

ACEC OKLAHOMA VIRUS UPDATE - March 26, 2020

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Engineering Is Critical Infrastructure Sector

Over the past few days, following Governor Stitt's "Safer at Home" order which went into effect last night, we have fielded many phone calls and emails as if engineering, architecture, surveying, and other professional services offer by member firms we exempt from the order.

Late yesterday afternoon, Governor Stitt issued an Executive Order specifically identifying businesses within the "critical infrastructure" sector.

On Page 6 of the order, "Professional (such as legal and accounting), scientific, and technical services" were identified by the Governor as essential and critical services.

With that, there is no question that member firms can stay open for business as Essential and Critical services!

Of course, we urge all firms to exercise caution and set forth policies and procedures which protect your employees and your clients.

The Governor's full Executive Order is below. Click on image to download

COVID-19 Potential Effects on Overhead Deadlines, Allowable Costs, and Steps to Take Now (Live Online Class)

In an effort to keep ACEC members updated on potential business issues which firms may face with regards the COVID-19 pandemic, ACEC will be offering another FREE webinar on **Tuesday, March 31st at 2:30pm Central Time.**

Issues to be discussed include:

- Will state DOT overhead submittal deadlines be affected by the COVID-19 crisis?
- Are costs related to the COVID-19 crisis allowable?
- What steps should you take now to support the allowability and proper allocation of your costs?

Dan Purvine, President of A/E Clarity will lead the discussion.

Join ACEC for this FREE online class to learn the answers to these questions and discuss other issues



J. Kevin Stitt
Office of the Governor
State of Oklahoma

FILED
MAR 25 2020
OKLAHOMA SECRETARY
OF STATE

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
AMENDED EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM 2020-01

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 USDH 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.

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COVID-19 Legislation & What Employers Need to Know

ACEC hosted a webinar on March 24th on COVID-19 Legislation: What Employers Need to Know. The webinar covered employer-related provisions in HR 6201 as amended on emergency leave, emergency sick leave, and the payroll tax credits for employers that are required to provide the leave.

If you missed the webinar, ACEC has provided a **FREE** recording of the session.

If you are interested in streaming the recording of yesterday's online class, click on the following link:

<https://secure.icohere.com/ACECWebinars?pnum=VIO68330> .

related to the effects of business disruption on your overhead rate.

If you can't attend the live session, the online class will be recorded, and access to the recording will be shared on the ACEC Coronavirus Resource Center .

Click here to Register:

<https://education.acec.org/diweb/catalog/item?id=5037666>

Registration & Log-On Instructions : Follow the link above to the registration page. Then, click on the "Checkout" button in the top left. This will take you to a "log-on" page. If you don't already have a personal ACEC account, click on "NEW VISITOR REGISTRATION" to create your own personal account.

DOL Publishes Guidance on Paid Sick/Expanded/Medical Leave Under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act

The U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) published guidance on Tuesday to provide information to employees and employers about how each will be able to take advantage of the protections and relief offered by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) when it takes effect on April 1, 2020.

The guidance – provided in a [Fact Sheet for Employees](#), a [Fact Sheet for Employers](#) and a [Questions and Answers](#) document – addresses critical questions, such as how an employer must count the number of their employees to determine coverage; how small businesses can obtain an exemption; how to count hours for part-time employees; and how to calculate the wages employees are entitled to under this law.

WHD provides additional information on common issues employers and employees face when responding to COVID-19, and its effects on wages and hours worked under the Fair Labor Standards Act and job-protected leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic> .

Also, the IRS released a set of [FAQs](#) related to the delay in 2019 tax payments and tax filing deadline to July 15, 2020.

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Let's Connect:

