



Stronger Counties. Stronger Ohio.

209 East State Street • Columbus, Ohio 43215-4309
Phone: 614-221-5627 • Fax: 614-221-6986
Toll Free: 888-757-1904 • www.ccao.org

Cheryl Subler, Executive Director

November 3, 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 3, 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's Open Letter to Ohioans

Gov. DeWine wrote an open letter to Ohioans this weekend. You can read the letter [here](#).

Note: Gov. DeWine did not hold a press conference today. The next press conference is scheduled for Thursday, November 5th at 2 p.m.

OBM Guidance on Using CRF for Public Employee Overtime Costs

On October 29, the Ohio Office of Budget and Management (OBM) released [detailed guidance](#) about the use of Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) to cover public employee overtime costs. Overtime costs must not have been previously budgeted, and they must be viewed as necessary and a direct result of the public health emergency. Unless the overtime costs are related to substantially dedicated public safety and public health employees under the U.S. Treasury administrative accommodation, any overtime charged to the CRF must be supported by detailed documentation and time reporting for each employee to support the activities and time related to performance of those activities specifically related to the public health emergency.



Fax: 614-220-0209
www.corsa.org



Fax: 614-229-4588
www.cebco.org



Fax: 614-221-6986
www.ccao.org

Overtime costs that are covered by another federal program, included for cost recovery in a cost pool or indirect cost rate pool, or are planned to be charged to another program, are not allowed. CCAO interprets this guidance to mean that if a county wants to apply CRF resources to pay for the overtime of county JFS employees, the overtime cannot be charged to the standard random moment sampling (RMS) cost allocation procedure. OBM recommends that overtime costs should be applied to funds near or at the time the overtime is paid, recognizing it may be necessary to capture after-the-fact costs already paid by another non-federal source. Eligible overtime costs that were initially planned to be funded with a cost pool may not be removed from the pool and recoded if the costs have already been submitted as part of the cost pool for federal or state reporting purposes. For example, overtime charged to a cost pool in March through September cannot be charged to the fund after-the-fact in October as those funds have already been reported.

Questions for OBM about the CRF may be submitted to at grants@obm.ohio.gov. Questions for CCAO staff may be submitted to Jon Honeck, jhoneck@ccao.org

Upcoming NACo Webinar: CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Deadline – Nov. 6th

NACo is hosting a [webinar](#) on Friday, November 6th at 2:00 p.m. focused on the upcoming CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) December 30, 2020 deadline.

As this deadline approaches, counties must ensure funds are spent appropriately, reporting requirements are met and contingency plans are made. In addition to sharing best practices and lessons learned related to these issues, this webinar will also feature a discussion on how to quickly pivot and reevaluate spending plans in the event of deadline extension, as well as strategies for navigating subrecipient relationships within your county. NACo will be joined by Witt O'Brien's for this discussion, who is helping many counties across the country track and manage their CRF allocations. To register for the webinar, [click here](#).

BWC Approves \$5 Billion Dividend to Ohio Employers

Yesterday, the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation Board of Directors approved Gov. DeWine's requested \$5 billion in dividends to Ohio employers. The \$5 billion dividend is BWC's third dividend of more than \$1 billion this year, and the largest one-time dividend ever issued by the BWC. BWC distributed \$1.54 billion in April and \$1.34 billion in October. The payments are expected to go out in the first two weeks of December.

Counties can estimate their dividend by finding their October dividend on the document at [this link](#) and then multiplying it by 3.72. To read the BWC news release, click [here](#).

Lt. Governor Economic Impact Update and Resources

Lt. Governor Husted sent an economic impact update yesterday that includes information on the Small Business Relief Program, Bar and Restaurant Assistance Fund, Home Relief Grant and BWC Dividends. To read the update, click [here](#).

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 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 Director Hall Weekly Call Notes](#)

[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.