

Tallahassee Democrat

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SMALL BUSINESS

SBA-backed loans at all-time low:

Rates for commercial real estate and equipment loans, backed by the U.S. Small Business Administration, have fallen to record lows. The SBA's 504 loans - which are offered through the state by Florida First Capital - are available for a fixed rate of 5.94 percent for 20 years. Ten-year loans fell to 5.19 percent. SBA 504 loans offer small-business owners access to long-term, fixed-rate financing for the purchase of real estate and equipment. To qualify, a company must be a for-profit small business in Florida with an expansion or start-up project. A business is qualified as a small business if it has tangible net worth below \$7 million and average after-tax profits below \$2.5 million for the previous two years. For information, call, 1-888-320-5504 or go to www.ffcfc.com.