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# CIDS

## County Information and Data Service

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209 East State Street • Columbus, Ohio 43215-4309  
Phone: 614-221-5627 • Fax: 614-221-6986 • [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org)

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY 1, 2013	9-1-1 SURVEYS DUE ( <i>SEE ARTICLE BELOW UNDER STATE ACTIVITIES</i> )
FEBRUARY 10-12, 2013	CCAO COMMISSIONERS' TRAINING SEMINAR, DEER CREEK RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER, PICKAWAY COUNTY (MT. STERLING)
FEBRUARY 21, 2013	CCAO GENERAL GOVERNMENT & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
MARCH 2-6, 2013	NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, WASHINGTON HILTON, WASHINGTON, D.C.
APRIL 2013	NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH
JUNE 7, 2013	CCAO SUMMER SEMINAR, QUEST BUSINESS CENTER, COLUMBUS

### ASSOCIATION NEWS

#### NEW CCAO WEBSITE IS UP AND RUNNING!

Last week, CCAO launched our new CCAO web site, which includes great visuals, informative material, and a blog. Providing a more engaging, informative web site for our members, policy makers, media, and the public has been our goal at CCAO. In time, we will continue to enhance and fine tune the site. We welcome any suggestions you might have in making it more user-friendly. We want your interaction with CCAO, even over the web, to be productive, valuable, and worthwhile.

As you recall several weeks ago, the CCAO, CORSA and CEBCO web sites were hacked and malware programs were installed. Please continue to refrain from trying to log into the CORSA and CEBCO sites until we launch new sites for them, too. We apologize for any inconvenience you have experienced, and please feel free to contact anyone CCAO, CORSA or CEBCO for information that you require.

Here is a list of contacts:

1. CCAO site: Mary Jane Neiman, Public Relations Associate, at 614/220-7979 or [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org)
2. CORSA site: Tricia Callihan, CORSA Program Assistant, at 614/220-7993 or [tcallihan@ccao.org](mailto:tcallihan@ccao.org)
3. CEBCO site: Debi Burnette, CEBCO Enrollment and Billing Specialist, at 614/220-0644 or [dburnette@ccao.org](mailto:dburnette@ccao.org)

## COMMISSIONERS' TRAINING SEMINAR: THE BASICS AND BEYOND

Join CCAO for the Commissioners Training Seminar: The Basics and Beyond on February 10-12, 2013 at Deer Creek Resort and Conference Center, 22300 State Park Road 20, in Pickaway County (Mt. Sterling). This seminar is an excellent opportunity for new and veteran commissioners, county executives and county council members to learn more than just the basics of how to do your new jobs as county elected officials. [Click here](#) for registration information.

Registration fees (includes sessions, handouts and all meal functions and breaks): \$110 by February 1 or \$125 after February 1. [Click here](#) for program and online registration information. Online registration is open until February 6. After February 6 fax your registration form to CCAO. If you have questions about registration, please contact Ali Redmond, CCAO Accountant, at (614) 221-5627, (888) 757-1904 or [onlinereg@ccaoh.org](mailto:onlinereg@ccaoh.org)

Deer Creek Resort and Conference Center is almost sold out. The reservation deadline was January 23. Call (740) 869-2020 to get the conference rate of \$85 single/double.

### DID YOU KNOW....

.....Less than 1% of Americans meet the criteria for "ideal" heart health (resource: American Heart Association):

- Never smoked OR quit more than one year ago.
- BMI (body mass index) < 25
- 150 minutes of moderate activity per week (that's 30 minutes, 5 days per week – this is a minimum!)
- Total cholesterol < 200
- Blood pressure < 120/80
- Fasting blood glucose < 100
- Consumes a healthy diet (includes high amounts of fish, fruits and vegetables, and whole grains and low amounts of salt and sugar-sweetened beverages)



Think about how you live your life; think about what you could do to change or improve it; think about where you might be 10 years from now in terms of your health. Every one of us has the ability to do better – it all comes down to choices.

[Click here](#) for more information about AHA's criteria on heart health. Wishing you a healthy and meaningful year!

