

Updates To New York State Essential Business Guidelines

May 26, 2020 | **CLIENT ALERTS**

On May 25, 2020, the Empire State Development updated their guidance regarding which New York State businesses are deemed essential. New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo issued Executive Order 202.6 which limited business operations in New York State to essential businesses only. Empire State Development then released guidance on Executive Order 202.6, listing which businesses in New York State are deemed to be essential.

The updated guidance modified the definition of essential businesses to include the following:

- All veterinary services;
- Campgrounds, provided they follow social distancing guidelines; and
- Houses of worship, with significant restrictions.

This update allows all veterinary services to resume, not just emergency services.

Campgrounds are now allowed to open; however, they must ensure that campers are able to maintain social distancing guidelines while at the park. This includes ensuring campers are maintaining six feet of distance from one another, are utilizing proper disinfecting protocols, and are using face coverings when in public areas, excluding those who live within the same household.

Houses of worship may also open, but in-person worship services must continue to not exceed ten persons. Remote or drive-in services may continue and may exceed the ten-person limit provided there is no in-person contact between worshippers.