

March 30, 2020 – 10:30 AM

*Please note resources and updates are evolving rapidly.*

### **Resources**

- If you were unable to join Friday's web event with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) you can access a recording [here](#). A special thanks to the National Small Business Association (NSBA) and Small Business Roundtable, among others, for this opportunity.
- GCP/COSE WEBINAR: Coronavirus (COVID-19): Small Business Guidance & Loan Resources
  - Thursday, April 2 at 1 p.m. EST  
Join Raymond Graves, Lead Lender Relations Specialist of the U.S. Small Business Administration's Cleveland District Office as he offers guidance to small businesses and shares loan resources they can use in this uncertain time. [Register here](#).
- The U.S. Chamber of Commerce released a four-page [Coronavirus Emergency Loans Small Business Guide and Checklist](#). It was devised to help you connect with the resources recently approved by Congress to respond to the ongoing pandemic.
- The State of Ohio has a site for Ohio businesses and individuals to find information and resources related to the coronavirus. See [link](#).
- As the Greater Cleveland Partnership and Council of Smaller Enterprises work with policymakers, we want to be prepared with your feedback to ensure our advocacy efforts are aligned with our members' needs. [See here for more information](#).

### **State Updates**

- As of Sunday, 1,653 people had tested positive and 29 Ohioans had died from COVID-19.
- The Governor wants completed plans, that may evolve, by noon Monday to increase Ohio's hospital capacity in preparation for a peak in coronavirus by mid-April. The Ohio National Guard will oversee the program.
- On [Saturday](#), Governor DeWine made a plea to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to issue an emergency waiver for the use of new technology that could sterilize up to 160,000 used personal protective face masks per day in Ohio. On Sunday, the FDA rewrote rules to allow full application of potentially game-changing Battelle technology to [sterilize protective masks worn by those treating coronavirus victims](#).
- Governor DeWine has requested anyone who has unneeded personal protective equipment (PPE) or can manufacture new PPE to email the state at [together@governor.ohio.gov](mailto:together@governor.ohio.gov). State staff will receive these emails and coordinate how resources can be used to benefit Ohioans.

PPE items of critical need, include, but are not limited to:

- Surgical gowns (S, M, L, XL, XXL)
- Face/surgical masks (adult, pediatric)
- Gloves (nitrile, vinyl, or butyl)

- N-95 particulate respirators
- Isolation gowns
- Face shields
- Tyvek coveralls
- Thermometers
- Foot coverings
- Ventilator tubing

Note: The above items are not intended to be in order of importance.

- Following unanimous votes in both the Ohio House and Ohio Senate, Governor DeWine signed House Bill 197 into law on Friday. A summary of the emergency legislation can be found [here](#). GCP issued a [letter](#) to the Governor in which Joe Roman (President & CEO, Greater Cleveland Partnership) stated, “As the largest Chamber of Commerce in Ohio, and on behalf of our thousands of members, the Greater Cleveland Partnership is writing to say thank you to Governor DeWine for his leadership and support of emergency legislation in response to the coronavirus outbreak. GCP is appreciative of Governor DeWine’s hard work, and the work of Lt. Gov. Jon Husted, Senate President Larry Obhof, Speaker of the House Larry Householder, Senate Minority Leader Kenny Yuko, and House Minority Leader Emilia Sykes.” GCP was supportive of provisions within House Bill 197 related to unemployment and the alignment of tax deadlines.
- Last week, the Ohio 2020 Primary Election was extended to April 28, 2020. Request an absentee ballot to vote by mail: [Request Form](#)

### Federal Updates

- UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson tested positive for COVID-19. German Chancellor Angela Merkel went into self-quarantine this week after one of her doctors contracted coronavirus. Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) became the first senator to test positive for the coronavirus, causing several senators to self-quarantine. He becomes the third member of Congress to be diagnosed, joining Reps. Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL) and Ben McAdams (D-UT).
- The President extended social distancing guidelines until the end of April. The guidelines were set to expire Tuesday and urge individuals to cancel nonessential travel and limit in-person gatherings to 10 people or fewer.
- Members of Congress mostly plan to be in their home states and districts this week. Federal policymakers are discussing the potential for a fourth coronavirus-related package.
- On Saturday, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) – Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) – released [updated guidance on the essential critical infrastructure workforce](#) (see [Memorandum on Identification of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers During COVID-19 Response](#)). [The guidance and accompanying list](#) are intended to support State, Local, and industry partners in identifying the [critical infrastructure sectors](#) and the essential workers needed to maintain the services and functions Americans depend on daily and need to be able to operate resiliently during the COVID-19 pandemic response.
- Last Friday, the Coronavirus, Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was approved. This is the third coronavirus-related package Congress has passed. [President Trump](#) signed the legislation late Friday afternoon.

- The \$2.2 trillion, 800-page stimulus package will provide additional support to businesses of all sizes, provide direct payments to individual taxpayers, enhance benefits to individuals out of work, add financial resources to state and local governments, and assist hospitals with funding.
- GCP crafted a short two-page summary of the legislation, which can be found [here](#).
- The U.S. Senate Small Business Committee also released a guide to the CARES Act which can be found [here](#).
- GCP appreciates the efforts of the entire Ohio Congressional delegation in passing the CARES Act. Particular thanks go to Senators Portman and Brown and Representatives Kaptur, Joyce, Fudge, and Gonzalez for acting swiftly to support the Northeast Ohio community.

#### **Local Updates**

- Cuyahoga County Executive Armond Budish announced the creation of a small business stabilization fund. Details are still being developed.
- Cleveland City Council leaders are discussing efforts to provide additional support to businesses and residents struggling with impacts related to the coronavirus. See [link](#)