### **STATE ACTIVITIES**

#### TRANSITION TO NEXT GENERATION 9-1-1 SERVICES; COMPLETE SURVEYS BY FEBRUARY 1 OR FUNDING WILL BE SUSPENDED

On January 4<sup>th</sup>, the Statewide Emergency Services Internet Protocol Network (ESINet) Steering Committee emailed information to county commissioners and the Cuyahoga and Summit County Executives and County Council Members about assessing the readiness of the State's IP Network and local 9-1-1 programs to support the transition to Next Generation 9-1-1 services. CCAO has two representatives serving on the ESINet Steering Committee: Ed Humphrey, Clermont County Commissioner, and John Leutz, CCAO Senior Policy Analyst.

County 9-1-1 Coordinators and each County PSAPs need to understand the importance of their participation in this 9-1-1 Systems Requirement Assessments and that the appropriate individuals within each PSAP are aware of this data collection effort. **Failure to comply with the reporting requirements will result in the suspension of disbursements from the Wireless 9-1-1 Government Assistance Fund to the County. It is in everyone's best interest to complete the assessment in a timely manner.**

Section 5507.02 D (1) of the Ohio Revised Code directs each chairperson of a countywide 9-1-1 Planning Committee to report the following to the ESINet Steering Committee:

- statistics detailing the number of 9-1-1 calls received by each PSAP,
- identification of the geographic extents and populations served by each PSAP,
- expenditures of disbursements from the wireless 9-1-1 government assistance fund,
- an inventory of and the technical specifications for current 9-1-1 hardware and software requirements,
- and any other information requested by the steering committee.

Assessments must be completed on or before Feb 1, 2013 in order to provide time for the committee to validate, compile and analyze the results for the Steering Committee's report to the legislature. Click on the links below to complete the assessments

County 9-1-1 Planning Committee Assessment

<https://novisurvey.net/n/RequirementAssessment.aspx>

The Ohio Public Safety Answering Point NG9-1-1 Systems Requirement Assessment

<https://novisurvey.net/n/NetworkSteeringCommittee.aspx>

If you have any questions about the assessments, please contact Jeff Smith, Spatial Data Infrastructure Manager, Ohio Geographically Referenced Information Program, Office of Information Technology, at (614) 466-8862 or [jeff.smith@ohio.gov](mailto:jeff.smith@ohio.gov)

### OPERS CLARIFICATION ON NEW MEMBERSHIP FORMS

Effective January 7, 2013, OPERS employers are required to provide notification within predetermined time frames to individuals who have not had, or will not have OPERS retirement contributions withheld from their earnings. The intent behind the legislative changes was to put a statute of limitations on the time frame in which an individual could request OPERS to issue a membership determination regarding prior service to a public employer for which no OPERS contributions were remitted.

Note: The employer entity making the decision to retain these individuals is responsible for compliance regardless of whether they have a separate employer code or are consolidated under a collective employer code for purposes of retirement contribution reporting and payment. Employers should discuss with their legal counsel on how best to implement/comply with their statutory obligations.

Since the [December, 2012 OPERS Employer Notice](#) was published, OPERS has received some questions from employers. [Click here](#) for the January 25, 2013 *OPERS Employer Notice* on Clarification on New Membership Forms. For more information, please contact Patti Brammer, Manager, Employer Services, Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, at (614) 225-0942 or [pbrammer@opers.org](mailto:pbrammer@opers.org)

## FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

### PROPOSED NEW WELLNESS PROGRAM RULES

The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), and Treasury jointly released proposed regulations for nondiscriminatory wellness programs in group health plans on November 26, 2012. The proposed regulations, which are scheduled to be effective January 1, 2014, implement changes made by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

The proposed regulations designate two categories of wellness programs:

- Participatory
- Health-Contingent

A participatory wellness program does not offer a reward OR does not require an individual to meet a standard (health factor) to obtain that reward. Examples include:

- Fitness center reimbursement program;
- Rewards for attending a free health seminar; and
- Diagnostic testing programs that do not base a reward on outcomes.

Participatory wellness programs must be provided at no cost to the participant.

A health-contingent wellness program requires an employee to satisfy a standard (health factor) OR meet a particular health outcome in order to obtain a reward. Examples include:

- Attaining certain results on a biometric screening;
- Meeting targets for exercise;
- Not using tobacco products;
- Imposing a premium surcharge based on tobacco use; and
- Using a biometric screening or health risk assessment to identify employees with specific risk factors AND provide a reward to employees identified as having a normal range for biometrics, WHILE requiring employees that are outside of normal range to take additional steps to obtain the same reward.

