

[Home](#) / [News](#) / [Press Releases](#)/ [Governor Sherrill Secures SBA Economic Injury Disaster Assistance for Businesses and Nonprofits Affected by Belleville Fire](#)

Governor Sherrill Secures SBA Economic Injury Disaster Assistance for Businesses and Nonprofits Affected by Belleville Fire

Posted on 06/17/2026

Business Recovery Center Opened June 16 in Belleville

TRENTON – Small businesses and private nonprofit organizations affected by the devastating May 3, 2026 fire in Belleville Township may now apply for low-interest federal disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), Governor Sherrill announced today. The SBA approved Governor Sherrill's request for a disaster declaration making Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) available to eligible organizations that suffered substantial economic injury as a result of the fire.

"I want to thank our emergency responders from across the State for their heroic efforts," **said Governor Sherrill**. "Now that the fire is out, it's time to rebuild. I am happy to announce that SBA has granted my request to declare a disaster area for Essex County and that resources will be made available for qualifying small businesses and nonprofits impacted by this devastating fire to support their recovery. This type of support can be a lifeline for our struggling small businesses."

"The opening of the Business Recovery Center in the wake of the devastating fire in Belleville reflects our commitment to helping local businesses build and recover," **said Jeanne Hengemuhle, Acting Superintendent of the New Jersey State Police**. "By connecting business owners with critical resources, guidance, and support, we are ensuring they have the tools they need to overcome these challenges and continue serving as the backbone of their community."

"It is encouraging to see our local small businesses receiving assistance during times of need," **said Brian Banda, Belleville Township Manager**. "These business owners are not only entrepreneurs - they are our neighbors, friends, and valued members of our community. Programs like this demonstrate that our communities have reliable support systems in place and that help is available when it is needed most."

Beginning Tuesday, June 16, SBA customer service representatives will be available at the following Business Recovery Center to answer questions about the disaster loan program, explain the application process, and assist businesses and nonprofit organizations in completing their applications.

Business Recovery Center

Belleville Public Library
221 Washington Ave.
Belleville, NJ 07109

Opening: Tuesday, June 16

Hours: Monday – Friday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Saturday: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Closed: Sundays; Friday, June 19

Closing Permanently: Saturday, June 27; Businesses have until March 12, 2027 to apply online.

The disaster declaration covers Essex County and the adjacent counties of Bergen, Hudson, Morris, Passaic, and Union.

Small businesses and nonprofit organizations in these counties that have suffered substantial economic injury from the fire may be eligible for working capital loans from the SBA. For businesses and nonprofits that qualify, these loans can offer generous terms and repayment options. The SBA tailors amounts and repayment terms to each applicant's situation and financial condition. Any business and nonprofits suffering



substantial economic impacts as a direct result of the fire in these counties are encouraged to apply.

More details can be found by visiting the SBA [website](#).

Press List

Subscribe to the Governor's Press List to receive important updates directly from the New Jersey Governor's Office.

[Subscribe to the Press List](#)

Governor Mikie Sherrill

- Home
- About
- Action
- News
- Contact



Statewide

- Governor Mikie Sherrill
- Lt. Governor Dr. Dale G. Caldwell
- NJ Home
- Services A to Z
- Departments/Agencies
- Contact Us
- Privacy Notice
- Legal Statement & Disclaimers
- Accessibility Statement

Copyright © State of New Jersey, 1996-2026
 Office of Governor
 PO Box 001
 Trenton, NJ 08625