



Labor & Employment Issues Client Alert

Pitta LLP
For Clients
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COVID-19 UPDATE: FEDS RELEASE ‘OPENING UP AMERICA’ PLAN

President Donald Trump released the “Guidelines for Opening Up America Again” a series of federal recommendations to open the economy in the United States. The plan recommends that each state take a three-phased approach to reopening schools and businesses. Each phase lasts 14 days and successfully decreases social distancing restrictions.

Phase one of the guidelines recommends social distancing measures be kept in place and restricts public gatherings to no more than 10 people. The guidelines recommend that schools, non-essential businesses – including gyms, bars and restaurants remain closed and visits to senior facilities and hospitals are prohibited.

Phase two of the guidelines is only recommended if cases are trending lower and testing capabilities are widespread. The second phase proposes that schools, gyms, bars and restaurants could reopen with limited capacity, though non-essential workers are still encouraged to stay home. Elective surgeries can resume, as clinically appropriate. Visits to senior facilities and hospitals remain prohibited.

Phase three of the guidelines should only be considered where there is “no evidence” of a COVID-19 rebound. The third phase would allow most businesses to reopen, though with some limited capacity. The recommendations are available at: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/openingamerica/#criteria>.

During his public remarks today, Governor Cuomo indicated that while he was appreciative of the President’s actions, so much more is necessary.

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