

NYS Essential Business Updates

1. On April 26, 2020, Governor Cuomo announced a phased approach to reopen industries and businesses in New York in phases based upon a data-driven, regional analysis. On May 4, 2020, the Governor provided that the regional analysis would consider several public health factors, including new COVID-19 infections, as well as health care system, diagnostic testing, and contact tracing capacity. On May 11, 2020, Governor Cuomo announced that the first phase of reopening would begin on May 15, 2020 in several regions of New York, based upon available regional metrics and indicators. This essential business guidance shall remain in effect for the regions and industries that are not yet within the reopening phases. **Revisions to the essential business guidance are as follows:**
 - a. Under #1, Healthcare, acupuncture, prescribed by a medical professional, has been added
 - b. Under #4, Retail, in regions that are not within the first phase of the state's regional re-opening plan, delivery for orders placed remotely via phone or online at non-essential retail establishments; provided, however, that only one employee is physically present at the business location to fulfill orders has been added
 - c. Under #5, Services, auto maintenance has been added along with auto repair; pet grooming to maintain the animal's health has been added; gardening and horticulture has been added
 - d. Under #11, services to maintain the health, safety, and sanitation, specialized maintenance, including but not limited to heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) and pool maintenance has been added; cleaning and sanitation services has been added; occupational safety and health professionals has been added; commercial moving services has been added
 - e. Under #13, Recreation, the following has been added: " Outdoor, low-risk recreational activities are permitted so long as social distancing and cleaning/disinfecting measures are in place:
tennis; non-motorized boat use and rentals, such as row boats, kayaks, canoes; and golf and driving ranges, except miniature (mini) golf, with food and retail services subject to the restrictions that are currently in effect within the region
Drive-in movie theaters so long as social distancing and cleaning/disinfecting measures are in place
2. Per the Governor's briefing today, horse tracks and Watkins Glen International auto are able to open without fans on June 1.
3. A new tool is now available to help companies determine whether or not a business is eligible to reopen, and the public health and safety standards with which a business must comply. This tool uses information about the company County and NAICS code.
To access the portal, please visit: <https://www.businessexpress.ny.gov/app/nyforward>