



## Disaster Field Operations Center West

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### **SBA to Open Business Recovery Center in Chico to Help Businesses Impacted by the Wildfires**

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.** – The U.S. Small Business Administration today announced the opening of an SBA Business Recovery Center in Chico to provide a wide range of services to businesses impacted by the wildfires that began Nov. 8, 2018. The center will open at 9 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 16.

“Due to the severe property damage and economic losses wildfires inflicted on California businesses, we want to provide every available service to help get them back on their feet,” said SBA’s Director Tanya N. Garfield of the U.S. Small Business Administration’s Disaster Field Operations Center-West.

“At the center SBA customer service representatives will meet with each business owner to explain how an SBA disaster loan can help finance their recovery. They will answer questions about SBA’s disaster loan program, explain the application process and help each business owner apply online,” Garfield said. No appointment is necessary.

#### **BUTTE COUNTY**

SBA Business Recovery Center

Chico Mall

(former Sears building)

1982 E. 20th St.

Chico, CA 95928

**Opens 9 a.m. Friday, Nov. 16**

Mondays - Sundays, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

According to Garfield, businesses of any size and private, nonprofit organizations may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. These loans cover losses that are not fully covered by insurance or other recoveries.

For small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private, nonprofit organizations of any size, SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. Economic Injury Disaster Loan assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage.

For business owners who are unable to visit the business recovery center, they may apply online using SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>. SBA representatives are also available to meet with business owners and residents at the disaster recovery center.

Applicants may receive additional disaster assistance information and download applications at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov) for more information on SBA disaster assistance. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may call (800) 877-8339. Completed applications should be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The deadline to apply for property damage is Jan. 11, 2019. The deadline to apply for economic injury is Aug. 12, 2019.

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### **About the U.S. Small Business Administration**

The U.S. Small Business Administration makes the American dream of business ownership a reality. 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 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 [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov).