



News Release

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FAITH BASED ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER NON-PROFITS MAY APPLY FOR DISASTER ASSISTANCE WITH SBA

TRENTON, N.J. — Synagogues, mosques, temples, churches, other religious centers and non-profit organizations that suffered damages in Hurricane Sandy may apply for disaster assistance from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

While many may think that faith based organizations are not businesses, as non-profits they are eligible to apply for SBA's low-interest disaster business loans. SBA loans can help fund repair or replace disaster-damaged property such as real estate, furniture, fixtures, equipment, vehicles, damaged contents and leasehold improvements.

Any interested organization may apply with the SBA, even before their insurance claims are settled. SBA loans must be paid back, but they can be financed up to 30 years making them affordable for most organizations.

Small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small aquaculture entities and most private non-profit organizations are also eligible to apply for SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans to help provide funds for fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills that could have been paid had the disaster not occurred. These loans are available regardless of whether physical damage was sustained.

The maximum SBA loan amount for business disaster loans is \$2 million.

For more information:

- Call SBA's Customer Service Center at **1-800-659-2955, TTY 800-877-8339**.
- Visit a [disaster recovery center](#) or a business recovery center and speak with a SBA customer service representative.

To apply for a loan:

- Visit SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>, or
- Download an application from www.sba.gov.

Registration with FEMA is also recommended. Call **800-621-FEMA (3362)** or (TTY) **800-462-7585**. Online registration is available at www.DisasterAssistance.gov.

Don't wait to apply, the deadline for physical losses is **December 31, 2012**.

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FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

(MORE)

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