A health-contingent program must comply with the following rules and regulations, under HIPPA wellness regulations:

- The total reward cannot exceed 20% of the total cost of coverage under the plan.
- Must be reasonably designed to promote health and prevent disease.
- Must give eligible individuals the opportunity to qualify for the reward at least once per year.
- Must be available to all similarly situated individuals. A reasonable alternative standard or waiver must be made available to any individual for whom it is unreasonably difficult due to a medical condition.
- All plan materials that describe the terms of the program must disclose the availability of a reasonable alternative (or the possibility of waiver of the applicant standard).

“Rewards” pertaining to health-contingent programs:

- Includes both receiving a reward (premium discount or rebate) and avoiding a penalty (premium surcharge).
- Increases to 30% of the total cost of the employee-only coverage under the plan if any class of dependents may participate in the wellness program. Increases to 50% if the program is designed to prevent or reduce tobacco use.
- Since the proposed regulations are effective for plan years after 2013, employers designing health-contingent wellness programs cannot increase the size of a reward beyond 20% until 2014.

These final regulations are scheduled to be released later in the year. CEBCO will be alerting all counties of the new and final rules once they are adopted.

The above information was compiled from a report completed by Aon Hewitt called “Agencies Propose New Wellness Program Rules.” The article was made available in December 2012. [Click here](#) for the document released by the *Federal Register*.

## **NACo ACTIVITIES**

### NACo RELEASES LEGISLATIVE PRESENTATION ON THE DEBT CEILING DEBATE AND POTENTIAL IMPACT ON COUNTIES

The National Association of Counties (NACo) has released a new legislative presentation which provides a quick guide to understanding the debt limit debate and the significance to U.S. counties. The presentation also examines areas of risk and opportunity for counties in the ongoing negotiations. [Click here](#) to view the presentation.

The presentation highlights:

- Why Counties Should Care about the Debt Limit Debate
- What is the Debt Limit
- Why is there a Debt Limit
- Extraordinary Measures to Prevent Default
- Context for Federal Debt and Deficit Discussion
- Ongoing Fiscal Debate and the First Fiscal Cliff Deal
- County Risks and Opportunities

Just this week, lawmakers in both chambers and the White House signaled support for a short-term suspension of the nation’s borrowing limit that would remove the threat of a government default for at least four months. However, this only delays decision making on important fiscal issues. As these negotiations continue, counties continue to be concerned about sequestration, potential cuts to Medicaid and cost shifts to counties, and the potential elimination or reductions to tax-exempt municipal bonds.

### LONG & LEE MEET WITH WHITE HOUSE & CONGRESSIONAL STAFF

NACo hosted the National Council of County Association Executives (NCCAE) Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., on January 8-10. CCAO Executive Director Larry Long and CCAO President Gary Lee and 66 other state association executive directors and state association presidents met with key congressional staff and White House officials to discuss federal legislative and policy issues important to counties including the latest fiscal cliff negotiations, sequestration, Medicaid, the Farm Bill, the HUD CDBG program, PILT, and immigration just to name a few.



Jay Williams, Deputy Director of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, and CCAO President Gary Lee

Policy briefings were conducted with representatives from the offices of Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV), Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY), House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH), the House Republican Conference, and the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs. Jay Williams, Deputy Director of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs at the White House, and former Mayor of Youngstown (2006 to 2011) also addressed the attendees.

The executive directors and presidents also had the opportunity to hear timely updates from staff from the House and Senate Appropriations Committees on issues like the status of FY2013 and FY2014 appropriations, the Continuing Resolution (which runs through March 27), and how all of the debt and deficit negotiations are impacting the annual appropriations process.

### 2013 NACo ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Does your county have an innovative program that modernizes county government and increase services to county residents? Obtain national recognition for your program by applying for a NACo Achievement Award. Started in 1970, the annual Achievement Award Program is a non-competitive awards program that recognizes innovative county government programs. Each application is judged on its own merits and not against other applications received. Awards are given in 21 different categories including children and youth, criminal justice, county administration, environmental protection, information technology, health, and many more. For a full list of categories and more information on the application procedures. The deadline for submissions is February 21, 2013 at 11:59 p.m. EST. Click on the links below for information.

