

RECENT COUNTY AND CITY GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

ESSENTIAL VS NONESSENTIAL BUSINESSES

Closing “nonessential businesses” is a common measure Local Governments are taking to prevent and slow the spread of COVID-19. The various Orders closing nonessential businesses typically do not define “nonessential” businesses/establishments but instead define what is “essential.” Interestingly, as the community realizes the impacts of certain business closures, local governments, such as [Miami-Dade County](#), are [amending](#) their Orders to clarify or add businesses to the “essential” list.

The following businesses and establishments are typically considered “essential” in the various Local Government Orders:

- Healthcare providers and public health operations.
- Stores that sell groceries or non-grocery products, and products necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operations of residences.
- Hardware, gardening, and building material stores.
- Contractors, tradesmen, and repair personnel necessary to maintain the essential operation of a residence and other structures.
- Restaurants and other facilities that prepare and serve food, but subject to the limitations and requirements of the Governor’s Executive Orders 20-68, 20-70, and 20-71.
- Businesses that primarily supply office products needed for people to work from home.
- Businesses that primarily ship or deliver groceries, food, goods, or services directly to residents.
- Financial institutions.
- Childcare facilities to enable employees to work in essential businesses, provided groups of children and caretakers are 10 or less and do not mix.

The following Local Governments have ordered all nonessential businesses to close:

- [Boca Raton](#)
- [Broward County](#)
- [Miami](#)
- [Miami-Dade County](#)
- And more...

As we assess more Local Governments and as new Orders impacting businesses are issued, we will update our [comprehensive listing](#) of Local Government Actions.

If you have questions about whether your business qualifies as essential or how these Orders affect you as an employer, [email](#) us!

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The information contained herein is for reference purposes only and should not be relied upon as a substitute for contacting local governments to determine applicable restrictions, emergency procedures/protocols, public hearing dates, etc.