

Thank you for contacting the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation to seek clarification on whether your business qualifies as an Essential Business under Governor Evers' ["Safer at Home" Order](#).

Your inquiry came to us from a form on the Essential Business Declaration page on our [website](#).

Your inquiry relates to "Critical Trades." This includes cleaning and janitorial staff for commercial and governmental properties and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of Essential Activities, Essential Governmental Functions, and Essential Businesses and Operations. Section 13.n. of the Governor's Order defines these as Essential Business and Operations.

The Order does not, however, classify residential cleaning services Essential. Therefore, this service cannot be provided.

While remaining open, the essential businesses **must**:

- Avoid meeting in person whenever possible, and switch to virtual meetings, teleconference, and remote work (i.e. work from home);
- Comply with all [Department of Health Services guidelines for businesses](#); and
- Follow Social Distancing Requirements between all individuals on the premise to the maximum extent possible.

To the extent your business conducts both Essential and Nonessential Operations, only those identified as Essential may continue.

All businesses are encouraged to follow these [best practices for a COVID-19 response plan](#).

For the latest information on programs and resources available to Wisconsin businesses facing operational challenges resulting from COVID-19 pandemic, we invite you to visit our COVID-19 Business Resources [page](#).