



Stronger Counties. Stronger Ohio.

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Cheryl Subler, Executive Director

July 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: JULY 21, 2020 COVID-19 UPDATES

Key Resources

1. [CCAO CARES Act Funds Resources Webpage](#)
2. [OBM CARES Act Funds Guidance 7.16.2020](#)
3. [CCAO Guidance on Using CARES Act Funds](#)
4. [Treasury Guidance CARES Act Funds 6.30.2020](#)
5. [Treasury CARES Act Funds FAQs 7.8.2020](#)
6. [CAB: Employees Returning to Work FAQs](#)
7. [CAB: Layoffs and Furloughs Under Civil Service Law 7.15.2020](#)

[CCAO COVID-19 Resources Page](#)

Note: Gov. DeWine's press conference was moved to tomorrow, Wednesday, July 22nd at 2 p.m. The Thursday, July 23rd 2 p.m. press conference is still scheduled. Press conferences can be viewed on www.ohiochannel.org. There was an increase of 1,047 in total COVID-19 cases statewide yesterday. For more COVID-19 numbers, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov.

Updated OBM CARES Act Funding Guidance

The Ohio Office of Budget and Management (OBM) released [updated guidance](#) to local governments receiving CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funding through OBM. To read the guidance, click [here](#). Current OBM documents related to this funding can be found at grants.ohio.gov.

CCAO Guidance on Using CARES Act Funds

CCAO released Guidance on Using CARES Act Funds this week. To view the document, click [here](#). The guidance aims to help CCAO members digest information relating to the CARES Act funds for counties. It includes background information on the funds, details to help counties evaluate the unique circumstances and priorities within their county, and examples of eligible expenses by expense category.



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Federal Advocacy Alert: Coronavirus Relief Legislative Package

The US Senate has returned from summer recess and negotiations are taking place between the White House and Congress over the next coronavirus relief legislative package. This is likely to be the final coronavirus legislative package before the November election. **These next several weeks are critical in lobbying Congress and the White House for greater flexibility in the use of CARES Act \$ as well as an extension beyond this year to spend the money.** News outlets are reporting that the initial Senate proposal is unlikely to include additional funds for states and local governments, but the final package is subject to negotiation. Local governments have the opportunity to discuss their needs and to make their case for additional support.

Please continue to reach out to Senators Portman and Brown as the U.S. Senate works on its phase four coronavirus relief proposal, and also reach out to your House members to remind them of the need to support counties. As Ohio continues to be affected by the pandemic, there is an urgent need for additional flexibility in the use of CARES Act resources. The economic effects are likely to be felt well into next year.

But, time is running short. The House is scheduled to break July 31, and the Senate is scheduled to break August 7. Therefore, please continue your federal outreach this week!

OBM Webinar: CARES Act – July 22nd

The Office of Budget and Management (OBM) will be hosting a webinar on Wednesday, July 22, 2020 from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm to discuss the Coronavirus Relief Fund Local Assistance program as a result of HB 481. This session will provide an update on recent guidance from the US Treasury and discuss examples of eligible uses of funds. Recipients that wish to attend may register [here](#). Any questions can be directed to the Ohio Grants Partnership at grants@obm.ohio.gov.

Preliminary Auto County Sales Tax Estimates sent to CCAO members today

Preliminary auto sales tax estimates from the Ohio Department of Taxation for May sales were emailed to CCAO members today. Please check your inboxes for this information.

White House Briefing Call Registration – July 22nd

On **Wednesday, July 22, at 1:00 PM Eastern Time**, please join the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs for a national COVID-19 briefing call. We will be joined by Senior Administration Officials from the White House Coronavirus Task Force, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), and U.S. Department of Education. We appreciate your continued partnership and coordination in this whole-of-government, all-of-America response to COVID-19. Below, please find registration information and a list of Administration participants.

Briefing Call Registration

Date: Wednesday, July 22

Time: 1:00 PM Eastern Time (please note start time and time zone)

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

Note: 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.

Administration Participants *subject to change

- Ambassador Deborah Birx, *White House Coronavirus Task Force Coordinator*
- Seema Verma, *Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)*
- Eric Hargan, *Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)*
- Mitchell "Mick" Zais, *Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Education*
- Brian Montgomery, *Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)*

Request for counties to share CARES Act spending plans with CCAO policy team

With CARES Act funds being distributed to local governments across the state, counties have a number of options for how they may utilize their funds. As your county decides how to spend its CARES Act funds, please share your ideas with the CCAO policy team. Your ideas can serve as valuable examples to other counties considering different funding options. Please send any resolutions or spending plans to Jon Honeck at jhoneck@ccao.org.

No CCAO/CORSA/CEBCO briefing calls until further notice

CCAO/CORSA/CEBCO will **not** hold a weekly briefing call until further notice. We are working to provide other educational opportunities for our members and will update you as they are scheduled.

Other Resources

[ODJFS Director Hall Weekly Call Notes 7.20.2020](#)

[Public Health Advisory System Map and 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.