

WHAT ARE ESSENTIAL SERVICES?

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signed Florida's stay-at-home order (Executive Order 20-91) on April 1, 2020. It requires all Florida residents to stay at home unless they are performing "essential services" or "essential activities." So, what are "essential services" and "essential activities" in Florida?

JOBS CONSIDERED ESSENTIAL

Critical Infrastructure Jobs

Repair and maintenance workers

Staffing operation centers, call centers and construction related to critical infrastructure

Support of crucial supply chains (delivery drivers, truckers, warehouse workers)

WHICH INDUSTRIES ARE CONSIDERED CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE?



Healthcare



Food and Agriculture
(Grocery Stores, Distributors, Farms)



Information Technology (IT)



Energy



Transportation and Logistics



Law Enforcement



Water and Wastewater



Defense



Public Works



Telecommunications

Florida businesses and organizations that take orders over the phone/internet or provide delivery, carryout or curbside services are also allowed to stay open under Executive Order 20-91.

ACTIVITIES CONSIDERED ESSENTIAL

Attending religious services in houses of worship (churches, synagogues)

Outdoor recreational activities that can be done with social distancing (walking, biking, swimming, etc.)

Walking/taking care of pets

Going to the grocery store to buy supplies

Assisting family or friends in need



While spiritual health is important during the coronavirus pandemic, health experts and government officials are encouraging worshippers to use online resources (watching live streams of Mass, for example) instead of congregating in houses of worship.



Most pastors are adhering to social distancing guidelines and taking their services online in the interests of their parishioners' health and well-being. However, religious services are essentially the only congregational activity that is exempt under Executive Order 20-91.

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