



Stronger Counties. Stronger Ohio.

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Cheryl Subler, Executive Director

May 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: MAY 21, 2020 COVID-19 UPDATES

Key Resources

1. [CAB: Employees Returning to Work FAQs](#)
2. [CAB: Layoffs and Furloughs Under Civil Service Law](#)
3. [Treasury Guidance CARES Act Funds 4.22.2020](#)
4. [Treasury FAQs 5.4.2020](#)
5. [CAB: COVID-19 and Collective Bargaining Issues](#)
6. [Reopening Information](#)

[CCAO COVID-19 Resources Page](#)

Note: CCAO will no longer publish COVID-19 memos on Fridays. For updates, please see our Statehouse Report and Counties Current publications. We hope you have a wonderful Memorial Day Weekend!

Gov. DeWine's COVID-19 Press Conference: Reopening announcements; Minority Health Strike Force Recommendations

In today's press conference, Gov. DeWine announced that Ohio now has 30,162 COVID-19 cases. There have been 1,836 COVID-19 related deaths. These numbers include both confirmed and probable cases as reported by ODH.

Gov. DeWine and Lt. Gov. Husted made a couple new announcements regarding reopening today. The following sectors are permitted to open on the following dates while following safety protocols:

May 26th – Bowling alleys, miniature golf, batting cages, skills training for all sports

June 1st – Catering and banquet halls (Guidelines include 6 feet between tables and no congregating. For the immediate future, crowd size will be limited to 300.)



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



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



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Safety protocols by sector can be found [here](#).

The governor made several announcements today regarding the Minority Health Strike Force. This Strike Force was formed to develop several specific COVID-19 recommendations focused on how communities of color are more likely to have underlying health conditions, less access to healthcare, and discrimination when accessing healthcare services. In response to those recommendations, today's announcements included the addition of a Deputy Director of Social Determinants of Health and Opportunity at ODH, distribution of thousands of Community Wellness Kits to families disproportionately affected by COVID-19, and increasing the number of public health workers who can help notify Ohioans of possible exposure to the virus.

A video of the governor's May 21st press conference can be found [here](#). **The next press conference is scheduled for Tuesday, May 26th at 2 p.m.** Press conferences can be viewed on www.ohiochannel.org.

Urgent Health Advisory Language; Order Rescinding Portions of Stay Safe Ohio Order

As discussed during Tuesday's press conference, Gov. DeWine and ODH Director Acton have issued an Urgent Health Advisory and are rescinding specific portions of the Stay Safe Ohio Order. The signed orders were released last night.

The language of the Urgent Health Advisory can be found [here](#).

The order rescinding the Stay Safe Ohio language that was released yesterday can be found [here](#). The original Stay Safe Ohio language can be found [here](#). Yesterday's order rescinds sections 3 and 15 and amends section 5 in the original order.

As a reminder, the summary of the changes is below.

- The new advisory incorporates six feet of social distancing; a limit of 10 people for mass gatherings; frequent handwashing; and other sanitizing efforts.
- It incorporates all of the business orders about social distancing and sanitation, including employees wearing masks, as well as efforts to protect employees and efforts to protect the public.
- It considers our most vulnerable Ohioans as those who can suffer the worst impacts from the virus. The order strongly recommends that high-risk Ohioans stay at home as much as possible. They should avoid places where they are likely to encounter a lot of people.
- The [Urgent Health Advisory](#) recommends (but does not require) all other Ohioans to stay at their place of residence when possible with the intent of lowering the rate of spread of COVID-19.
- The order no longer includes travel restrictions. It no longer requests that Ohioans returning from out of state travel quarantine for 14 days, unless they are showing symptoms of COVID-19. However, while unnecessary travel within or outside of the state of Ohio is still permitted, it is not encouraged.

Preliminary Auto Sales Tax Estimates will be sent to CCAO members this evening

Preliminary auto sales tax estimates from the Ohio Department of Taxation for March sales will be emailed to CCAO members this evening. Please keep an eye out for this information.

CEBCO Program Alert on COVID-19 Guidance under \$125 Cafeteria Plans / COBRA Changes / Bulletin 2020-05 Updates

CEBCO released a Program Alert today regarding COVID-19 Guidance under §125 Cafeteria Plans / COBRA Changes / Bulletin 2020-05 Updates. To read this important alert, click [here](#).

Upcoming CCAO Webinar – Tomorrow, Friday, May 22nd – How to Use FEMA Public Assistance Funding During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Federal funding is available from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to help states and local governments fight the COVID-19 pandemic. CCAO will offer a free webinar on **Friday, May 22, at 1:00 p.m.**, that will provide an overview of the FEMA Public Assistance Grant Program. This an established program that provides limited reimbursement to state and local governments and certain non-profit organizations as they respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Presenter: Laura Adcock, Disaster Recovery Branch Chief, Ohio Emergency Management Agency

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

Ohio Initial Jobless Claims for Sunday, May 10, through Saturday, May 16, 2020

For the week ending May 16, 2020, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) reported 46,062 initial jobless claims to the U.S. Dept. of Labor. The number of initial jobless claims filed in Ohio over the last nine weeks (1,215,756) is more than the combined total of those filed during the last three years. To read more, click [here](#).

Register for May 26th Virtual Neighborhood Connections Meeting

The Office of Children Services Transformation is partnering with Ohio Child Care Resource & Referral Association to begin hosting [bi-weekly Zoom meetings](#) (1 hour) for any non-profit and community organizations who provide resources and supports to children and families. The virtual meetings will allow organizations to share innovative practices and strategies, as well as challenges and barriers experienced during COVID-19. The theme of the next meeting is Behavioral Health and will take place on Tuesday, May 26th at 12 p.m. To register and view more information, click [here](#).

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, May 28th at 3:30 p.m. The call-in information is:

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

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 keep our calls focused and concise and provide the best experience possible for our participants.

Other Resources

[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 Adam Schwiebert, policy analyst, at aschwiebert@ccao.org, or Rachel Massoud, policy analyst, at rmassoud@ccao.org.