



Stronger Counties. Stronger Ohio.

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Cheryl Subler, Executive Director

November 12, 2020

TO: ALL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY EXECUTIVES, COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS,
COUNTY ADMINISTRATORS AND COUNTY CLERKS

FROM: CHERYL SUBLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
RACHEL MASSOUD, POLICY ANALYST
ADAM SCHWIEBERT, POLICY ANALYST

RE: NOVEMBER 12, 2020 COVID-19 UPDATES

Key Resources

1. [CCAO CARES Act Funds Resources Webpage](#)
2. [Important Deadlines for CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds](#)
3. [OBM Ideas on How to Use Coronavirus Relief Funding](#)
4. [OBM CARES Act Funds Guidance 10.29.2020](#)
5. [CCAO Guidance on Using CARES Act Funds](#)
6. [Treasury Guidance CARES Act Funds 9.2.2020](#)
7. [Treasury CARES Act Funds FAQs 10.19.2020](#)

[CCAO COVID-19 Resources Page](#)

Gov. DeWine Press Conference: \$30 million for health departments; cases by zip code dashboard; 68 Red Level 3 counties

In today's press conference, Gov. DeWine announced his administration is allocating an additional \$30 million to assist local health departments. Each health department will receive \$200,000. The departments will be able to determine how best to use those dollars to fight COVID-19. The remaining funds will be used to hire contact tracers to aid local health departments.

Gov. DeWine also thanked local elected officials for their efforts in combating the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, the Ohio Department of Health is releasing two new dashboards. A zip code dashboard with case data by zip code will soon be available on coronavirus.ohio.gov. Users will be able to filter the data by probably or confirmed case status, county, a specific zip code or a time period. To protect confidentiality, case counts for zip codes with fewer than five cases or less than 100 total residents will not be shown.

The second dashboard is a flu dashboard that will be available at flu.ohio.gov. The dashboard will show flu trends over time. Hospitalization data will be broken down by region, county, date, sex, age, race and ethnicity.

The administration released this week's [Public Health Advisory System](#) map. There are 68 Red Level 3 counties.



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Newly Red Level 3 counties this week: Brown, Delaware, Erie, Hancock, Jackson, Knox, Miami, Paulding, Seneca, Shelby, Williams and Wood.

Counties remaining at Red Level 3 this week: Adams, Allen, Ashland, Ashtabula, Auglaize, Butler, Champaign, Clark, Clermont, Coshocton, Crawford, Cuyahoga, Defiance, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin*, Geauga, Greene, Guernsey, Hamilton, Hardin, Henry, Highland, Holmes, Jefferson, Lake, Lawrence, Licking, Lorain, Lucas, Madison, Mahoning, Marion, Medina, Mercer, Montgomery, Morrow, Muskingum, Ottawa, Pickaway, Pike, Portage, Preble, Putnam, Richland, Ross, Sandusky, Scioto, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas*, Union, Wayne and Warren.

Franklin and Tuscarawas counties are on the “watch list” for Purple Level 4 this week.

Every county in the state of Ohio continues to be a high incidence county.

The state’s Public Health Advisory System website includes an interactive map detailing indicators in each county, which you can find [here](#). A county by county list of indicators for the week can be found [here](#). A chart of case rates by county can be found [here](#).

There was an increase of 7,101 total COVID-19 cases statewide from yesterday’s data. There were 268 new hospitalizations reported in the last 24 hours. For more COVID-19 numbers, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov.

A video of the governor’s November 12th press conference can be found [here](#). **The next COVID-19 press conference is scheduled for Tuesday, November 17th at 2 p.m.** Press conferences can be viewed on www.ohiochannel.org.

Small Business Relief Grant: Several counties have not used all their funds

The state’s Small Business Relief Grant provides \$10,000 grants to small businesses to help during the pandemic with their expenses. The grant is designed so each county has at least 50 businesses funded. Several counties do not have 50 businesses that have been funded yet. If your county is listed below, please spread the word to your local businesses about this opportunity. More information about eligible businesses can be found [here](#). To apply, businesses should go to businesshelp.ohio.gov.

The counties that have not had 50 businesses funded as of today’s press conference are: Adams, Brown, Carroll, Fayette, Hardin, Harrison, Monroe, Morgan, Morrow, Noble, Preble, Vinton and Wyandot.

Sample Communication Strategy: Fairfield County

As COVID-19 hospitalizations, ICU admissions and cases grow and put stress on local hospitals, some counties are adjusting their COVID-19 communication plans and strategies. Fairfield County shared its updated communication strategy for COVID-19 with CCAO as an example of one such plan. The full document can be found [here](#).

