

Executive Orders that Impact Municipal Operations

Executive Order 9R: Renews the tax deferment and low interest property tax provisions that were issued originally on April 1, 2020, under Executive Order 7S. Each municipality at the time was required to offer the tax deferment or low interest program or they could choose to offer both. These provisions will now be applied to the January 1, 2021, installments.

Please note that the same selection that was made for the July 1, 2020, payments will be applicable to the January 1, 2021, payments unless the municipality chooses to change or add one of the property tax programs from what had been adopted prior to the July 1 installments. Any changes must be adopted by the municipality before December 30, 2020.

Executive Order 9P: Increases the weekly unemployment benefit amount and qualification for lost wages assistance and it modifies the remote licensing examination for subsurface sewage disposal system cleaner and installer.

Executive Order 9Q: Provides for flexibility in hiring short-term substitute teachers by allowing the Commissioner of the Department of Education to waive or modify the current requirements and it permits the sale of alcoholic liquor at virtual events by charitable organizations.

Executive Order 9N: Increases the amount a business can be fined for violating the state's COVID-19 sector rules and capacity limits to \$10,000 per violation.

Executive Order 9M: The Department of Economic and Community Development enacted rules for all sports activities, which apply to both public and private team sports. The Executive Order also reduces the capacity of gyms or fitness centers from 50% to 25%. [Learn more about "Team Sports on Pause"](#).

Executive Order 9K: The Governor announced that Connecticut would return to phase 2 of his reopening plan, which consists of reductions in public and private gatherings, reduced capacity at indoor graduation ceremonies, rules for youth sports, mandatory closing times for certain businesses and other establishments, the extension of outdoor dining and increased flexibility for school nutrition programs

Executive Order 9H - Enacts the following provisions concerning hybrid meetings:

- **Remote participation in agency and municipal meetings:** Permits state agencies and municipal boards, commissions, councils, and local legislative bodies to conduct business using "hybrid meetings," wherein members of the public may attend in-person and others attend and participate remotely using video technology, and allows members of such bodies to attend remotely. This order adds options for conducting municipal meetings, but does not repeal any previous executive orders on municipal meetings, such as Executive Order Nos. 7B and 7I.

- **Technical revisions to extension of eviction moratorium:** Makes technical revisions to Executive Order No. 9E, Section 1, which extended the moratorium on residential evictions through January 1, 2021.

CCM, COST and the Connecticut COGs will issue a guidance document soon on Executive Order 9H, which will provide further clarification of the Governor's Order and hybrid meetings.

DPH Issues New Weekly COVID-19 Alert System with Guidance for Municipal Response - [Color-coded Map to be Updated Weekly Showing Towns and Cities with Higher Daily COVID-19 Case Rates per 100,000 Population](#).

Executive Order 9G - Provides municipalities with the authority to revert to the more restrictive pre-October 8, 2020, size and capacity limitations and rules for certain businesses and gatherings if their

Municipal Case Average is 15 or more new COVID-19 cases per day. Please refer to DPH's color coded chart and press release (see above) for more details.

[Executive Order 9E](#): Extends the eviction moratorium date to January 1, 2021. No notice to quit or service of summary process may begin prior to this date.

Governor Lamont declared a continued emergency to extend his original order and it was ratified by a special committee of the legislature, which consists of the six legislative leaders and the four leaders of the Public Health Committee. The Governor's emergency declaration extension was ratified on a 6-4 vote this past Friday morning.

The Governor's original declaration was due to expire on September 9th. The extension will continue until February 9, 2021.

[Executive Order 9](#): Allows the Commissioner of Education and the Commissioner of Early Childhood, in consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health, to issue binding guidance, rules, or orders for operation of schools or childcare settings that each deems necessary to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It also extends the prohibition on the sale of alcohol by certain permittees without the sale of food to September 26th.

