STATEHOUSE REPORT

Published by the County Commissioners Association of Ohio

209 East State Street · Columbus OH 43215-4309 · Phone: 614-221-5627 · Fax: 614-221-6986 · www.ccao.org

September 18, 2026

State releases county SNAP administration allocations

On Tuesday, ODJFS issued a draft Fiscal Administrative Procedure Letter (FAPL) detailing the distribution of $10 million in state General Revenue Fund (GRF) for county SNAP administration. The funding was authorized this spring in House Bill 730 to help counties address anticipated reductions in federal SNAP administrative reimbursement. The federal reimbursement rate was reduced in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. The reduced rate begins on October 1, 2026.

HB 730 provided that the $10 million be distributed equally to each county, except that no county or regional system shall receive an allocation more than the amount the county and/or system is expected to lose between October 1, 2026, and June 30, 2027 (the end of this state fiscal year). ODJFS' FAPL includes a table of each county's allocation. A county either receives its total calculated loss amount or $144,174.84, whichever is less.

Of note, a county's nine-month calculated loss is based on SFY 2025 actuals. The SFY 2027 county nine-month loss will depend on agency staff RMS (Random Moment Sample) hits, so there will be variation.

The $10 million in state GRF is eligible for 25% federal reimbursement. HB 730 appropriated $2.5 million in federal funds, assuming the counties will draw down the reimbursement. If a county receiving the maximum $144,174.84 draws down the full 25% match, the county will receive a maximum total of $180,218.55 in additional funds (state GRF + federal match).

During the HB 730 legislative process, a legislative estimated allocation table was shared indicating that counties were estimated to receive up to a maximum total of $226,486 (state GRF + federal match). CCAO recently learned through conversations with ODJFS that the previously estimated distribution amounts are incorrect. As HB 730 was developed, the estimated allocations used by the legislature combined the state's contribution with the federal 25% match to fully offset SNAP losses in as many counties as funding would allow. No county would receive more than its total SNAP loss.

However, as HB 730 is being implemented, the bill language requires the state $10 million investment to fully offset as many county losses as possible. It does not account for the 25% federal match, which counties will have to claim through submitting reimbursable expenditures. Thus, the maximum amount of funding each county can receive from the total $12.5 million allocation declines from the original $226,486 to $180,218.

We encourage CCAO members to discuss the official allocation amounts shown in the ODJFS FAPL table with your JFS directors.

CCAO compiled a table showing the allocation amounts, expected maximum federal match for the allocation, and the previously reported allocation that you can find here.

Please reach out to Rachel Reedy at rreedy@ccao.org with any questions.

Comments on proposed FCC broadband preemption rules due by end of the day Monday

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is weighing rules that would preempt local authority over broadband permitting, including new shot clocks, "deemed approved" provisions, and limits on the fees counties can charge telecom providers.

Counties argue they are partners in expanding broadband access, not obstacles, and that a one-size-fits-all federal approach could actually slow progress on closing the digital divide.

NACo has filed comments opposing preemption and continues to press the FCC to preserve local review authority as the wireless and wireline rulemakings move forward, with comments on the wireline proceeding due September 21 and reply comments due November 5.

If your county is interested in submitting comments, please do so by September 21 (this Monday). NACo has additional information about the proposed rule on its website that could assist in crafting your comment.

Webinar materials on administration of SNAP, Medicaid, and other JFS programs available, final webinar to be held on September 28

The second of CCAO's three-part webinar series to dive deeper into the important human services systems that counties administer focused on the job and family services (JFS) system. County JFS agencies administer several public assistance programs including SNAP, Medicaid, TANF, and publicly funded child care. The webinar discussed the core functions of county JFS and how new federal and state legislation are impacting operations.

A recording of the webinar and a copy of the slides are available here and can be found on CCAO’s Webinars page.

The final webinar in the series will focus on child support enforcement agencies and will be held on September 28.

The goal of the webinar series is to help familiarize commissioners with the system and the challenge it faces as we head into a new gubernatorial administration and a new General Assembly.