



Civics is all around us. There is a lot to know about the government and how “We the People” interact with the government and each other. Let’s help each other expand our civic literacy.

During the COVID-19/Novel Coronavirus pandemic, many people have been required to support the needs of their community through their designation as **essential workers**. In their effort to support the social and economic needs of the country, they are fulfilling important civic obligations during a crisis by following those laws designating them as essential workers.

Civic obligations are things that citizens do in order to ensure that the United States is a better and safer place to live. There are many ways that individuals can fulfill civic obligations, from paying taxes and obeying the law to reporting to work as an essential worker in order to ensure that the needs of the nation are met. So what exactly is an essential worker?

Essential workers are those individuals who are necessary to ensure that goods and services such as food, healthcare, and transportation, can continue to be provided **during a time of crisis**. These workers embody the importance of fulfilling civic obligations and ensuring that we can continue to have healthy communities and civic life.



To Think and To Do: Review the ‘**Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers**’ infographic from the Department of Homeland Security. Which individuals in your community and in your life are considered “essential workers”? Describe how these individuals are fulfilling their civic obligations



Learn MORE about civic obligations, responsibilities and essential workers. Free registration may be required.

- [Citizen Obligations and Responsibilities](#), From Civics360
- [Citizenship Rights and Responsibilities](#), from US Citizenship and Immigration Services
- [Staying Safe as an Essential Worker](#), from Centers for Disease Control