[Executive Order NNN](#): Amends Executive Order 7BB, Section 2, issued on April 17, 2020, by stating that any person who declines to wear a mask or face covering because of a medical condition shall be exempt from this order and any requirement to wear masks in Sector Rules or other rules issued by the Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), but only if such person provides written documentation that the person is qualified for the exemption. Such documentation need not name or describe the condition that qualifies the person for the exemption.

The Executive Order NNN also allows the Commissioner of DECD to issue or amend Sector Rules to establish size limits for private gatherings of people who do not live in the same household, regardless of whether such gathering has been organized by a business.

[Executive Order 7JJJ](#) - Establishes a rebuttable presumption regarding workers' compensation benefits related to contraction of COVID-19 between March 10th and May 20th.

[Executive Order 7III](#) – Modifies the mandatory self-quarantine requirement for travelers from states with high COVID-19 levels.

[Executive Order 7GGG](#): Authorizes the creation of a rental housing assistance program and it authorizes the creation of a mortgage assistance program.

[Executive Order 7CCC](#) – Clarifies the extension granted to a Board of Assessment Appeals in Executive Order 7I, Section 15 so long as such Board has not yet completed its duties pursuant to Sections 12-110, 12-111 and 12-117 of the Connecticut General Statutes and filed its grand list reports pursuant to Section 12-120 of the Connecticut General Statutes with the Office of Policy and Management, which must be completed by July. The Order also extends the time for fire service personnel examinations by an additional 180 days from the original deadline.

[Executive Order 7BBB](#) – Requires the self-quarantine by travelers from states experiencing high infection rates, amends the deadline for candidates to withdraw from Presidential primary and accelerates the date to finalize order of names on Presidential preference primary ballot and it enables the

Commissioner of Early Childhood, in consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health, to modify or amend the enhanced health procedures set forth in Executive Order No. 7Q, Section 2 and Executive Order No. 7PP, Section 7 to provide safe and adequate child care that protects children, staff and their families from COVID-19 transmission while responding to the current public health data and recommendations.

[Executive Order AAA](#): Authorizes the Commissioner of Early Childhood to modify or remove the limitation on the number of children permitted in one space within a child care facility and the total number of children that a child care facility may provide care for. It waives the requirement that an organization must hold an annual agricultural fair to maintain the Agricultural Society Property Tax Exemption. EO AAA also mandates COVID-19 testing for staff of private and municipal nursing home facilities, managed residential communities, and assisted living services agencies.

[Executive Order ZZ](#): Provides details for the Phase 2 Reopening of Connecticut, which began on June 17th. All of the Phase 2 reopening activity will be subject to operating rules issued by the Department of Economic and Community Development. Please refer to [the guidance document for Executive Order ZZ](#) issued by the Governor's Office for more information.

[Executive Order 7XX](#) - Modifies safety rules for drive-in religious gatherings and it establishes safety rules for drive-in graduations.

[Executive Order 7WW](#) - Changes the petitioning process for ballot access for petitioning candidates and candidates petitioning under party designation and it changes the petitioning process for ballot access for major party candidates.

[Executive Order 7VV](#) – Amends the limitation on program sizes in child care by increasing it to 50 children without agency approval. Facilities may seek a waiver from the Office of Early Childhood to care for more than 50 children.

[Executive Order 7UU](#) – Amends the determination of suitable work for unemployment compensation claims submitted during the period covered from May 17 through July 25, to consider the degree of risk to the individual's health or, due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the health of a member of that individual's household.

[Executive Order 7TT](#) – Barbershops and hair salons are able to reopen on June 1, 2020. It also permits ten people for indoor social and recreational gatherings and it permits 25 people for outdoor social and recreational gatherings.

The outdoor gatherings of 25 people shall comply with the following:

- No contact sports or sports that include shared handling of object such as balls or frisbees are allowed.
- Attendees shall remain six feet apart, excluding immediate family members, caretakers, and household members, and, except when dining, masks shall be worn when within six feet of those not in the same household.
- If the event is an organized gathering, the organizer shall demarcate six feet of spacing in the area of the gathering to demonstrate appropriate spacing for social distancing.

