

## NEWS RELEASE

Date: July 24, 2008  
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Subject: SBA Increasing Size Limits for Loan Program

The U.S. Small Business Administration is raising the size limits for companies eligible for funding through its 504 Loan Program.

As of August 18, The 504 Loan Program's eligible size standards will increase to \$8.5 million in net worth and \$3 million in annual earnings. This is up from the previous limits of \$7.5 million in net worth and \$2.5 million in annual earnings.

The SBA 504 Loan Program has always been focused on helping small businesses expand. However, the new size limits will allow a broader scope of companies to qualify for the program. Additionally, the increase also allows those companies that have experienced success through prior use of the program to come back and use it again as they continue to grow.

The 504 Loan Program was designed by Congress to allow small businesses to gain favorable financing for expansion while allowing them to preserve their working capital. Borrowers may use 504 financing for purchase of real estate, buildings, and/or equipment. In most cases, borrowers put down as little as 10% and receive a low, fixed interest rate for up to 20 years.

The SBA authorizes Certified Development Companies (CDC's) such as Small Business Growth Corporation (Growth Corp) to offer the 504 Loan Program. Certified Development Companies work directly with borrowers to organize, package, process, and close the 504 loan. As the largest 504 lender in the Midwest, Growth Corp has helped countless businesses obtain 504 financing for their expansions.

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