

FAQ:

How will the COVID-19 emergency and temporary construction shutdown effect the expiration of my issued permits and open permit applications?

Background:

Starting March 2020, the City issued a series of emergency declarations and orders limiting business and personal conduct to address the COVID-19 Health Emergency. The Department of Licenses and Inspections recognizes that during this time, many permits or permit applications were due to expire. In response, several emergency regulations were promulgated to automatically extend the expiration of these permits. The regulations are summarized in this FAQ.

I have a construction permit that was set to expire on or after March 16, 2020. I was not able to work during the construction shutdown. When will my permit expire?

Under [regulations](#), active construction permits that had been set to expire on or after March 16, 2020 have been extended by six months.

These permits are exceptions and have not been extended:

- Make safe permits
- Operations (Fire Code) permits
- Rough-in approvals.

I have a zoning permit that was set to expire on or after March 16, 2020. I was not able to act on it during the construction shutdown. When will my permit expire?

Approved by-right: Under [regulations](#), all zoning permits, including conditional permits, that were approved by-right and set to expire on or after March 16th are extended by six months.

Approved by Variance or Special Exception: Under [regulations](#), all zoning permits that were approved by variance or special exception approval and set to expire on or after March 16th are extended by 180 days.

“Zoning permits” includes use registration permits.

I have a permit application under review. If I did not submit the requested information or pick up my permit during the shutdown, was the application abandoned (closed out)?

Under [regulations](#), applicants have been granted a 180-day extension (from original expiration date) to submit requested information or pick up permits. This is a one-time extension to respond to L&I.

L&I Permit and License Center

1401 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Municipal Services Building, Public Service Concourse
Open 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Offices close at noon on the last Wednesday of each month.

I want to file an application for administrative review. The zoning code requires that I file the application within 180 days of the ZBA's decision, but the deadline was during the shutdown, can I still file the application?

Under [regulations](#), applicants have been granted an extension of 180-days to file administrative review applications if their Variance of Special Exception was issued between September 16, 2019 and March 16, 2020.

Questions?

Call 311 or (215) 686-8686 (if outside Philadelphia) or submit a permit-related question online via <https://form.jotform.com/81494420572154>.

Disclaimer:

This interpretation, policy or code application is intended to provide guidance to staff for consistency of review and is subject to change without notice. Application of this interpretation, policy or code application to specific projects may vary. There may be other ways to comply with the Code. If so, you are not required to use this method. You may want to investigate other options, or consult with a professional identifying an equally code compliant solution.

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