[Executive Order 7PP](#) - Enacts the following provisions:

1. Reopening Phase 1: Repeals several previously enacted executive orders to allow for the safe reopening of certain sectors of the economy on May 20, including for the reopening of outdoor dining, offices, retail and malls, museums and zoos, and outdoor recreation businesses.
2. Enforcement of sector rules governing the reopening of businesses: Modifies certain statutes and regulations to permit the enforcement of sector rules as certain businesses reopen on May 20, including for local and district health directors and municipal chief executive officers.
3. Extension of prohibition on large gatherings to June 20, 2020: Extends the prohibition of large gatherings in Executive Order Nos. 7D and 7N through June 20, 2020.
4. Extension of restrictions on off-track betting, indoor fitness, and movie theaters to June 20.
5. Further clarification of limits on restaurants, bars, and private clubs – mixed drinks permitted for takeout delivery: Allows for the sale of mixed drinks for takeout and delivery by various liquor permittees under certain conditions.
6. Limitation on the operation of day camps: Prohibits day camps, which were not already operating as of May 5, 2020, from beginning operations for the season until June 22, 2020.
7. Enhanced health procedures for all day camps: Requires day camps to comply with the limitations on child group sizes and enhanced health procedure requirements placed on child care programs by Executive Order No. 7Q, and by orders of the commissioner of the Office of Early Childhood.
8. Cancellation of resident camp operations: Prohibits the operation of resident camps for the duration of the civil preparedness and public health emergency.
9. Limitation on the operation of summer and educational programs operated by local or regional boards of education: Prohibits summer school programs from beginning prior to July 6, 2020, unless earlier extended, modified, or terminated by the governor. The commissioner of the Department of Education is required to issue guidance on the limited operation of summer school programs that are permitted to engage in-person classes after that date.
10. Suspension or modification of regulatory requirements to protect public health and safety: Permits the commissioner of the Department of Education to temporarily waive, modify, or suspend any regulatory requirements as he deems necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and protect the public health.

[Executive Order 7QQ](#) – Makes modifications to permit the use of absentee ballots to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission during August 11, 2020, primary

[Executive Order 7MM](#) - Expedites the approval and permitting of outdoor dining. Some of the key provisions and guidance included in the EO are the following:

- Allows municipalities to expedite changes to their zoning rules or other ordinances to expand outdoor dining
- Creates an expedited approval process for restaurants and other establishments that serve food to get fast-tracked permission to create or expand outdoor dining areas
- Allows other businesses such as retail stores to get fast-tracked permission to sell goods on the sidewalk or in other outdoor areas, including shared spaces or spaces provided by municipalities
- Allows restaurants and other businesses who already have liquor permits to serve alcohol only with food without applying for a separate patio or extension of use permit
- Allows private clubs to sell alcohol only to their members for delivery or pickup

[Full Copy of Governor Lamont's Executive Order 7MM](#)

The Governor included the following note with the issuance of EO 7MM: A separate executive order will provide for the Phase I reopening of businesses and other activity, including those that are subject to today's order. All of the Phase I reopening activity will be subject to operating rules issued by the Department of Economic and Community Development.

[Executive Order 7OO](#) - Provides procedures for local appointments and elections requiring an in-person vote prior to June 30, 2020.

[Executive Order 7LL](#) - Makes changes to the petitioning process for ballot access for petitioning candidates and candidates petitioning under party designation.

[Executive Order 7JJ](#) - Suspends reapplication filing requirements for the Homeowners' Elderly/Disabled, Circuit Breaker Tax Relief Program and for the Homeowners' Elderly/Disabled Freeze Tax Relief Program. Land use and building permits shall not lapse or otherwise expire during the state of emergency, and the expiration date of the approval shall toll during the state of emergency. EO 7JJ also allows for the suspension of in-person voting requirements by members of the public for critical and time-sensitive municipal decisions.