- [2013 Achievement Awards Application Instructions](#)
- [Achievement Awards Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Last year, Clark, Fairfield, Hamilton (3), Marion, Montgomery (4), and Summit counties won a total of 11 Achievement Awards.

After reviewing the above information, please contact Katie Bess, Research Associate, NACo County Solutions and Innovation Department, at (202) 942-4215 or [kbess@naco.org](mailto:kbess@naco.org) if you have additional questions.

[Click here](#) to get ideas from archived NACo Achievement Award Programs.

### 2013 NACIO AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

For more than three decades, the National Association of County Information Officers (NACIO) annual Awards of Excellence program has recognized the best works of county public information officers. In addition to recognizing "Best of Class" and "Best of Show" winners, the competition honors a variety of communications projects that include public relations campaigns, brochures and publications, articles and press releases, videos and internet/electronic innovations.

At the recommendation of juried panels of judges, honors are presented in the following categories: superior, excellence, and meritorious. Last year, Summit and Cuyahoga counties won a total of five awards.

[Click here](#) for more information.

### **EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

#### 2013 NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

The NACo Legislative Conference will be held on March 2-6, 2013 at the Washington Hilton in Washington, DC. This meeting brings over 2,000 elected and appointed county officials from across the country to focus on legislative issues facing county government. Attendees hear from key Administration officials and members of Congress about educational opportunities addressing current and hot topic issues.

The Opening General Session Speaker on Monday, March 4 will be Bob Woodward, Associate Editor of *The Washington Post* and Author of *The Price of Politics*. All educational sessions and conference-wide functions



will be held at the Washington Hilton. As part of a two-year, phase-in process, NACo has made some immediate changes to the Legislative Conference schedule:

- Subcommittee and committee meetings will continue to be held on Saturday, March 2 and Sunday, March 3 this year and traditional workshops on Monday, March 4.
- The conference-wide luncheon was moved from Tuesday to Monday to free up more time for congressional and administration visits on Tuesday.
- Conference workshops on Tuesday were streamlined limiting them primarily in the morning. NACo's goal is to use most of Tuesday and all of Wednesday for outreach meetings with your Members of Congress and the Administration.

Register online for the [2013 NACo Legislative Conference](#) and save \$25! Blocks of sleeping rooms have been reserved at the Washington Hilton, which is the headquarters and closest hotel located north of the Dupont Circle Metro Station, and at the Omni Shoreham, which is located north of the Hilton near the Woodley Park Metro Station. Both Metro Stations are on the red line.

**OHIO RCAP ANNOUNCES ITS 2013 SPRING TRAINING SCHEDULE**

Ohio Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP) provides four unique training seminars for local officials in utility management and capacity development offered at locations throughout Ohio. These one-day courses cover technical, managerial, and financial aspects of utility operation and management.

The Ohio EPA Division of Drinking and Ground Water provides these sessions free of charge. The seminars are designed to assist in management of water systems to meet regulations and customer service expectations, along with creating sustainable infrastructure for the future.

The spring training schedule for the Ohio RCAP Management for Local Officials Training is set and they are now accepting registrations. Register for these courses by contacting Nadine Thompson at (800) 775-9767 or (419) 332-2056 to reserve your seat, or online at [www.ohiorcap.org](http://www.ohiorcap.org)

**ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION**

**SYLLABUS**

2013-002

A person may serve simultaneously as county engineer and member of the board of directors of a conservancy district that has territory in that county. However, as a member of the board of directors of a conservancy district, he may not participate in deliberations, discussions, negotiations, or votes regarding matters that affect or pertain to the exercise of his duties as county engineer. As county engineer, he may not (1) participate in any review, evaluation, or approval of plans or improvements of the conservancy district or (2) exercise any powers or perform any duties of the conservancy district under an agreement between the county and the conservancy district. (1953 Op. Att’y Gen. No. 3249, p. 631, questioned.)

**CLASSIFIEDS**

Title /For More Information. . .	Employer/Application Deadline
<a href="#">Finance Director</a>	Fairfield County JFS January 28, 2013
<a href="#">Director of Office of Management &amp; Budget /Central Accounting Services</a>	Portage County Commissioners February 1, 2013
<a href="#">Emergency Communications Operator</a>	Warren County Emergency Services February 5, 2013