



Stronger Counties. Stronger Ohio.

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Cheryl Subler, Executive Director

December 30, 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: DECEMBER 30, 2020 COVID-19 UPDATES

Key Resources

1. [CCAO CARES Act Funds Resources Webpage](#)
2. [OBM Ideas on How to Use Coronavirus Relief Funding](#)
3. [OBM CARES Act Funds Guidance 11.20.2020](#)
4. [CCAO Guidance on Using CARES Act Funds](#)
5. [Treasury Guidance CARES Act Funds 9.2.2020](#)
6. [Treasury CARES Act Funds FAQs 10.19.2020](#)
7. [CAB: COVID-19 Vaccinations for Public Employees](#)

[CCAO COVID-19 Resources Page](#)

Gov. DeWine Press Conference: Curfew extended to January 23rd; new guidance on school quarantine

In today's press conference, Gov. DeWine announced an extension of the 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew until January 23, 2021. The current curfew order can be found [here](#).

The governor discussed who is currently administering COVID-19 vaccines. Pharmacies are administering the vaccine to nursing home residents and employees. Hospitals are vaccinating healthcare workers. Local health departments are vaccinating EMS workers and those in some congregate care settings. This is all part of [Phase 1A](#) of Ohio's COVID-19 Vaccination Program. The administration is asking hospitals to administer vaccines within 24 hours of receiving them and report that data to the state. It is anticipated that Ohio will receive an additional 238,000 vaccine doses next week.

The administration is changing its guidance regarding school quarantine. The administration is no longer recommending that students who have been exposed to another COVID-19 positive student quarantine so long as the students have been wearing masks and the exposure was in a classroom setting. This does not apply to after-school activities, including sports.



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The [COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard](#) is live. For more information about Ohio's COVID-19 vaccination program, visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](#). Key resources include [COVID-19 vaccine frequently asked questions](#) and a [Phase 1A vaccine distribution fact sheet](#).

There were 8,178 new COVID-19 cases reported today. Additionally, there were 366 additional hospitalizations and 36 additional ICU admissions in the past 24 hours. To view the latest COVID-19 data, visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](#).

A video of the governor's December 30th press conference can be found [here](#). Press conferences can be viewed on [www.ohiochannel.org](#).

CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds Spending Deadline Extended to December 31, 2021

The deadline to expend CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) has been extended to December 31, 2021 for all local subdivisions. CCAO sent two legislative alerts this week regarding this extension which you can find [here](#).

On December 27, 2020 President Trump signed H.R. 133, which along with providing federal appropriations and additional coronavirus aid also extended the deadline by which CRF funds can be utilized until December 31, 2021. This change was made to allow state and local governments additional time to use these funds for coronavirus relief purposes. However, for 83 Ohio counties which did not receive a direct CRF distribution from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, state statutory deadlines needed to be extended in order to utilize this additional time.

Gov. Mike DeWine signed Senate Bill 310 into law late yesterday afternoon. Senate Bill 310's enactment allowed the state Controlling Board to extend the deadlines for usage and return of unspent CRF. These deadlines had previously been December 30, 2020 and February 1, 2021, respectively. Following SB 310's signing, the state Controlling Board met this afternoon and approved the extension of the deadline to incur CRF expenses to December 31, 2021. Similarly, the Controlling Board also extended the date by which local governments must pay unexpended CRF to the state treasury to December 31, 2021.

The Ohio Office of Budget and Management (OBM) plans to update its guidance and FAQs accordingly ([resource page link here](#)) as soon as the US Treasury updates its guidance. Please note the reporting of CRF activity due January 6, 2021 for the period October 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020 remains in effect.

We hope this additional time is beneficial to those counties with remaining relief funds. Questions about extensions of CARES Act deadlines can be directed to CCAO Policy Analyst [Adam Schwiebert](#) or CCAO Senior Policy Analyst [Jon Honeck](#).

County Advisory Bulletin: Expiration of Paid Employee COVID-19 Leave & Temporary FMLA

CCAO released a County Advisory Bulletin this week regarding the Expiration of Paid Employee COVID-19 Leave & Temporary FMLA. The bulletin was prepared by the County Risk Sharing Authority (CORSAs). To read the bulletin, click [here](#).

County Advisory Bulletin: Unemployment Compensation & Other Financial Considerations from the Recent COVID-19 Stimulus Package

CCAO released a County Advisory Bulletin today regarding Unemployment Compensation & Other Financial Considerations from the Recent COVID-19 Stimulus Package. The bulletin was prepared by Marc A. Fishel of Fishel Downey Albrecht Riepenhoff, LLP. To read the bulletin, click [here](#).

Ohio Jobless Claims for Sunday, December 13, through Saturday, December 19, 2020

Ohioans filed 31,134 initial jobless claims last week, according to statistics the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) reported to the U.S. Department of Labor today. This was 243,081 fewer than – or about 11% of – the peak earlier this year. To read more, click [here](#).

CCAO CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund survey sent to CCAO members

CCAO sent a CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund online survey to county commissioners, county executives, county council members, clerks and administrators today. The goal is to understand the programs and services supported with CRF resources. Please check your inbox for the survey link. We ask that you please complete the survey by December 31st. If you have questions, please contact Senior Policy Analyst Jon Honeck, jhoneck@ccao.org.

Other Resources

[Ohio's COVID-19 Vaccination Program](#)

[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.