[Executive Order 7II](#) - Extends school class cancellations for the remainder of the school year and it extends the start date for imposition of a late fee for obtaining dog licenses from July 1, 2020, to August 1, 2020.

Executive Order 7HH Clarification: [Please click here](#) for the Governor's clarification on Executive Order 7HH regarding the adoption of municipal budgets at town meeting or referendum.

[Executive Order 7DD](#) – Mandates that managed residential communities (assisted living facilities) and nursing homes participate in and provide daily status reports requested by the Connecticut Hospital and Long Term Care Mutual Aid Plan.

[Executive Order 7CC](#) – Clarifies applicability of Executive Order 7S, Section 7 to additional critical and time sensitive municipal fiscal actions and it clarifies time periods regarding suspension and modification of non-judicial tax sales pursuant to Executive Order No. 7S, Section 11.

[Executive Order 7BB](#) – Requires mask or cloth face-coverings in public wherever close contact is unavoidable. This takes effect on Monday, April 20 at 8:00 p.m.

[Executive Order 7Z](#) – Suspends in-person attendance requirement for assessment appeals.

[Executive Order 7Y](#) – Designates COVID-19 recovery nursing home facilities as part of nursing home surge plan.

[Executive Order 7X](#) - Protects residential renters impacted by COVID-19, continues cancelation of school classes through May 20, 2020, and extends social distancing and safety measures through May 20, 2020.

[Executive Order 7W](#) - Clarified that quasi-municipal corporations are also subject to the requirements of EO 7S and adjusted the time frame by which the tax deferment program shall be in effect to better reflect the current calculation of interest on delinquent taxes from the original March 10, 2020, to April 1, 2020.

[Executive Order 7T](#) - Prohibits non-essential lodging. Applies to hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts and short-term residential rentals. Permits lodging for essential employees and those performing essential services and it permits lodging for vulnerable populations in coordination with the state.

[Executive Order 7S](#) - Creates the “Deferment Program” and the “Low Interest Rate Program” for municipalities to consider for businesses and individuals that have been impacted economically by the COVID-19 pandemic. A municipality may enact one or both of these programs to help property tax payers. It also allows the suspension of in-person voting requirements for critical and time sensitive fiscal deadlines, suspends full inspections for October 2020 Grand List Revaluations and it suspends the reapplication filing requirement for the homeowners' Elderly/Disabled Circuit Breaker Tax Relief Program and for the Homeowners' Elderly/Disabled Freeze Tax Relief Program.

[Executive Order 7R](#) - Continues payment of ECS grants, Excess Cost grants for special education and the Choice program to municipalities. The Executive Order also continues payments to public school staff and it preserves payments to student transportation services and special education providers to reflect the actual costs incurred during the public health and civil preparedness emergencies. These payments are to be negotiated amendments to the existing provider contracts.

[Executive Order 7P](#) – Addresses the housing of first responders and health care workers as well as the movement of the homeless population.

[Executive Order 7N](#) – Further limits social gatherings to five, places further restrictions on restaurants and retail operations and it suspends school testing assessments for the 2019-2020 academic year.

[Executive Order 7L](#) – Continues the cancelation of schools until April 20, opens fishing season immediately, suspends restrictions on reemployment of municipal retirees, modifies duties of registrars of vital records and in-person purchase and access to vital records and modifies marriage license requirements.

[Executive Order 7K](#) – Suspends non-critical probate court and Workers’ Compensation Commission operations and it allows for remote notarizations.

[Executive Order 7J](#) – Clarifies non-essential business operation from EO 7H, extends time period for fire service personnel examinations by 90 days.

[Executive Order 7I](#) – Updates budget adoption deadlines highlighted in EO 7C and extends deadlines for other municipal bodies, suspends the in-person budget adoption requirements for municipalities and regional boards of education and it addresses municipal public hearing requirements, deadlines, decisions and appeals processes.