



OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

**INTERPRETIVE GUIDANCE**

**Number:** COVID19-05  
**Date:** March 23, 2020  
**Re:** Order of the Governor of the State of Maryland, Number 20-03-23-01, dated March 23, 2020, Amending and Restating the Order of March 19, 2020, Prohibiting Large Gatherings and Events and Closing Senior Centers, and Additionally Closing All Non-Essential Businesses and Other Establishments

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At this time, the Office of Legal Counsel recommends that the Administration interpret the above-referenced Order as follows:

1. **Additional Businesses, Organizations, and Facilities That May Remain Open.** In addition to the businesses, organizations, and facilities that were identified in Interpretive Guidance COVID19-04, the following is a non-exhaustive list of additional businesses, organizations, and facilities that are included in the federal critical infrastructure sectors. The Order does not require these businesses, organizations, and facilities to close.
  - a. Businesses and institutions involved in the research and development, manufacture, distribution, warehousing, and supplying of (i) pharmaceuticals; (ii) biotechnology therapies; and (iii) medical devices, diagnostics, equipment, and services.
  - b. Auto and truck dealerships.
  - c. Bicycle shops.
  - d. Private security firms.
  - e. Day cares (subject to any other Orders, directives, or guidelines that have been, or may be issued by the State Superintendent of Schools).
  - f. Companies providing moving and storage of household items.
  - g. Printers and sign shops.
  - h. Companies and organizations providing support for persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities.
  - i. Engineering, surveying, architectural, and interior design firms.
  - j. Title companies.
  - k. Motorcycle parts stores and repair shops.
  - l. Companies that provide portable tents, portable flooring, portable lighting, portable toilets, portable handwashing stations, portable HVAC and other related equipment.
  - m. Companies that rent tools and/or equipment.
2. **Higher Education Institutions.** The Order does not require colleges and universities that provide on-campus housing to displace students remaining in dormitories who have no other reasonably accessible place of residence, e.g., international students who are unable to return home due to travel restrictions, or students who are otherwise homeless.
3. **Retail Establishments.** Retail establishments that remain open are strongly encouraged to modify their operations to conduct as much business as possible remotely, and to limit in-store interactions where practicable (e.g., by making products available for delivery or curbside pick-up to limit in-store browsing).

*This Interpretive Guidance maybe revised or rescinded at any time. Citizens are urged to consult with their own legal counsel for advice about the application of the Order and this Interpretive Guidance to their particular facts and circumstances.*