

The interest rates are:

	Percent
For Physical Damage:	
Homeowners with credit available elsewhere	8.000
Homeowners without credit available elsewhere	4.000
Businesses with credit available elsewhere	8.000
Businesses and non-profit organizations without credit available elsewhere	4.000
Others (including non-profit organizations) with credit available elsewhere	7.250
For Economic Injury:	
Businesses and small agricultural cooperatives without credit available elsewhere	4.000

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 295512 and for economic injury the number is 951600.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008)

Dated: June 13, 1997.

Ginger Lew,

Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 97-16520 Filed 6-23-97; 8:45 am]

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #2956]

State of Mississippi

As a result of the President's major disaster declaration on June 13, 1997, I find that the Counties of Bolivar, Tunica, Warren, and Washington in the State of Mississippi constitute a disaster area due to damages caused by flooding beginning on February 28 and continuing through April 21, 1997. Applications for loans for physical damages may be filed until the close of business on August 14, 1997, and for loans for economic injury until the close of business on March 13, 1998 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations: U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 2 Office, One Baltimore Place, Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30308.

In addition, applications for economic injury loans from small businesses located in the following contiguous counties may be filed until the specified date at the above location: Claiborne, Coahoma, DeSoto, Hinds, Humphreys, Issaquena, Panola, Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tate, and Yazoo Counties in Mississippi; Chico, Crittenden, Desha, Lee, and Phillips Counties in Arkansas; and East Carroll, Madison and Tensas Parishes in Louisiana.

Interest rates are:

	Percent
For Physical Damage:	
Homeowners with credit available elsewhere	7.625
Homeowners without credit available elsewhere	3.875
Businesses with credit available elsewhere	8.000
Businesses and non-profit organizations without credit available elsewhere	4.000
Others (including non-profit organizations) with credit available elsewhere	7.250
For Economic Injury: Businesses and small agricultural cooperatives without credit available elsewhere	4.000

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 295606. For economic injury, the numbers are 951700 for Mississippi; 951800 for Arkansas; and 951900 for Louisiana.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008)

Dated: June 17, 1997.

Bernard Kulik,

Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.

[FR Doc. 97-16522 Filed 6-23-97; 8:45 am]

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #2954]

State of Ohio

Hancock, Ottawa, Pickaway, and Union Counties and the contiguous Counties of Allen, Champaign, Delaware, Erie, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Hardin, Henry, Hocking, Logan, Lucas, Madison, Marion, Putnam, Ross, Sandusky, Seneca, Wood, and Wyandot in the State of Ohio constitute a disaster area as a result of damages caused by severe storms and flooding which occurred on June 1 and 2, 1997. Applications for loans for physical damages may be filed until the close of business on August 14, 1997 and for economic injury until the close of business on March 13, 1998 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations: U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 2 Office, One Baltimore Place, Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30308.

The interest rates are:

	Percent
For Physical Damage:	
Homeowners with credit available elsewhere	8.000
Homeowners without credit available elsewhere	4.000

	Percent
Businesses with credit available elsewhere	8.000
Businesses and non-profit organizations without credit available elsewhere	4.000
Others (including non-profit organizations) with credit available elsewhere	7.250
For Economic Injury: Businesses and small agricultural cooperatives without credit available elsewhere ...	4.000

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 295406 and for economic injury the number is 951500.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008)

Dated: June 13, 1997.

Aida Alvarez,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 97-16521 Filed 6-23-97; 8:45 am]

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SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Progress Report on Development of a Redesigned Method of Evaluating Disability in Social Security Claims

AGENCY: Social Security Administration.

ACTION: Notice and solicitation of comments.

SUMMARY: This notice updates and requests further comment on SSA's research plan for developing a new method for determining whether an individual is "disabled," as defined in the Social Security Act (the Act), for purposes of entitlement or eligibility to disability benefits under titles II or XVI. Notice of the original research plan, including a request for comments, was published in the **Federal Register** on September 9, 1996 (61 FR 47542). This notice discusses:

- Preliminary research that has been conducted on functional assessment tools and occupational classification systems;
- Independent review and oversight of the research, including the related disability evaluation study (DES), by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS);
- Expert, technical guidance being provided by outside consultants; and
- The role of external stakeholders.

In addition, this notice describes SSA's plans for future research and development activities.

DATES: Comments should be received in writing on or before August 8, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Please submit comments on the Research Plan or requests to be placed on the External Stakeholder