

EXCELSIOR JOBS PROGRAM - PROJECT ACTIVITY DEFINITIONS

"Agriculture" means both agricultural production (establishments performing the complete farm or ranch operation, such as farm owner-operators, tenant farm operators, and sharecroppers) and agricultural support (establishments that perform one or more activities associated with farm operations, such as soil preparation, planting, harvesting, and management, on a contract fee basis).

"Back office operations" means a business function that may include one or more of the following activities: customer service, information technology and data processing, human resources, accounting and related administrative functions.

"Distribution center" means a large-scale facility involving processing, repackaging and/or movement of finished or semi-finished goods to retail locations across a multi-state area. "Retail locations" includes delivery of goods directly to consumers.

"Entertainment Company" means a corporation, partnership, limited partnership, or other entity principally engaged in the production or post production of (I) motion pictures, which shall include feature-length films and television films, (II) instructional videos, (III) televised commercial advertisements, (IV) animated films or cartoons, (V) music videos, (VI) television programs, which shall include, but not be limited to, television series, television pilots, and single television episodes, or (VII) programs primarily intended for radio broadcast. Entertainment Company shall not include an entity (I) principally engaged in the live performance of events, including, but not limited to, theatrical productions, concerts, circuses, and sporting events, (II) principally engaged in the production of content intended primarily for industrial, corporate or institutional end-users, (III) principally engaged in the production of fundraising films or programs, or (IV) engaged in the production of content for which records are required under section 2257 of Title 18, United States Code, to be maintained with respect to any performer in such production.

"Financial services data centers or financial services customer back office operations" means operations that manage the data or accounts of existing customers or provide product or service information and support to customers of financial services companies, including banks, other lenders, securities and commodities brokers and dealers, investment banks, portfolio managers, trust offices, and insurance companies.

"Life Sciences" means agricultural biotechnology, biogenerics, bioinformatics, biomedical engineering, biopharmaceuticals, academic medical centers, biotechnology, chemical synthesis, image analysis, marine biology, medical devices, medical nanotechnology, natural product pharmaceuticals, proteomics, regenerative medicine, RNA interference, stem cell research, medical and neurological clinical trials, health robotics and veterinary science.

"Manufacturing" means the process of working raw materials into products suitable for use or which gives new shapes, new quality or new combinations to matter which has already gone through some artificial process by the use of machinery, tools, appliances, or other similar equipment. "Manufacturing" does not include an operation that involves only the assembly of components, provided, however, the assembly of motor vehicles or other high value-added products shall be considered manufacturing.

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"Music Production" means the process of creating sound recordings of at least eight minutes, recorded in professional sound studios, intended for commercial release. Music Production does not include recording of live concerts, or recordings that are primarily spoken word or wildlife or nature sounds, or produced for instructional use or advertising or promotional purposes.

"Scientific research and development" means conducting research and experimental development in the physical, engineering, and life sciences, including but not limited to agriculture, electronics, environmental, biology, botany, biotechnology, computers, chemistry, food, fisheries, forests, geology, health, mathematics, medicine, oceanography, pharmacy, physics, veterinary, and other allied subjects. For the purposes of this article, scientific research and development does not include medical or veterinary laboratory testing facilities.

"Software development" means the creation of coded computer instructions or production or post-production of video games, as defined in subdivision one-A of section six hundred eleven of the general business law, other than those embedded and used exclusively in advertising, promotional websites or microsites, and also includes new media as defined by the commissioner in regulations.

"Green project" means a project that makes products or develops technologies that are primarily aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions or supporting the use of clean energy.

A "green project" shall include, but not be limited to, the manufacture or development of products or technologies or supply chain components primarily for renewable energy systems as defined in section sixty-six-p of the public service law, vehicles that use non-hydrocarbon fuels and produce zero or near zero emissions, heat pumps, energy efficiency, clean energy storage and other products that significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions by minimizing the utilization of depletable resources or by improving industrial efficiency.

A "green project" shall not include a project primarily composed of (i) necessarily local activities such as retail, building construction, or the installation, deployment or adoption of an energy product or technology at an end user's site, or (ii) the production of products or development of technologies that would produce only marginal and incremental energy savings or environmental benefits ancillary to the core function of the product or technology.

"Regionally Significant project" means a project in certain Excelsior strategic industries that commit to creating a greater amount of net new jobs in the state and making a significant capital investment in the state.