



NEWS From Assemblyman 1st Assembly District **FRED W. THIELE, JR.**

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ASSEMBLYMAN THIELE: UPDATED ESD GUIDANCE ON ESSENTIAL CONSTRUCTION WORK

Assemblyman Fred W. Thiele, Jr. (I, D, WF - Sag Harbor) today announced that the New York State Empire Development Corporation (ESD) has issued updated guidance for determining whether a business enterprise is considered “essential,” or subject to a workforce reduction under recent executive orders, particularly as it relates to construction. The updated guidance relating to construction work is as follows, and can also be found at [this link](#):

- All non-essential construction must shut down except emergency construction, (e.g. a project necessary to protect health and safety of the occupants, or to continue a project if it would be unsafe to allow to remain undone until it is safe to shut the site).
- Essential construction may continue and includes roads, bridges, transit facilities, utilities, hospitals or health care facilities, affordable housing, and homeless shelters. At every site, if essential or emergency non-essential construction, this includes maintaining social distance, including for purposes of elevators/meals/entry and exit. Sites that cannot maintain distance and safety best practices must close and enforcement will be provided by the state in coordination with the city/local governments. This will include fines of up to \$10,000 per violation.
- For purposes of this section construction work does not include a single worker, who is the sole employee/worker on a job site.

Additionally, businesses can visit the [New York State Empire State Development \(ESD\) website \(here\)](#), which includes a [FAQ page](#) to offer information to regarding State regulations and general guidance related to COVID-19. Where there is a question as to what constitutes an essential business, ESD makes the determination. Businesses that have questions that are not answered by the FAQs can e-mail ESD directly by filling out [this form](#). Requests by businesses to be designated an essential function can be made if they are NOT covered by the ESD guidance listed at the above link. To request designation as an essential business, businesses may complete [this form](#) or send the completed form to: covid19designations@esd.ny.gov .

For questions on the coronavirus, please call the New York State Department of Health Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Hotline at 1-888-364-3065. You can also visit their website for prevention tips and up-to-date information at:

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>

Individuals interested in receiving e-mail updates on COVID-19 can sign up here: <https://now.ny.gov/page/s/coronavirus-updates>