



## COVID-19 UPDATES – April 24, 2020

**Your immediate action may be required to continue working:**

**DOB Service Notice April 23, 2020.** To read the complete notice [click here](#).

### **Message from the DOB Committee:**

The DOB has been busy issuing new regulations. Unfortunately, most of them are put out after business hours and we have to wait until the next day to get them out to members after we review them. We are going to request that these changes be applied at the earliest on the next business day. The DOB has been quite responsive to the needs of the plumbing industry. These changes are a direct result of the work of the MPC office and Committee Members along with our Lobbyist, Arthur Goldstein. They have been busy addressing all member questions and issues and contacting the DOB on a daily basis.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us at [dob@nycmpc.org](mailto:dob@nycmpc.org). We here to help you.

When we will go back to work? As far as the NYS Government goes, May 15, 2020 is the present date of expiration for the Pause Act. The DOB is working off a date of May 09, 2020 for some of their pandemic response changes.

Please see the following changes in effect as of **April 23, 2020**.

- 1- Updated Essential Construction Questionnaire for LAA permits
- 2- Submission deadline for mailed in or dropped off submissions Certificate of Corrections.

### **Updated Essential Construction Questionnaire for Electrical and Limited Alteration Applications (LAA)**

The Essential Construction Questionnaire that is included in the application for electrical and LAA permits in DOB NOW: *Build* has been updated to include the revised guidelines in the [DOB Guidance Document](#) that was issued on April 15, 2020. The questionnaire has to be completed in order for the application to be submitted. Once the permit is issued, a Certificate of Authorization must be printed and posted at the work site. To print the Certificate of Authorization, go to [www.nyc.gov/dobnow](http://www.nyc.gov/dobnow) and from the Essential Construction tab (without logging in), enter the job number and select Print Certificate.

### **Certificate of Correction Requests**

The deadline to mail in paper Certificate of Correction affidavit and statement forms (AEU2, AEU3321 and AEU20) is May 1, 2020. Requests received by mail after May 1, 2020 will be returned to the sender with instructions to submit the request online. To submit a Certificate of Correction request, use an eFiling account to log into DOB NOW at [www.nyc.gov/dobnow](http://www.nyc.gov/dobnow) and select the BIS Options portal and **+Certificate of Correction Review Request**. See the [Certificates of Correction Service Notice](#) for more information.

For additional service updates see the [DOB COVID-19 Response](#) page.



## **In effect as of APRIL 22, 2020:**

The DOB has made further updates to the LAA process. If you are or intend to work on a LAA permit approved **PRIOR to APRIL 03, 2020** you **must** enter an Essential Construction request (portal at [www.nyc.gov/dobnow](http://www.nyc.gov/dobnow)) and receive an approval.

Once you receive approval, print the Certificate of Authorization, and post it at the site. Once the request is approved the job will be listed on [Essential Active Construction Sites Map](#).

**Note:** Some certificates cannot be printed at this time. The DOB is working on correcting this. Keep trying and print the Authorization as soon as it is viewable.

### **Update:** Certificate of Authorization and Essential Active Construction Sites Map

In accordance with the NYS Executive Order, the map has been updated with an expiration date of May 15, 2020. All certificates issued with a prior date **MUST** be reprinted and posted at the work site. If the state of emergency is extended, the certificate date will be automatically updated, and a new certificate will need to be printed and posted at the site.

To view the April 21, 2020 Service Notice, [click here](#)

Is the work essential? [Essential vs Non-Essential Construction Guidance Service Notice](#)

For additional service updates see the [DOB COVID-19 Response](#)

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, contact us immediately at [dob@nycmpc.org](mailto:dob@nycmpc.org)

### **Notes from the DOB Committee:**

We realize that these changes are coming on a daily basis. The Committee is trying to do these updates as quickly as possible. If you are unsure about anything, please send us an email first. If you have to think about something, it could be a problem. The \$10,000.00 fines are real.



## **Other DOB Updates:**

The new LAA application process requires you to submit an essential construction request prior to permit issuance. However, the LAA permit will be issued automatically. It is very important that you only apply for work that is deemed essential. If you have any questions regarding filing a LAA or working on a site contact us immediately:  
[dob@nycmpc.org](mailto:dob@nycmpc.org)

Members have been asking questions such as “Can I do backflow installations? Can I still do jobbing? We have received some answers to our questions for the DOB. [Click Here](#). Please note that an oil to gas conversion was not considered emergency work before the pandemic and anyone attempting to file an application for one may be subject to numerous violations. If you had an oil to gas permit issued prior to April 03, 2020 and want to continue to work on the job you must follow the protocols to obtain an Essential Construction Request Authorization.

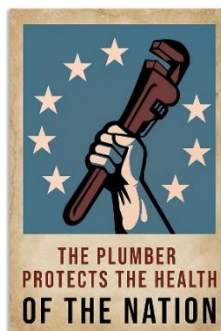
## **Issue with the Ability to Make Online Payments of Violations:**

The DOB issued a [Service Notice](#) on April 15, 2020. We were under the impression that it would apply to all violations such as work without a permit. However, that is not the case. We are going to follow-up today to ask if this can be accommodated also. Without this feature you will have to wait online at a bank to get a certified check and travel to the DOB cashier (if they are open) to make a civil penalty payment. That is a hazard that none of us need at this time. Stay tuned for an update.

## **Job Site Safety:**

For all essential businesses or entities, any employees who are present in the workplace shall be provided with and shall wear face coverings when in direct contact with customers or members of the public. Businesses must provide, at their expense, such face coverings for their employees. This provision may be enforced by local governments or local law enforcement as if it were an order pursuant to section 12 or 12-b of the Public Health Law. This requirement shall be **effective Wednesday, April 15 at 8 p.m.** Please review the DOB industry’s best practices guide ([click here](#))

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s (OSHA) respiratory protection standard requires respirators used by workers to be certified by OSHA’s research arm, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). However, that requirement has been suspended temporarily due to a shortage of NIOSH-certified N95 respirators in the United States. <https://www.osha.gov/memos/2020-04-03/enforcement-guidance-respiratory-protection-and-n95-shortage-due-coronavirus>



**STAY SAFE**