

# VORYS

## HARRIS COUNTY ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES REFERENCE SHEET

Category	Essential Businesses
<p><b>Essential Government Functions; City of Houston Functions</b></p>	<p>All services provided by local governments and municipalities located in Harris County needed to ensure their continuing operation to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the public, including law enforcement, jail operations and other services. Further, nothing in this Order shall prohibit any individual from performing "Essential Government Functions". All Essential Government Functions shall be performed in compliance with social distancing requirements of six feet to the extent possible. All services provided by the City of Houston that the Mayor of the City of Houston determines to be essential Government Functions. Further, nothing in this Order shall prohibit any individual from performing "Essential Government Functions". All Essential Government Functions shall be performed in compliance with social distancing requirements of six feet to the extent possible.</p>
<p><b>Essential Healthcare Operations; Animal Healthcare and Welfare</b></p>	<p>Healthcare operations, including hospitals, clinics, dentists, pharmacies, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, other healthcare facilities, healthcare suppliers, mental health providers, substance abuse service providers, blood banks, medical research, laboratory services, or any related and/or ancillary healthcare services. Home-based and residential-based care for seniors, adults, or children are also considered healthcare operations.</p> <p>Healthcare operations also include veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals. This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare.</p>
<p><b>Food, Agriculture, and Essential Retail (e.g. laundry, auto repair, etc.)</b></p>	<p>Food producers and service providers, including grocery stores, warehouse stores, furniture suppliers, big box stores, businesses that supply products needed for people to work from home (e.g. office supplies, etc.), bodegas, liquor stores, gas stations and convenience stores, farmers' markets that sell food products and household staples. Food cultivation, including farming, ranching, fishing, and livestock. Food production, including the production of canned goods, bottled beverages and other grocery items.</p> <p>Businesses that ship or deliver groceries, food, goods or services directly to residences. Restaurants and other facilities that prepare and serve food, but only for delivery, drive-thru or carry-out. Schools and other entities that typically provide free services to students or members of the public on a pick-up and take-away basis only. The restriction of delivery or carry-out does not apply to cafes and restaurants located within hospital and medical facilities.</p> <p>Laundromats, dry cleaners, and laundry service providers. Gas stations, auto supply, auto and bicycle repair, hardware stores, and related facilities.</p>

<b>Providers of Basic Necessities to Economically Disadvantaged Populations</b>	Businesses that provide food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals.
<b>Essential Services Necessary to Maintain Essential Operations of Residences or Other Essential Businesses</b>	Trash and recycling collection, processing and disposal, mail and shipping services, building cleaning, maintenance and security, warehouse/distribution and fulfillment, storage for essential businesses, funeral homes, crematoriums and cemeteries. Plumbers, electricians, exterminators, yard and maintenance crews, housekeepers, janitorial staff, pool cleaners and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operations of residences and Essential Businesses. Businesses that supply other Essential Businesses with support or utilities needed to operate.
<b>News Media</b>	Newspapers, television, radio, and other media services
<b>Childcare and Adult Care Services</b>	Childcare and adult care facilities providing services that enable employees exempted in this Order to work as permitted. Caregivers and helpers who provide services to seniors and disabled individuals.
<b>Infrastructure, Development, Operation and Construction</b>	For example, public works construction, construction of housing or other types of construction including commercial, manufacturing, airport operations and aircraft manufacturing, maintenance or repair, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil refining, roads and highways, public transportation, solid waste collection and removal, internet, and telecommunications systems (including the provision of essential global, national, and local infrastructure for computing services, business infrastructure, communications, and web-based services)
<b>Individual Transportation, Public Transportation, Street and Highway Maintenance</b>	Businesses related to the operation, maintenance, construction, and manufacture of transportation services. For example, (a) vehicle manufacturers, automotive suppliers and parts departments, car dealerships, parts distributors, maintenance and repair facilities; (b) public transportation; (c) businesses supporting airport operations; (d) street and highway maintenance and construction; (e) gas stations and other fuel distribution businesses; (l) vehicles for hire, including public transportation services, Uber, Lyft, and taxicabs, that enable persons to travel to or from employers, service providers, or businesses exempted in this Order. People riding on public transit must comply with the six-foot social distancing requirements to the greatest extent feasible
<b>Labor union functions</b>	Critical labor union functions, including the maintenance of health and welfare funds and checking on the well-being and safety of members
<b>NASA and Port of Houston</b>	Activities of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Port of Houston
<b>Airports and related operations</b>	Airport and airline activities, operations, maintenance and repairs, and the hotels that serve these Essential Businesses
<b>Professional services</b>	Professional services, such as legal or accounting services, insurances services, and "real estate services" when necessary to assist in compliance with legally mandated activities or to further Essential Businesses, Essential Government functions, or Critical Infrastructure

This is for general information purposes and should not be regarded as legal advice. As always, please let us know if you want more information or have questions about how these developments apply to your situation.