

## COVID 19 Guidance

### School Construction

The Governor's Executive Order 202.6, dated March 18, 2020, exempted essential construction projects from the workforce in-person restrictions in the order. The New York State Department of Economic Development (d/b/a Empire State Development Corporation ("ESDC")) was mandated by the order to issue guidance on which activities would be deemed essential. ESDC clarified that public and private school construction is regarded as essential and may continue under certain parameters. See <https://esd.ny.gov/guidance-executive-order-2026>.

Charter school construction is permitted to continue if:

- Personnel working on the site maintain the appropriate social distancing in all areas including elevators/meal areas/entrances/exits; and,
- Appropriate cleaning/disinfecting protocols are followed.

Only employees supporting construction may be present at the site. Fines for non-compliance of can be up to \$10,000 per violation.

While school construction projects may continue, ESDC has stated that, to the greatest extent possible, non-essential school construction projects should be postponed. Essential school projects are those with a direct relationship to the health and safety of students or staff, or to allow the school to continue its educational program.