



*Stronger Counties. Stronger Ohio.*

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Cheryl Subler, Executive Director

**April 13, 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:** APRIL 13, 2020 COVID-19 UPDATES

### Key Resources

1. [CAB: Virtual Meetings during COVID-19](#)
2. [Emergency Declarations FAQ](#)
3. [CAB: COVID-19 Employment Related FAQs](#)
4. [Dispute Resolution Commission Process](#)
5. [CAB: Layoffs and Furloughs Under Civil Service Law](#)

[CCAO COVID-19 Resources Page](#)

### **Gov. DeWine's COVID-19 Press Conference**

In today's press conference, Gov. DeWine and Dr. Amy Acton announced that Ohio now has 6,975 confirmed cases. There have been 274 COVID-19 related deaths. These numbers include both confirmed and probable cases as reported by ODH.

The administration is asking for help from the manufacturing community. They encourage manufacturers to visit <https://repurposingproject.com/> to see what the state needs help providing and for more information.

If you want to help Ohio's response to this pandemic, you can contact the state at [together@governor.ohio.gov](mailto:together@governor.ohio.gov).

A video of the governor's April 13<sup>th</sup> press conference can be found [here](#). The administration plans to hold daily press conferences at 2 p.m. Press conferences can be viewed on [www.ohiochannel.org](http://www.ohiochannel.org).

### **URGENT: NACo Advocacy Needed**

Congress is working on a fourth legislative response to the Coronavirus. The bill is likely to originate in the House and is likely to contain significant fiscal relief for state and local government. NACo is working with Congressional leadership to make sure that the funding allocation formula is adequate to meet counties' needs during this crisis. Drafts of the proposal indicate that Congress is considering the use of the Community



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[www.corsa.org](http://www.corsa.org)



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[www.cebco.org](http://www.cebco.org)



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Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement formula, which works to the advantage of larger municipalities. **NACo is urging counties to contact their congressmen as soon as possible to urge them to reject the use of the CDBG formula and use a more fair and equitable approach that creates a “win-win” for all local governments.**

Read NACo’s letter to Congress on this matter [here](#).

To see NACo’s analysis of formula numbers for Ohio, click [here](#).

### **Secretary of State LaRose and Auditor of State Faber Election Official Compensation Memo**

Secretary of State LaRose and Auditor of State Faber sent a memo to all county commissioners, board of elections and prosecutors regarding partial precinct election official compensation for March 17, 2020 Primary Election. To read the memo, click [here](#).

### **Ohio Public Defender COVID-19 and Indigent Defense Reimbursement Memo**

State Public Defender Tim Young sent a memo to county commissioners, county auditors, county public defenders, court appointed counsel and judges regarding COVID-19 and indigent defense reimbursement practices. To read the memo, click [here](#). The memo addresses financial disclosure forms, interim billing, arraignment billing, reimbursement submission extension, and in-court billing.

### **CCAO/CORSA/CEBCO COVID-19 Briefing Calls Changed to Weekly**

Starting this week, CCAO, CORSA and CEBCO will host one briefing call per week. **The calls will be on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m.** The next call will be Thursday, April 16th. The call-in information is:

**Dial 1-877-273-4202  
Access code 889-229-624**

Our goal with these briefing calls is to provide our members with an informative and positive experience. In order to better achieve this goal and due to the volume of callers, we have decided to change the format. We ask that participants pose questions during the call by **texting** Rachel Massoud (CCAO policy analyst) at **513-543-3723**. Rachel will read the questions to our speaker(s) and state the name and title of the person who posed the question. Participants will remain muted throughout the duration of the call. We hope this format will reduce duplication, keep our calls focused and concise, and provide the best experience possible for our participants.

### **Updated County Unemployment Claim Numbers**

To view updated county unemployment claim numbers, click [here](#). These numbers reflect the week ending 4/4. The number of statewide claims declined by 17.6% from the prior week, but remained above 200,000 for the second week in a row. If you have questions, please contact CCAO Senior Policy Analyst Jon Honeck at [jhoneck@ccao.org](mailto:jhoneck@ccao.org).

### **Register for Friday’s HR Webinar: Layoffs and Furloughs under Civil Service Law**

CCAO will hold an HR webinar on Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. Counties and other public employers are facing revenue uncertainty as a result of the economic downturn from the Coronavirus. For most public employers, personnel costs comprise a substantial portion of expenditures. As a result, employers may need to consider temporary furloughs or other personnel measures as a means to reduce expenditures. In addition, some departments may be experiencing a reduction in the workload during the pandemic. This webinar will

summarize civil service laws governing layoffs and furloughs and provide an update on other employment law issues arising from the coronavirus.

Presenter: Marc A. Fishel, Fishel Downey Albrecht & Riepenhoff LLP

[Click here](#) to register for this timely educational opportunity. If you are unable to register to the link above, please email [Nedra Benson](mailto:nbenson@ccao.org), nbenson@ccao.org, CCAO administrative professional, and provide her with your email address.

### **Federal Funds for Health Care Providers**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services began to disburse the first \$30 billion from the CARES Act Provider Relief Fund this week to hospitals and other health care providers. These funds are grants and will not have to be repaid. Eligible facilities will be those that received Medicare fee-for-service reimbursements in 2019. The amount of the payments will be determined by the provider's share of total Medicare fee-for-service payments in 2019. Entities that receive the funds must attest that they will bill all COVID-19 patients at in-network rates. For more information click [here](#).

### **USDA released COVID-19 Federal Rural Resource Guide**

The USDA released a resource matrix that organizes funding opportunities identified in the CARES Act and other federal resources that can help support rural America. Opportunities are categorized by customer and assistance type. To see the resource guide, click [here](#).

USDA and its Federal partners have programs that can be used to provide immediate and long-term assistance to rural communities affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. These programs can support recovery efforts for rural residents, businesses and communities through:

- technical, training, and management assistance;
- financial assistance; and
- state and local assistance.

For more information on the immediate actions USDA is taking to respond to COVID-19, visit [usda.gov/coronavirus](https://usda.gov/coronavirus).

### **Lear Corp. Safe Work Playbook**

Lear Corp. released its "Safe Work Playbook" that is a great document for general procedure and protocol for small businesses/manufacturers. To view the playbook, click [here](#). If you are looking for ways to assist local small businesses with resources for navigating operation during this ongoing pandemic, this playbook can serve as a resource.

### **Other Resources**

[4.13.2020 ODJFS Director Hall Weekly Call Notes](#)

[FEMA Daily Briefing Points 4.12.2020](#)

[FEMA Daily Briefing Points 4.11.2020](#)

[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](http://www.coronavirus.ohio.gov). If you have questions regarding this memo or best practice suggestions relating to COVID-19, please contact Adam Schwiebert, policy analyst, at [aschwiebert@ccao.org](mailto:aschwiebert@ccao.org), or Rachel Massoud, policy analyst, at [rmassoud@ccao.org](mailto:rmassoud@ccao.org).