

What are considered “essential services” in Oklahoma during COVID-19?

Due to the horrible effects of the COVID-19 global pandemic, Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt has ordered that all businesses not identified as being within a critical infrastructure sector to close. Understandably, the order has a lot of Oklahomans wondering who and what falls into the category of being considered as a part of the critical infrastructure sector.

On Mar 25, Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt offered clarity on the form of the [Executive Department Amended Executive Memorandum 2020-01](#) in which he outlined “critical infrastructure sectors,” as copied from The Order, below:

Kevin Stitt
Office of the Governor
State of Oklahoma

FILED MAR 25 2020
OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF STATE
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT AMENDED EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM 2020-01



Click to view primary document.

On March 25, 2020, the 164th case of a novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”), was confirmed in the State of Oklahoma. As noted in a previous Executive Order, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has identified the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 as “high” both globally and in the United States. In addition, on March 14, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national health emergency in the United States as a result of the national spread of COVID-19.

On March 15, 2020, I issued Executive Order 2020-07 declaring an emergency caused by the impending threat of COVID-19 to the people of this State and the public’s peace, health, and safety. And, on March 24, 2020, I issued the Fourth Amended Executive Order 2020-07. Paragraph 20 of the Fourth Amended Executive Order 2020-07 ordered all businesses not identified as being within a critical infrastructure sector as defined by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (USDHS) and located in a county experiencing community spread of COVID-19, as identified by OSDH on its website, to close.

In addition to those critical infrastructure sectors

identified by USDHS, I hereby add the following:

HEALTHCARE/ PUBLIC HEALTH

- Health care providers (e.g. physicians, dentists, psychologists, mid-level practitioners, nurses and assistants, infection control and quality assurance personnel, pharmacists, physical and occupational therapists and assistants, social workers, speech pathologists and diagnostic and therapeutic technicians and technologists).
- Manufacturers, technicians, logistics and warehouse operators, and distributors of personal care/hygiene products.
- Behavioral health workers (including mental and substance use disorder) responsible for coordination, outreach, engagement, and treatment to individuals in need of mental health and/or substance use disorder services.
- Workers who provide support to vulnerable populations to ensure their health and well-being including family care providers.
- Medicinal marijuana dispensaries and all licensed medicinal marijuana companies that are in the supply chain for any medicinal marijuana dispensary
- Workers supporting veterinary hospitals and clinics.

LAW ENFORCEMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY, FIRST RESPONDERS

- Including front line and management, personnel include emergency management, law enforcement, Emergency Management Systems, fire, and corrections, search and rescue, tactical teams

- including maritime, aviation, and canine units.
- Workers at Public Safety Answering Points.
- Fire mitigation activities.
- Private security, private fire departments, and private emergency medical services personnel.
- State and County workers responding to abuse and neglect of children, elders and dependent adults.
- Animal control officers.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

- Farm supply and hardware stores
- Groves, greenhouses, nurseries, and vineyards
- Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting
- Food manufacturing
- Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing
- Manufacturing of fiber and forestry products
- Veterinary services
- Certified farmers' markets, farm and produce stands
- Food cultivation, including farming, livestock and fishing
- Support of agricultural production including manufacturers, processors, sellers, transporters, and suppliers of livestock, poultry, feed, seed, water, fertilizer, herbicides, or insecticide and those that care for animals, crops, groves, greenhouses, nurseries, vineyards, forests, farms, and ranches
- Hardware stores, farm stores, and garden centers

ENERGY

Electricity Industry:

- Acquisition (SCADA) systems, and utility data centers; Cybersecurity engineers, cybersecurity

risk management.

- Power Generation, Transmission
- Safety and environmental personnel, and those who support and ensure the supply chain and supply chain management
- These categories of workers applies to all wind, solar, gas, hydroelectric and coal facilities.

Petroleum Workers:

- Midstream Companies
- Liquids or produced water/waste storage facilities
- Petroleum refinery fractionators, blenders
- Produced water waste facilities, including UIC wells and transportation
- Brine separation and processing facilities
- Transportation maintenance and inspection workers
- Pipeline maintenance and construction workers who may be required to traverse state lines to maintain facilities that cross state lines
- Workers who maintain supply chain for these facilities
- Petroleum security operations employees and workers who support emergency response services

Natural and Propane Gas Workers:

