

## Additional Guidance on Essential/Non-Essential Businesses

As of March 23, Governor Hogan has ordered the closure of all nonessential businesses. **The governor has stated in his order which businesses he deems to be nonessential. In general, businesses that are not identified explicitly in the governor's order may remain open.** The governor's order can be found [here](#).

If you are uncertain about the status of a specific business, please consult the [latest interpretive guidance from the Maryland Office of Legal Counsel](#) and the [U.S. Department of Homeland Security's list of essential business](#). **Please note that these lists are not exhaustive. If a business is not identified explicitly in the governor's order as subject to closure, the business may remain open even if it is not included in the above OLC or DHS lists.**

If you believe that a business is essential despite official guidance that it should close, please submit a "[Request for Essential Status](#)" with the Maryland Emergency Management Agency.

If a business is operating, it is required to follow healthy protocols such as [social distancing](#) and [effective cleaning and disinfection](#). Find more guidance from the CDC [here](#).