



Community & Economic Development

Advancing the Economy, Image and Quality of Life

CITY OF HAGERSTOWN
Department of Community & Economic Development

COVID-19 INFORMATION FOR BUSINESSES

**ROADMAP TO RECOVERY AND
ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES**

Last Updated 04/29/20

ESSENTIAL BUSINESS INFORMATION & MARYLAND GOVERNOR'S ORDERS/INTERPRETIVE GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS

State of Maryland - Office of Governor Larry Hogan Website

COVID 19 Pandemic: Orders and Guidance

<https://governor.maryland.gov/covid-19-pandemic-orders-and-guidance/>

Visit this website for all issued Proclamations, Orders Currently in Effect, Interpretive Guidance, Superseded Order (not in effect).

MARYLAND GOVERNOR'S "ROADMAP TO RECOVERY"

State of Maryland - Office of Governor Larry Hogan Website

Maryland Strong: Roadmap to Recovery

<https://governor.maryland.gov/recovery/>

Roadmap to Recovery Plan Document

The plan calls for the reopening of businesses in 3 phases. Learn more.

https://governor.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/MD_Strong.pdf

Essential Business List

Essential Business List (Updated March 31, 2020)

<https://www.hagerstownmd.org/DocumentCenter/View/9475/Maryland-Essential-Business-List-Updated-March-31-2020>

Quick Facts/Highlights of Select Guidance Documents

Business Closures & Restrictions During COVID-19

- **As of April 20, guidelines for barber shops and salons can take appointment-only customers have been circumstantially allowed.** [Read the executive order.](#)
- **As of April 18, the use of face coverings is required on public transportation and inside all retail establishments.** The order is effective for customers and workers of retail stores, as well as inside foodservice establishments. [Read the executive order.](#)
- **As of April 5, health officials from each county and Baltimore City are authorized to close locations that are unsafe and at risk for spreading COVID-19.** Businesses, organizations and other facilities may be instructed to modify their operations or movements to comply with social distancing guidelines or ordered to close altogether. [Read the executive order.](#)

- **As of March 30, the State of Maryland is under a 'stay-at-home' order.** All those living in Maryland are ordered to stay in their homes or places of residences, except to participate in essential activities. [Read the executive order.](#)
- **As of March 23, all non-essential businesses in Maryland are ordered to close to the general public.** Read Governor Hogan's [executive order](#) for more information. For guidance on this order, including a list of businesses, organizations and facilities which may remain open, please read the interpretive guidance [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#). If "essential" or "non-essential" status is still unclear, [please use this as guidance](#). This list draws on federal guidance regarding the essential critical workforce, which can be found [here](#).
 - If you have a question whether or not your business is essential, please contact secretary.commerce@maryland.gov.
 - If you have other questions pertaining to essential or non-essential businesses, please email psector@maryland.gov, which is monitored by the Maryland Emergency Management team.
 - We encourage all employers to find alternative ways to allow employees to continue working, like teleworking. We also encourage companies to find other methods to continue providing services, whether that is through remote-assistance or off-site delivery services.
- **Closure of all Entertainment Venues and Enclosed Shopping Malls** - This includes bowling alleys, amusement parks, bingo halls, [casinos, racetracks](#), and other venues, and is in addition to the closure of bars, restaurants, movie theaters, and fitness centers that was previously announced. Businesses which provide drive-through, carry-out, and food delivery services may continue to do so. [Read about specific closures in the executive order.](#)
- **Carry-out and Delivery of Alcoholic Beverages** - Businesses that serve alcohol are now permitted to provide carry-out and delivery of alcoholic beverages. [Read the executive order.](#)
- **Child Care Providers** - As of March 27, all child care providers are to be closed, except those serving essential personnel. For more information on eligible programs or centers looking to reopen, [click here](#).
- **Restricted Gatherings of More than 10 People** - Social, community, religious, recreation, and sporting events and gatherings of more than 10 people are now strictly prohibited in all locations and venues in Maryland. This follows updated CDC guidelines. [Read more about the restrictions in the executive order.](#)
- **Businesses Permitted to Operate**
 - If your business is one that is permitted by the executive order to remain open, and you choose to do so, it is critical that you follow [social distancing guidelines](#) and [effective cleaning and disinfection](#), and do everything in your power to prevent groups of 10 or more people from congregating in one area. Public utility, such as the need to provide food or essential supplies, must be balanced with the need to preserve public health. Guidance from the CDC for businesses is available [here](#).
 - Please know that we encourage all employers to find alternative ways to allow employees to continue working, like teleworking. We also encourage companies to find other methods to continue providing services, whether that is through remote-assistance or off-site delivery services.
 - Currently, there is not a state-issued "Letter of Clearance" or similar document for essential business employees to carry with them. While it is not necessary for drivers in Maryland to have documentation about their purpose of travel, having it may help resolve questions. We strongly recommend that employers draft and print their own letters containing the following items - [click here](#).

- **Restricted Use of Public Transportation** - Public transit such as MARC, Amtrak, Metro, or bus services should be used for essential travel only. Essential travel means taking trips to work, hospitals, health care providers, pharmacies, grocery stores, banks, food distribution centers, schools, to provide care for family members, and other similar destinations. By reducing unnecessary travel, transit becomes safer for those who depend on it, especially essential healthcare workers, and for those who operate it. We encourage all employers to consider telework options where possible. Please visit the [Maryland Transit Administration](#) for specifics on essential travel and updated route and scheduling information.

Frequent Questions

04 - Office of Legal Counsel Interpretive Guidance - COVID 19-04

- Describes businesses that may remain open. Defines the Construction industry as essential (section 2b ii, iv, and vi)

<https://governor.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/OLC-Interpretive-Guidance-COVID19-04.pdf>

08 - Office of Legal Counsel Interpretive Guidance - COVID 19-08

- Permits restaurants to remain open for take out and curbside pickup

<https://governor.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/OLC-Interpretive-Guidance-COVID19-08.pdf>

All Documents

<https://governor.maryland.gov/covid-19-pandemic-orders-and-guidance/>