary Counties	Neighboring Counties/Parishes	Incident Type	Incident Date	Deadline
18230	San Patricio	Aransas, Bee, Jim Wells, Live Oak, Nueces and Refugio in Texas	Drought	Aug. 8, 2023 & continuing	May 29, 2024
18233	Bailey, Briscoe, Castro, Deaf Smith, Hale, Parmer, Randall and Swisher	Armstrong, Carson, Cochran, Crosby, Donley, Floyd, Hall, Hockley, Lamb, Lubbock, Motley, Oldham and Potter in Texas; Curry, Quay and Roosevelt in New Mexico	Rain, Flooding, Hail and High Winds	May 1 through June 5, 2023	May 29, 2024
18234	Anderson, Archer, Baylor, Bexar, Blanco, Brown, Burnet, Caldwell, Comal, Deaf Smith, Ellis, Fannin, Foard, Gillespie, Grayson, Hardeman, Haskell, Hays, Henderson, Houston, Kaufman, Kendall, Lampasas, Leon, Limestone, Madison, McLennan, Navarro, Rockwall, Runnels,	Angelina, Atascosa, Bandera, Bastrop, Bell, Bosque, Brazos, Callahan, Castro, Cherokee, Childress, Clay, Coke, Coleman, Collin, Comanche, Concho, Cooke, Coryell, Cottle, Dallas, Delta, Denton, Dickens, Eastland, Falls, Fayette, Fisher, Freestone, Gonzales, Grimes, Guadalupe, Hamilton,	Excessive Heat	June 1, 2023 & continuing	May 29, 2024

Declaration Number	Primary Counties	Neighboring Counties/Parishes	Incident Type	Incident Date	Deadline
(18234	Stonewall, Van Zandt	Hill, Hunt, Jack,			
continued)	and Wilbarger	Johnson, Jones, Kent,			
		Kerr, Kimble, King,			
		Knox, Lamar, Llano,			
		Mason, McCulloch,			
		Medina, Mills, Nolan,			
		Oldham, Parmer,			
		Potter, Rains, Randall,			
		Robertson, San Saba,			
		Shackelford, Smith,			
		Tarrant, Taylor,			
		Throckmorton,			
		Tom Green, Travis,			
		Trinity, Walker, Wichita,			
		Williamson, Wilson,			
		Wood and Young in			
		Texas;			
		Curry and Quay in			
		New Mexico;			
		Bryan, Harmon,			
		Jackson, Love, Marshall			
		and Tillman in			
		Oklahoma			
18235	Austin, Bailey, Bell,	Angelina, Archer,	Excessive Heat	June 1, 2023 &	May 29,
	Bosque, Cameron,	Atascosa, Bastrop,	and Drought	continuing	2024
	Cochran, Coke,	Baylor, Bexar, Blanco,			
	Colorado, Coryell,	Borden, Brazoria,			
	Dawson, Duval, Erath,	Brazos, Brooks, Brown,			
	Falls, Fisher, Gonzales,	Burleson, Burnet,			
	Hill, Hood, Jefferson,	Caldwell, Calhoun,			
	Johnson, Lavaca, Llano,				
	Mason, Matagorda,	Coleman, Comanche,			
	McCulloch,	Concho, Cooke,			
	Nacogdoches, Nolan,	Denton, DeWitt,			
	Palo Pinto, Robertson,	Dimmit, Eastland, Ellis,			
	San Augustine, Shelby,	Fayette, Fort Bend,			
	Sterling, Throckmorton,	• •			
	Tom Green, Trinity,	Glasscock, Grimes,			
	Washington, Webb,	Guadalupe, Hamilton,			
	Wharton, Willacy,	Hardin, Haskell,			
	Williamson, Wilson,	Hidalgo, Hockley,			
	Wise and Young	Houston, Howard, Irion,			
		Jack, Jackson, Jasper,			
		Jim Hogg, Jim Wells,			
		Jones, Karnes, Kenedy,			
		Kent, Kimble, Knox,			
		La Salle, Lamb,			
		Lampasas, Lee, Leon,			

Declaration Number	Primary Counties	Neighboring Counties/Parishes	Incident Type	Incident Date	Deadline
(18235		Liberty, Limestone,			
continued)		Live Oak, Lynn,			
		Madison, Martin,			
		Maverick, McLennan,			
		McMullen, Menard,			
		Milam, Mitchell,			
		Montague, Navarro,			
		Orange, Panola, Parker,			
		Parmer, Polk, Reagan,			
		Runnels, Rusk, Sabine,			
		San Jacinto, San Saba,			
		Schleicher, Scurry,			
		Shackelford, Somervell,			
		Stephens, Stonewall,			
		Tarrant, Taylor, Terry,			
		Travis, Victoria, Walker,			
		Waller, Yoakum and			
		Zapata in Texas;			
		Cameron, De Soto and			
		Sabine in Louisiana;			
		Curry, Lea and			
		Roosevelt in New			
		Mexico			

"SBA eligibility covers both the economic impacts on businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers that have suffered agricultural production losses caused by the disasters and businesses directly impacted by the disasters," Lusk said.

Small nonfarm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations of any size may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disasters not occurred.

"Eligibility for these loans is based on the financial impact of the disasters only and not on any actual property damage. These loans have an interest rate as low as 4 percent for businesses and 2.375 percent for private nonprofit organizations, a maximum term of 30 years, and are available to small businesses and most private nonprofits without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship," Lusk said.

Interest does not begin to accrue until 12 months from the date of the initial disaster loan disbursement. SBA disaster loan repayment begins 12 months from the date of the first disbursement.

By law, SBA makes economic injury available when the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. The Secretary declared these declarations on Sept. 29.

Businesses primarily engaged in farming or ranching are not eligible for SBA disaster assistance. Agricultural enterprises should contact the Farm Services Agency about the U.S. Department of Agriculture assistance made available by the Secretary's declaration. However, nurseries are eligible for SBA disaster assistance in drought disasters.

Applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information and download applications at <a href="https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/">https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/</a>. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email <a href="disastercustomerservice@sba.gov">disastercustomerservice@sba.gov</a> 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. Completed applications should be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

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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, 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 <a href="https://www.sba.gov">www.sba.gov</a>.