

# Memo

To: Hospital Presidents, VPs of Hospital Operations, Construction Trade Partners, UPMC Construction & Real Estate Team

From: Kelly K. Noel, VP Corporate Construction & Real Estate

cc: Leslie Davis, SVP, UPMC & EVP, COO, Health Services Division

Date: March 20, 2020

Re: UPMC Construction Projects- Governor's Order

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**March 19, 2020 Governor Wolf issued a mandate directing a closure of non-life sustaining businesses. Part of that directive is below.**

Wolf Administration Orders Closure of Non-Life-Sustaining Businesses at 8 p.m. Today, March 19  
Enforcement Actions for Restaurant, Bar Dine-In Closure Began at 8 p.m., March 18  
Enforcement Actions for Non-Compliance will Begin at 12:01 a.m. Saturday, March 21

Governor Tom Wolf today ordered all non-life-sustaining businesses in Pennsylvania to close their physical locations as of 8 p.m. today, March 19, to slow the spread of COVID-19. Enforcement actions against businesses that do not close physical locations will begin at 12:01 a.m. Saturday, March 21.

Gov. Wolf's order is [here](#).  
A video statement from Gov. Wolf is [here](#).  
Sec. of Health's order is [here](#).  
A list of life-sustaining businesses is [here](#).

In extenuating circumstances, special exemptions will be granted to businesses that are supplying or servicing health care providers.

**Several of our partners questions if healthcare construction projects could proceed under that directive or not. Friday, March 20, 2020 at approximately 5pm the Governor issued a clarification to that message (full message is below). Based on the updated guidance health care construction can proceed. Please work with your local construction project manager to determine if your project is approved by UPMC to proceed.**

Source: <https://www.scribd.com/document/452553026/UPDATED-Industry-Operation-Guidance-March-20-2020>

		Support Activities for Mining	Yes		
Construction	Construction of Buildings	Residential Building Construction	No	Except emergency repairs permitted	
		Nonresidential Building Construction	No	Except emergency repairs and construction of health care facilities permitted	
	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	Utility Subsystem Construction	No	Except emergency repairs permitted	
		Land Subdivision	No		
		Highway, Street, and Bridge Construction	No	Except emergency repairs permitted	
		Other Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	No	Except emergency repairs permitted	
	Specialty Trade Contractors	Foundation, Structure, and Building Exterior Contractors		No	Except emergency repairs permitted
		Building Equipment Contractors		No	Except emergency repairs permitted
		Building Finishing Contractors		No	Except emergency repairs permitted
		Other Specialty Trade Contractors		No	Except emergency repairs permitted

Date: March 20, 2020 at 5:15:13

Gov. Wolf, Secretary Levine Provide Updated Guidance, Stress Need for Compliance as Cases Rise  
March 20, 2020

PRESS RELEASE<<https://www.governor.pa.gov/topic/press-release/>>, PUBLIC HEALTH<<https://www.governor.pa.gov/topic/public-health/>>

Updated Business Guidance<<https://www.scribd.com/document/452553026/UPDATED-Industry-Operation-Guidance-March-20-2020>>

Business Waiver Application Form<<https://expressforms.pa.gov/apps/pa/DCED/Waiver-process-keeping-physical-locations-open>>

FAQ on Business Guidance<<https://www.scribd.com/document/452553495/Life-Sustaining-Business-FAQs>>

Governor Tom Wolf and Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine provided an update today on their orders to close all non-life-sustaining businesses in Pennsylvania at 8 p.m. yesterday, March 19, as the state seeks relief to save lives, stop the spread of COVID-19 and help workers and businesses through this challenging and quickly changing situation.

“Yesterday, I made the difficult decision to order the closure of the physical locations of businesses that are not critical to sustaining life in a pandemic, and to practice social distancing for all others,” said Governor Wolf. “We’re in an unprecedented crisis and we need to use every tool at our disposal. The difficult decisions we make now will make it possible for our health care workers to manage this crisis as we see the full brutality of the virus in the coming weeks.”

The orders to close the physical locations of all non-life-sustaining business took effect at 8 p.m. last night, March 19. Enforcement actions against businesses that do not close physical locations will begin at 12:01 a.m. Saturday, March 21. Businesses are encouraged to use virtual or telework operations if they can do so.

A list of both life-sustaining and non-life-sustaining businesses is here<<https://www.scribd.com/document/452553026/UPDATED-Industry-Operation-Guidance-March-20-2020>>. Business guidance has been updated after conversations with businesses, stakeholders, and individuals—in consultation with the Department of Health—and has been aligned with the

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency advisory released yesterday<<https://www.cisa.gov/identifying-critical-infrastructure-during-covid-19>>.

This is an evolving situation and decisions will continue to be made and revisited as needed. If a business listed for closure believes it could help mitigate this crisis by providing a life sustaining service, it can

seek an exemption. Businesses can get a waiver application through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) website<<https://expressforms.pa.gov/apps/pa/DCED/Waiver-process-keeping-physical-locations-open>>. or may contact the Department of Community and Economic Development at [ra-dcedcs@pa.gov](mailto:ra-dcedcs@pa.gov)<<mailto:ra-dcedcs@pa.gov>> or by calling 1-877-PA-HEALTH and selecting option 1.

“I was a business owner for much of my adult life and I understand your concerns,” said Gov. Wolf. “These are uncharted waters and we’re going to do everything we can to help the people and businesses of Pennsylvania.”

DCED offers working capital loans that could be of assistance to businesses impacted by COVID-19. Resources and information will be posted to <http://dced.pa.gov/resources> as they become available.

Governor Wolf announced<<https://www.governor.pa.gov/newsroom/gov-wolf-economic-injury-disaster-loans-available-to-small-businesses-and-non-profits-facing-losses-related-to-covid-19/>> yesterday the availability of low-interest loans for small businesses and eligible non-profits in all 67 counties in Pennsylvania through the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

The spread of COVID-19 is increasing at an exponential pace, especially in urban areas and southeast Pennsylvania. New cases are beginning to appear in other counties, which suggests community spread. The Department of Health reported earlier today there were 83 new cases of COVID-19, bringing the statewide total to 268 Pennsylvanians who have tested positive in 26 counties.

“While we continue to be concerned about the spread of this virus to seniors, a preliminary analysis from the CDC this week shows that 20 percent of all hospitalized patients in the U.S. are between 20 and 44 years old,” said Dr. Rachel Levine. “We are seriously concerned that individuals in their 20 to 44 age range are not heeding the message to stay home and are creating an unnecessary risk to themselves and others.”

The Department of Health is working with health systems and hospitals to determine their current abilities to handle a surge of people needing hospitalization and the commonwealth is looking for all options to add capacity for the health care system to care for a surge of Pennsylvanians needing care. “There is one way to make sure people don’t need to be hospitalized and we don’t strain our health care system: Stay calm. Stay home. Stay safe,” said Dr. Levine.

**Thank you for your support and cooperation. Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.**

**Kelly K. Noel**

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