Small Business Administration

and control must vest in the trust by the time the loan is repaid.

§120.353 Eligibility.

SBA may assist a qualified employee trust (or equivalent trust) that meets the requirements and conditions for an ESOP prescribed in all applicable IRS, Treasury and Department of Labor (DOL) regulations. In addition, the following conditions apply:

- (a) The small business must provide the funds needed by the trust to repay the loan; and
- (b) The small business must provide adequate collateral.

§ 120.354 Creditworthiness.

In determining repayment ability, SBA shall not consider the personal assets of the employee-owners of the trust. SBA shall consider the earnings history and projected future earnings of the employer small business. SBA may consider the business and management experience of the employee-owners.

VETERANS LOAN PROGRAM

§ 120.360 Which veterans are eligible?

SBA may guarantee or make direct loans to a small business 51 percent owned by one or more of the following eligible veterans:

- (a) Vietnam-era veterans who served for a period of more than 180 days between August 5, 1964, and May 7, 1975, and were discharged other than dishonorably:
- (b) Disabled veterans of any era with a minimum compensable disability of 30 percent; or
- (c) A veteran of any era who was discharged for disability.

§ 120.361 Other conditions of eligibility.

- (a) Management and daily operations of the business must be directed by one or more of the veteran owners whose veteran status was used to qualify for the loan.
- (b) This direct loan program is available only if private sector financing and guaranteed loans are not available.
- (c) A veteran may qualify only once for this program on a direct loan basis.

POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAM

§ 120.370 Policy.

Section 7(a)(12) of the Act authorizes SBA to guarantee loans up to \$1,000,000 to an eligible small business to plan, design or install a pollution control facility. An applicant must meet the eligibility requirements for 7(a) loans.

LOANS TO PARTICIPANTS IN THE 8(A)
PROGRAM

§ 120.375 Policy.

Section 7(a)(20) of the Act authorizes SBA to provide direct (unilaterally or together with Lenders) or guaranteed loans to firms participating in the 8(a) Program.

§ 120.376 Special requirements.

The following special conditions apply (otherwise, 7(a) loan eligibility criteria apply):

- (a) The Associate Administrator for Business Development may waive the direct loan administrative ceiling of \$150,000, and raise it to \$750,000.
- (b) The SBA portion of a guaranteed loan must not exceed \$750,000.
- (c) The interest rate on a guaranteed loan shall be the same as on 7(a) guaranteed business loans. The interest rate on a direct loan shall be one percent less than on a regular direct loan.
- (d) For a direct loan or SBA's portion of an immediate participation loan, SBA shall subordinate its security interest on all collateral to other debt of the applicant.

[61 FR 3235, Jan. 31, 1996, as amended at 74 FR 45753, Sept. 4, 2009]

$\S 120.377$ Use of proceeds.

The loan proceeds shall not be used for debt refinancing. Only a manufacturing concern may use loan proceeds for working capital.

> DEFENSE ECONOMIC TRANSITION ASSISTANCE

§120.380 Program.

Section 7(a)(21) of the Act authorizes SBA to guarantee loans to help eligible small businesses transition from defense to civilian markets, or eligible individuals adversely impacted by base