

GCP Advocacy: COVID-19 Update



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Please note resources and updates are evolving rapidly.

Resources

- On Monday, the Department of Treasury released additional FAQs on the Paycheck Protection Program: [Paycheck Protection Program Loans: Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- The Department of Treasury has also updated their CARES Act website to include specific sections on:
 - [Assistance for American Workers and Families](#)
 - [Assistance for Small Businesses](#)
 - [Assistance to State and Local Governments](#)
 - [Preserving Jobs for American Industry](#)

For more information and updates, visit [Treasury.gov/CARES](https://www.treasury.gov/CARES) and [SBA.gov/PayCheckProtection](https://www.sba.gov/PayCheckProtection).

State Updates

- On Monday, the state announced total deaths from COVID-19 have reached 274.
- Ohioans could need to wear a mask for the next year to keep the coronavirus at bay as businesses reopen, Ohio Department of Health Director Dr. Amy Acton said.
- Ohio officials are ordering all nursing homes to disclose cases of coronavirus within 24 hours and the Ohio Department of Health plans to publish the institutions on its website.
- The Ohio Department of Health soon will distribute thousands of ventilators and millions of masks to those fighting the coronavirus pandemic, after the Ohio Controlling Board approved spending nearly \$173.9 million on coronavirus relief on Monday.
 - The funding comes from the federal coronavirus relief act. It will send [an estimated \\$4.5 billion](#) in coronavirus relief to Ohio to be split between state and local government.
 - The Controlling Board also approved millions in food aid.
- Ohio Auditor Keith Faber stated on Monday that local governments should be planning for a substantial revenue decline as state government is.
- Lt. Governor Husted announced there are over 40,000 job postings on the [JobSearch.Ohio.Gov](https://www.jobsearch.ohio.gov) website from 642 unique companies.
- Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder's economic recovery task force continues to meet this week; the group meets again today at 12:30 p.m. and it may offer a report of recommendations by the end of the week.
- State Senator Matt Huffman, who is next in line to be Ohio Senate President, sent a letter to the Governor recently asking that businesses in less densely populated areas with fewer confirmed coronavirus cases be authorized to reopen.

- The Governor said he has regular conference calls with legislators, other governors, and Vice President Mike Pence. He said he hopes to release an Ohio plan for emerging from the shutdown caused by the pandemic that he believes will meet the approval of the Trump administration as well as those in Ohio.
- Governor Mike DeWine announced liquor sales would be banned in six counties (Ashtabula, Trumbull, Mahoning, Columbiana, Jefferson and Belmont) along or near the Pennsylvania border to anyone who does not have valid Ohio identification, to curb the interstate spread of coronavirus.

Federal Updates

- More than \$200 billion of the \$350 billion in Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) funding has been approved, and funding is expected to run out in the coming days; Congressional leaders continue to negotiate a package that could include an increase in funding for PPP, hospitals, and state and local governments.
- President Donald Trump said he's planning a Tuesday announcement to name the members of a new White House task force focused on reopening parts of the country that have been shuttered because of the coronavirus pandemic.
 - It is believed White House Chief of Staff, Mark Meadows, will lead the task force.
- The U.S. Supreme Court will take the unprecedented step of holding oral arguments by teleconference next month due to the ongoing coronavirus crisis, the court said Monday.
- The Internal Revenue Service is [reminding taxpayers](#) they have several options to schedule and pay federal taxes electronically that are due on July 15.
 - In addition, the IRS has [updated FAQs](#) regarding Form 1139 and Form 1045 to Claim Quick Refunds of the Credit for Prior Year Minimum Tax Liability of Corporations and Net Operating Loss Deductions
- **Additional Federal Guidance (As of April 13, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.):**
 - **HHS** - HHS to Begin Immediate Delivery of Initial \$30 Billion of CARES Act Provider Relief Funding ([Click here](#))
 - **CDC** - FAQs for administrators, staff, people who are incarcerated, families ([Click here](#))
 - **FDA** - FDA Authorizes Blood Purification Device to Treat COVID-19 ([Click here](#))
 - **FDA** - FDA Issues Second Emergency Use Authorization to Decontaminate N95 Respirators ([Click here](#))
 - **HUD** - Infectious Disease Toolkit for CoCs - Español ([Click here](#))
 - **HUD** - PIH Mega Waiver ([Click here](#))
 - **Treasury** - Treasury, IRS Launch Online Tool to Help Non-Filers Receive Economic Impact Payments ([Click here](#))
 - **EPA** - EPA Takes Action to Guide Health and Safety Decisions at Cleanup Sites During the COVID-19 Pandemic ([Click here](#))
- As a reminder, the Federal Reserve took actions to provide up to \$2.3 trillion in loans to support the economy. This funding will assist households and employers of all sizes and bolster the ability of state and local governments to deliver critical services during the coronavirus pandemic. Here are the details:

- The **Main Street Lending Program** will enhance support for small and mid-sized businesses that were in good financial standing before the crisis by offering 4-year loans to companies employing up to 10,000 workers or with revenues of less than \$2.5 billion. Principal and interest payments will be deferred for one year. Firms seeking Main Street loans must commit to making reasonable efforts to maintain payroll and retain workers. Borrowers must also follow compensation, stock repurchase, and dividend restrictions that apply to direct loan programs under the CARES Act. Firms that have taken advantage of the PPP may also take out Main Street loans. More information from the Federal Reserve Board can be found [here](#).
- The **Municipal Liquidity Facility** will allow the Fed to purchase up to \$500 billion in short-term notes directly from states, counties with a population of at least two million residents, and cities with a population of at least one million residents. More information from the Federal Reserve Board can be found [here](#).
- And, the Department of the Treasury and the IRS launched “Non-Filers: Enter Payment Info Here,” a web portal where Americans who did not file a tax return in 2018 or 2019 can submit basic personal information to the IRS so that they can receive economic impact payments. Go to [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov) and click on the “[Non-Filers: Enter Payment Info Here](#)” button and please follow the directions closely.
- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved the use of hospital equipment sterilization systems produced by Mentor-based STERIS.

Local Updates

- The filing deadline for residents who pay municipal income taxes through the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) has been extended three months to July 15.
 - RITA’s new deadline corresponds with the extended deadlines for filing state and federal tax returns.
 - The RITA extension applies to individual taxpayers, as well as business net-profit filings and payments. The new deadline also applies to estimated RITA payments for the first and second quarters of tax year 2020
 - Taxpayers don’t have to request the extension; it is automatically provided. No penalties or interest will be imposed through July 15.
 - Communities in Cuyahoga and Summit counties that don’t use RITA for tax collection - including the cities of Akron, Cleveland, Lakewood and Parma - also have extended filing deadlines of July 15.
- Cuyahoga County plans to make available \$3 million to help small business owners through its Stabilization Fund; details may be released in the next week.
- Cuyahoga County requested area businesses donate computers and computer accessories to help Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) students take advantage of online education during the statewide school closure in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Businesses interested in scheduling a pickup of computer equipment can contact PCs for People at (216) 406-6475.
- Tri-C is loaning ventilators to hospitals to aid COVID-19 treatment.