Additional information from Gov. DeWine’s Wednesday Address

Yesterday, Gov. DeWine gave an address to Ohioans in which, among other items, he discussed additional orders that ODH will issue in the coming days. CCAO will share the order text with you when it becomes available at coronavirus.ohio.gov.

ODH plans to reissue the mask order that’s been in place since July 23rd to include the following new provisions:

- Each business will be required to post a Face Covering Requirement sign at each public entrance. **The administration provided two options of printable signs for businesses to use: [Option 1](#) or [Option 2](#)**
- Each business will be responsible for ensuring that customers and employees are wearing masks.
- A new Retail Compliance Unit, led by the Bureau of Workers Compensation, will be inspecting to ensure retail compliance. A first violation of this order will bring about a written warning and a second violation will bring about closure of the store for up to 24 hours.

The governor's office also distributed several graphics that may be helpful for communication with citizens in your counties:

[COVID-19 "Bubble" Infographic](#)

[Masks on Graphic](#)

[When to Stay Home Graphic](#)

Reminder: Please complete CARES Act Utilization Survey

Last week, CCAO sent a brief survey link to members to gather information on what percentage of their CARES Act funds each county plans to encumber by November 20th. Please respond to this survey if you have not already done so. This information will help guide CCAO's advocacy efforts in the days to come.

Upcoming NACo Webinar: Coronavirus Relief Fund – November 13th

Reaching out today to notify you of an **upcoming webinar NACo is hosting tomorrow, November 13 at 2:00 p.m.**, focused on how counties are investing Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) dollars authorized under the CARES Act. The webinar will highlight how counties across the country are using these dollars to address housing disparities through programs for rental and utilities assistance and services for the homeless population. During the webinar, NACo will be joined by representatives from Hamilton County (Ohio), El Paso County (Texas) and New Castle County (Del.). For more information and to register for the webinar, [click here](#).

White House Briefing Call Registration – November 18th

In observance of Veterans Day, the White House has rescheduled its November 11th briefing call for November 18th. Registration information is below.

Date: Wednesday, November 18, 2020

Time: 1:00 PM Eastern (please note start time and time zone)

Call-In Registration: ****if you previously registered for the 11/11 call, you do not need to re-register**** [CLICK HERE](#)

Note: Call-in lines are limited. RSVP's will be allocated in the order they are received. You must register to join the call.

Request for counties to share CARES Act spending plans with CCAO policy team

With CARES Act funds being distributed to local governments across the state, counties have a number of options for how they may utilize their funds. As your county decides how to spend its CARES Act funds, please share your ideas with the CCAO policy team. Your ideas can serve as valuable examples to other counties considering different funding options. Please send any resolutions or spending plans to Jon Honeck at [jhoneyck@ccao.org](mailto:jhoneck@ccao.org).

Coronavirus Relief Fund: Important Deadlines

The below chart highlights key deadlines regarding CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund dollars between October 2020 and February 2021. To view a pdf version of this chart, click [here](#).

CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND: IMPORTANT DEADLINES	
DATE	ACTIVITY
October 20, 2020	First Interim Financial Report due to OBM via the grants portal for activity through 9/30/2020
October 30, 2020	County Auditor must report initial HB 614 distribution to OBM
November 20, 2020	Unencumbered Funds must be returned to the County Auditor
November 25, 2020	County Auditor must redistribute unencumbered funds
December 1, 2020	County Auditor must report November redistribution amounts to OBM
December 30, 2020	Final Date to incur eligible CRF costs (grant “covered period” extends from 3/1/2020 to 12/30/2020)
January 6, 2021	Second Interim Financial Report due to OBM for activity from 10/1/2020 through 12/31/2020
February 1, 2021	Remaining unspent funds must be returned to OBM
February 10, 2021	Final (Close-out) Financial report due to OBM covering grant liquidation activities that occurred between 1/1/2021 and 1/31/2021
Note: This table is intended as guidance for counties that received CRF resources from the State of Ohio through HB 481 and HB 614. Five counties that received direct US Treasury Funding are considered prime recipients and must report to Treasury rather than OBM.	

Other Resources

[ODJFS Updated Q&A Document 11.12.2020](#)

[Public Health Advisory System Map and Resources](#)

[Ohio COVID-19 Travel Advisory Information](#)

[Current Information Regarding Reopening](#)

[Editable #InThisTogetherOhio Logo](#)

[NACo COVID-19 webpage](#)

Visit <https://ccao.org/resources/coronavirus-updates/> for updates, FAQs and previous memos. Current information from the Ohio Department of Health can be found at www.coronavirus.ohio.gov. If you want to help Ohio's response to this pandemic, you can contact the state at together@governor.ohio.gov. If you have questions regarding this memo or best practice suggestions relating to COVID-19, please contact Rachel Massoud, policy analyst, at rmassoud@ccao.org.