



# COVID-19 UPDATES

## NYC Buildings Service Notice COVID-19 Response – Application Processing

As part of the citywide response to the Coronavirus, Department of Buildings (DOB) customers are being encouraged to immediately limit the amount of walk-in traffic to DOB offices. Effective Wednesday, March 18, customers are strongly encouraged to make use of the following methods:

- Continue to use eFiling for Hub Development, Full, Self-Service jobs and AHV permits
- Continue to use DOB NOW: Build for all applicable work types.
- The Administrative Enforcement Unit, Licensing and Enforcement units are currently maintaining their normal functionality. Additional Service Notices will be posted this week with updates on these transactions.
- Customer Service Night is cancelled on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 and until further notice.

Transactions conducted at a DOB borough office that are not listed, will continue to take place in-person, including Records Room requests and other functions that require a service ticket.

[Click here to continue reading the service notice.](#)

### MPC COMMENTS:

The MPC will be reaching out to the DOB today to follow-up on these announcements. We want to ensure that licensed plumbers can continue to work and resolve any emergencies.

Remember that the Code provides that you can conduct any emergency work and submit a Permit application within 2 business days from commencement. You may also take advantage of the EWN process for any emergency repairs.

Please note that the requirement to submit a permit within 2 business days has not been waived. The Code requires submission of an application. In buildings where there are outstanding violations the permit may be held up in the system.

The MPC will seek a more expedited process to resolve L2 waivers and allow a permit to go through. We will update the industry as more information becomes available. We understand that the DOB may be issuing another notice later today. We will make that information available as soon as we receive it. We anticipate that service levels will extend as this crisis continues.

We realize that many of your jobs may be shut down. NYS has announced that they will be waiving the 7-day waiting period for people who are out of work due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) closures or quarantines. For more information go to:

<https://www.labor.ny.gov/unemploymentassistance.shtm>



The DOB held a meeting today with the new construction industry. As of TODAY, there are no plans to shut down construction sites. There is a possibility that this may happen, so members should plan accordingly.

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## **Here is what NYC Department of Small Business Services has offered:**

Starting later [today](#), small businesses will be able to apply online for an employee retention grant. The NYC Department of Small Business Services is also working as quickly as possible to setup the zero-interest loan program, and will be sharing more information on that in the days ahead. Eligibility criteria for both programs are included below. Click [here](#) to learn more about these programs.

### **NYC Small Business Continuity Fund**

This link will go live by the end of the week. Clients can fill out an interest form to receive a notification when the application opens. Click [here](#) to retrieve the interest form.

Businesses with fewer than 100 employees who have seen sales decreases of 25% or more will be eligible for zero interest loans of up to \$75,000 to help mitigate losses in profit.

### **Eligibility Criteria for the NYC Small Business Continuity Fund**

- Businesses must
- Be located within the five boroughs of New York City
- Demonstrate that the COVID-19 outbreak caused at least a 25% decrease in revenue
- Employ 99 employees or fewer in total across all locations
- Demonstrate ability to repay the loan
- Have no outstanding tax liens or legal judgements

Please visit [www.nyc.gov/covid19biz](http://www.nyc.gov/covid19biz) for best business practices and updates regarding financial assistance.

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## **SBA To Provide Small Businesses Impacted by Coronavirus (COVID-19) Up to \$2 Million in Disaster Assistance Loans**

SBA Administrator [Jovita Carranza](#) issued the following statement today in response to the President's address to the nation:

“The President took bold, decisive action to make our 30 million small businesses more resilient to Coronavirus-related economic disruptions. Small businesses are vital economic engines in every community and state, and they have helped make our economy the strongest in the world. Our Agency will work directly with state Governors to provide targeted, low-interest disaster recovery loans to small businesses that have been severely impacted by the situation. Additionally, the SBA continues to assist small businesses with counseling and navigating their own preparedness plans through our network of 68 District Offices and numerous Resource Partners located around the country. The SBA will continue to provide every small business with the most effective and customer-focused response possible during these times of uncertainty.”

## **Process for Accessing SBA's Coronavirus (COVID-19) Disaster Relief Lending**



- The U.S. Small Business Administration is offering designated states and territories low-interest federal disaster loans for working capital to small businesses suffering substantial economic injury as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Upon a request received from a state's or territory's Governor, SBA will issue under its own authority, as provided by the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act that was recently signed by the President, an Economic Injury Disaster Loan declaration.
- Any such Economic Injury Disaster Loan assistance declaration issued by the SBA makes loans available to small businesses and private, non-profit organizations in designated areas of a state or territory to help alleviate economic injury caused by the Coronavirus (COVID-19).
- SBA's Office of Disaster Assistance will coordinate with the state's or territory's Governor to submit the request for Economic Injury Disaster Loan assistance. Once a declaration is made for designated areas within a state, the information on the application process for Economic Injury Disaster Loan assistance will be made available to all affected communities.
- SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans offer up to \$2 million in assistance and can provide vital economic support to small businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing.
- These loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills that can't be paid because of the disaster's impact. The interest rate is 3.75% for small businesses without credit available elsewhere; businesses with credit available elsewhere are not eligible. The interest rate for non-profits is 2.75%. SBA offers loans with long-term repayments in order to keep payments affordable, up to a maximum of 30 years. Terms are determined on a case-by-case basis, based upon each borrower's ability to repay.
- SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans are just one piece of the expanded focus of the federal government's coordinated response, and the SBA is strongly committed to providing the most effective and customer-focused response possible.