



Stronger Counties. Stronger Ohio.

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Cheryl Subler, Executive Director

April 2, 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 2, 2020 COVID-19 UPDATES

Key Resources

1. [CAB on Virtual Meetings during COVID-19](#)
2. [Emergency Declarations FAQ](#)
3. [CAB on COVID-19 Employment Related FAQs](#)
4. [Other HR Related CABs](#)
5. [County Purchasing Authority during COVID-19](#)

[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 2,902 confirmed cases. There have been 81 COVID-19 related deaths.

Director Acton signed a new stay at home order that will be in effect through Friday, May 1st. You can read the full order [here](#). The new order will go into effect on Monday, April 6th. The order is very similar to the previous order but there are a few changes based on updated guidance from CISA and feedback from Ohioans.

The administration is creating a Dispute Resolution Commission. This commission will make judgments in cases where similar businesses are being treated differently under different health districts. The administration will release more information in the coming days on how the panel will operate.

Retail stores will be required to establish a maximum occupancy number for their businesses, factoring in social distancing, and to post that number where the public can see it.

The governor also announced the creation of the Economic Advisory Board that will help as we work to economically move forward. The list of those on the board will be posted on <http://coronavirus.ohio.gov>.

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.



Fax: 614-220-0209
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If you want to help Ohio's response to this pandemic, you can contact the state at together@governor.ohio.gov.

A video of the governor's April 2nd press conference can be found [here](#). The administration plans to continue daily press briefings at 2 pm. Press conferences can be viewed on www.ohiochannel.org.

Updated County Advisory Bulletins Available

As the US Department of Labor recently released temporary regulations on COVID-19 human resource practices, Marc Fishel has updated his employment FAQs and sample policies to reflect the latest information. You can find the updated advisory bulletins with Marc's updates below. We will continue to work with Marc as further guidance and information is released by the state and federal governments in the coming days.

[Updated COVID-19 Employment Related FAQs](#)

[Updated Sample FMLA COVID-19 Policy](#)

[Updated Sample Temporary Emergency Paid Sick Leave Policy](#)

County Highlights from the Federal CARES Act

CCAO Senior Policy Analyst Jon Honeck put together information on how the federal CARES Act will affect Ohio counties. This is a preliminary analysis of the bill and CCAO will continue to provide information on the provisions. To view the overview, click [here](#).

Credit Card Acceptance Convenience Fees

CCAO received a question as to whether county officeholders can waive credit card acceptance convenience fees since individuals may be using credit cards more frequently to conduct business during the pandemic. CCAO urges county officials to review [County Advisory Bulletin 1994-04](#) which outlines how boards of county commissioners are to adopt a county-wide credit card acceptance policy, which may include a convenience fee charged to card users to offset the processing costs counties incur. If a convenience fee is not charged, a county would lose revenue, as some credit cards charge 3-6 percent processing fees. There are a couple exceptions to the county-wide policy. Therefore you are encouraged to review the bulletin carefully as well as the current version of the [Ohio Revised Code Section 301.28](#) as a couple additions have been made since the bulletin was originally published.

WIOA Updates from the Ohio Workforce Association

The Ohio Workforce Association recently shared the following information:

- Ohio is working on an agreement with the federal government regarding the recently passed CARES Act, which provides an additional \$600 per week in UI to claimants through July 31st, 2020. JFS staff said Ohio's UI system isn't set up to do something like this, so it's going to take several weeks to get something in place to address this as well as the additional eligibility for 1099 and other self-employed individuals and extending benefits. The state will be sending out some kind of broad communication about the Act to the public soon.
- The JFS Office of Workforce Development is working with the Workforce Association on a proposal for emergency Dislocated Worker funding from DOL. We are working to ensure that any funding request will be targeted and appropriate to the challenges this economic disruption's recovery will present. We have requested, for instance, that we include a robust business outreach component.

- Rapid Response funds continue to be available from ODJFS should you need them.
- OWD is working on sending a communication out to all directors that indicates all Areas can keep their 2nd year WIOA funds for a 3rd year OR return them and get discretionary funding. This unprecedented flexibility and partnership on behalf of the state is greatly appreciated.
- OWD shared that it is working with the Office of Workforce Transformation on a website to market employers statewide who are hiring during this crisis. Individuals will be taken directly to the employer's website/electronic application portals. Further, the state set up a COVID-19 quick search on OMJ.com.
- OWA asked about where funds were for Resource Room upgrades. OWD will be sending a communication out about the funds in the near future.

COVID-19 Job Search Resource

Today, Lt. Governor Husted announced that the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation has developed a website specifically geared toward matching essential businesses with Ohioans who are able and willing to work as an essential employee during the COVID-19 crisis. Both essential businesses and current job seekers can visit Coronavirus.Ohio.gov/JobSearch to post and search. With questions, please email the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation at Workforce@OWT.Ohio.gov.

Please regularly visit Coronavirus.Ohio.Gov/BusinessHelp for the most complete and up-to-date information about resources available for Ohio businesses, individuals, and families.

Register for tomorrow's HR Webinar: Update to Employment Implications and Options During the Coronavirus Pandemic

CCAO will hold an HR webinar tomorrow, Friday, April 3rd at 1:00 pm. As the issues relating to the coronavirus change, there are more employment-related questions. This webinar will provide an update on these issues along with the latest information concerning the application of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

Presenter: Jeffrey A. Stankunas, Attorney at Law, Isaac Wiles Burkholder & Teetor LLC

[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.

CCAO/CORSA/CEBCO Bi-weekly COVID-19 Briefing Calls

CCAO, CORSA and CEBCO will host a biweekly COVID-19 briefing call for members every Monday and Thursday at 3:30 p.m. The next call will be Monday, April 6th. 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.

Nationwide COVID-19 Data

The Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation has compiled national COVID-19 data as well as data by state on their website at <https://covid19.healthdata.org/>. To view Ohio's data, click on the drop-down menu in the top middle and scroll to Ohio.

Other Resources

[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 have questions regarding this memo or best practice suggestions relating to COVID-19, please contact Adam Schwiebert, policy analyst, at aschwiebert@ccao.org, or Rachel Massoud, policy analyst, at rmassoud@ccao.org.