



Stronger Counties. Stronger Ohio.

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Cheryl Subler, Executive Director

April 21, 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 21, 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 13,725 cases. There have been 557 COVID-19 related deaths. These numbers include both confirmed and probable cases as reported by ODH.

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 21st press conference can be found [here](#). The administration plans to hold press conferences daily at 2 p.m. Press conferences can be viewed on www.ohiochannel.org.

Gov. DeWine announces new flexibility for agricultural society capital improvement grants

Gov. DeWine announced this afternoon that the Ohio Agricultural Society Facility Grant Program will no longer require a local match to be eligible for state funding. The program provides grants to agricultural societies of up to \$50,000 to support fairgrounds capital projects across the state. Previously, a local match was required to be eligible for state funds. Counties were often asked by agricultural societies to contribute county funds to constitute this local match. Due to declining economic conditions, the local match will not be required. The application for agricultural societies to apply for grant funds remains open through May 30th.



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



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www.cebco.org



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It remains unknown if or how county fairs will take place later this year, but the DeWine administration will continue to review health data and provide guidance as conditions develop.

CCAO Membership Conference Call with U.S. Senator Portman Tomorrow April 22nd

On Wednesday, April 22, at 10 a.m. we invite you to join a call with US Senator Rob Portman. The purpose of the call would be to discuss the CARES Act, the federal response to COVID-19 and resources available to counties. This is also an opportunity to hear the concerns and questions of counties in Ohio.

This call will follow the same protocol as our membership calls on Thursdays. Lines will be muted except for the speakers, and members will be asked to text their questions to Policy Analyst Rachel Massoud, 513-543-3723. It is vital for our Senators to hear from you and address your concerns. Please join us for this important opportunity using the following call-in information:

Dial in number: 1-877-273-4202

Room number: 889-229-624

SharedWork Ohio Webinar Thursday, April 23rd

The Ohio Job and Family Services Directors' Association County (OJFSDA) and the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) are pleased to offer a one-hour webinar on Thursday, April 23 at 11:00 a.m.:

“Navigating Unemployment Insurance during COVID-19: Tips and Pathways for Employers”

This presentation will provide a high-level overview of the SharedWork Ohio program, a vital layoff aversion tool that allows employers to retain trained staff during times of reduced business activity. The presentation will also cross-reference the programs and funding options available under the recently enacted federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

Speaker: Julie Barone, Legal Chief, OUIO Legal Support, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

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.

Agreement Reached for “COVID 3.5” Federal Legislation

Congressional leadership reached an agreement on a fourth federal legislative response to the coronavirus. This legislation is entitled the “Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act.” The main purpose of the legislation is to provide additional funds for several programs that were started in the CARES Act, which passed in late March. The Senate is set to take up the bill this evening, and the House is expected to vote on Thursday.

The agreement provides the following major elements:

- \$321 billion in additional funding for the Small Business Administration’s Paycheck Protection Program with set-asides for smaller lenders;
- \$75 billion for the Department of Health and Human Services Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund for hospitals and other health providers;
- \$25 billion for a major expansion of research, development, and validation of COVID-19 testing and contact tracing;

- \$50 billion in SBA direct loans for the Economic Injury Disaster Loans Program, which will leverage a total of \$300 billion in total loans;
- \$10 billion for the SBA Emergency Economic Injury Grant Program.

The bill does not include new funding for state and local governments to address their revenue shortfalls. The bill also does not amend the \$150 billion Coronavirus Relief Fund in the CARES Act to allow greater flexibility in the use of funds. Therefore, CARES Act funding is available only for COVID-19 expenses that were not planned for in the state or local government's most recent budget. The White House has signaled its support for the concept of increasing flexibility in the next round of federal legislation. U.S. Treasury guidance on the Coronavirus Relief Fund is expected by Friday, April 24. States and local governments with a population greater than 500,000 were required to submit their applications by Friday of last week (April 17).

A summary of the health provider provisions in the legislation can be found [here](#) and a summary of the Paycheck Protection Program changes can be found [here](#).

Members with questions should contact Senior Policy Analyst Jon Honeck, jhoneck@ccao.org.

County Talk: Budget Reductions

As counties begin to make adjustments to their budgets during the pandemic, CCAO would like to share examples of the changes counties are implementing:

[Fairfield County makes \\$700,000 in spending cuts due to coronavirus, more cuts to come](#)

If your county passes any resolutions pertaining to budget reductions, please send a copy to CCAO Senior Policy Analyst Jon Honeck at jhoneck@ccao.org.

White House Briefing Call Tomorrow April 22nd

On **Wednesday, April 22, at 11:30 AM Eastern Time (note time change)**, please join Senior Administration Officials for a briefing call on COVID-19 (coronavirus). We will be joined by Senior Administration Officials from the White House, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of the Treasury, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and U.S. Department of Homeland Security, among others. Registration instructions are below.

Date: Wednesday, April 22

Time: 11:30 AM Eastern Time (please note time zone)

Call-In Registration: [CLICK HERE](#)

Note: Please note the following information regarding registration.

- Call-in lines are limited. RSVP's will be allocated in the order they are received. Please register only if you are able to join the call.
- Upon successful registration, you will be directed to a separate webpage with confirmation details and/or receive dial-in instructions to the email address you use to register. Please ensure the email address you register with is correct and check your spam/junk folder after registration. If neither action occurs, you did not successfully register.
- If you are attempting to register but cannot "submit" your information, please try again at a later time.

- Note that multiple people cannot dial-in using the same registration information. This will cause you to be kicked-off the call.

CCAO/CORSA/CEBCO COVID-19 Weekly Briefing Call

CCAO, CORSA and CEBCO are hosting a weekly briefing call during the COVID-19 pandemic. **The calls will be on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m.** The next call will be Thursday, April 23rd at 3:30 p.m. 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.

Other Resources

[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 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.