- Other compression facilities
- Processing, refining, and transporting natural gas liquids, including propane gas, for use as end-use fuels or feedstocks for chemical manufacturing
- Propane gas storage, transmission, and distribution centers
- Compressed natural gas, liquefied natural gas, and propane gas retail and non-retail fuel stations, depots, and truck stops, that serve the public as well as private stations that support local and regional transportation companies such as transit

authorities, refuse fleets, and freight haulers

WATER AND WASTEWATER

- Drinking water and wastewater
- Drinking water plant superintendents, managers, operators and maintenance technicians
- Drinking water distribution system operators and maintenance technicians
- Wastewater plant superintendents, managers, operators and maintenance technicians
- Wastewater collection system operators and maintenance technicians
- Laboratory certified operators and employees of a government or privately owned laboratory that are accredited to analyze routine compliance drinking water or municipal wastewater samples
- Rural water association staff and technical support staff
- Rural water districts, including all facilities

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

- Taxis, transportation services including Transportation Network Companies, taxis, transportation services including Transportation Network Companies, and delivery services, including Delivery Network Companies.
- Wholesale trade
- Transportation and warehousing
- Postal services and distribution centers

PUBLIC WORKS

- Solid waste & hazardous waste
- Utilities

- Underground damage prevention services
- Operational staff for solid waste pick-up
- Operational staff at solid waste transfer and disposal facilities
- Operational staff at hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities, including underground injection control sites

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Broadcasting
- Publishing industries
- Telecommunications
- Data processing, hosting, and related services
- Software publishers
- All other miscellaneous schools and instruction
- Computer systems design and related services

OTHER COMMUNITY-BASED GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- Faith-based services that are provided through streaming or other technology.
- Critical government workers, as defined by the employer and consistent with Continuity of Operations Plans and Continuity of Government plans.
- Workers supporting public and private childcare establishments, pre-K establishments, K-12 schools, career and technology centers, colleges, and universities for purposes of distance learning, provision of school meals, or care and supervision of minors to support essential

workforce across all sectors.

- County workers responsible for determining eligibility and safety net benefits.
- The Courts, consistent with guidance released from the Oklahoma Supreme Court and Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals.
- Tag agencies
- Workers and instructors supporting academies and training facilities and courses for the purpose of graduating students and cadets that comprise the essential workforce for all identified critical sectors.
- Hotel Workers where hotels are used for COVID-19 mitigation and containment measures, including measures to protect homeless populations.
- Hotels
- Construction Workers, including residential and commercial, and workers who support the construction, operation, inspection, and maintenance of construction sites and construction projects (including housing construction and heavy and civil engineering construction)
- Businesses and workers that support the supply chain for commercial and/or residential construction and development
- Workers such as plumbers, electricians, exterminators, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, construction material sources, and essential operation of construction sites and construction projects (including those that support such projects to ensure the availability of needed facilities, transportation, energy and communications; and support to ensure the effective removal, storage, and disposal of solid waste and hazardous waste).

- Oklahoma One-Call or OKIE 811
- Commercial Retail Stores, that supply essential sectors, including convenience stores, general merchandise stores, liquor, pet supply stores, auto supplies and repair, hardware and home improvement, and home appliance retailers.
- Motor vehicle and parts dealers
- Workers supporting the entertainment industries, studios, and other related establishments, provided they follow covid-19 public health guidance around social distancing.
- Workers critical to operating Rental Car companies that facilitate continuity of operations for essential workforces, and other essential travel.
- Workers that provide or determine eligibility for food, shelter, in-home supportive services, child welfare, adult protective services and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals (including family members).
- Workers at animal care facilities that provide food, shelter, veterinary and/or routine care and other necessities of life for animals.
- Public and private golf courses, public parks, and workers needed to maintain normal operations.
- Workers involved with home repair and maintenance including roofing, lawn care, foundation repair, and similar businesses whose work is primarily performed out of doors.
- Executive, legislative, and other general government support
- Administration of human resources programs
- Administration of environmental quality programs
- Administration of housing programs, urban planning, and community development
- Administration of economic programs

CRITICAL MANUFACTURING

- Paper manufacturing
- Printing and related support activities
- Plastics and rubber products manufacturing
- Mineral product manufacturing
- Primary metal manufacturing including equipment

FINANCIAL SERVICES

- Finance and Insurance
- Real estate and Leasing services
- Management of companies
- Business associations
- Financial advisory

CHEMICAL

- Petroleum and coal products manufacturing
- Chemical manufacturing

COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- Professional (such as legal and accounting), scientific, and technical services
- Administrative and support services
- Waste management and remediation services
- Death care services
- Dry cleaning and laundry services
- Repair and maintenance

DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASE

- Explosives manufacturing
- National security and international affairs