

May 4, 2020 – 9:00 AM

Please note resources and updates are evolving rapidly.

Resources

- Ohioans can apply for unemployment benefits online 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at unemployment.ohio.gov.
 - It is also possible to file by phone at 877-644-6562 or TTY at 888-642-8203, Monday through Friday 7AM to 7PM, Saturday 9AM to 5PM, and Sunday 9AM to 1PM. Employers with questions should email UCTech@jfs.ohio.gov.

State Updates

- By Sunday, Ohio had 19,914 cases of the coronavirus, with 1,038 deaths.
- Please see the amended Ohio Stay At Home Order effective through 11:59 p.m. EST on May 29, 2020 with the exceptions announced as part of the Responsible Restart Ohio plan.
 - More detailed information on the Responsible RestartOhio plan can be found at www.coronavirus.ohio.gov/ResponsibleRestartOhio
 - Beginning May 1, 2020, all medically necessary procedures that do not require an overnight stay in a healthcare facility, or do not require inpatient hospital admission and minimizes use of personal protective equipment, may move forward. This includes regular doctor visits, well-care checks, well-baby visits, out-patient surgeries, imaging procedures, and diagnostic tests. Dental services and veterinary services may also proceed if a safe environment can be established.
 - Beginning May 4, 2020, manufacturing, distribution, and construction businesses may reopen if these businesses can meet mandatory safety requirements for customers and employees.
 - Beginning May 4, 2020, general office environments may reopen if these businesses can meet mandatory safety requirements for customers and employees.
 - Beginning on May 12, 2020, consumer, retail and services, may reopen if these businesses can meet mandatory safety requirements for customers and employees.
 - As part of the Governor's order, the following establishments are to remain closed due to their increased risk of potential COVID-19 exposure:
 - Schools and daycares
 - Dine-in restaurants and bars (carry-out is still permitted)
 - Personal appearance and beauty businesses
 - Older adult daycare serveries and senior centers
 - Adult day support or vocational rehabilitation services in group settings
 - Entertainment, recreation, and gyms
- Governor DeWine announced the members of two separate advisory groups for recommendations and best practices when reopening dine-in restaurants, and personal service locations (hair salons, barbershops, etc.) throughout the state.
 - A list of individuals serving on the restaurant advisory group can be found [here](#).
 - A list of individuals serving on the personal services advisory group can be found [here](#).

- The state has less than two months to fill a big budget gap.
 - The state fiscal year runs through June 30, by which point the Ohio Constitution requires a balanced budget.
 - Some estimate the deficit is approximately \$2.4 billion.
- The Ohio House of Representatives will meet on both May 6 and 7 at 1:00 p.m.
- The Ohio House Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday where testimony will be offered on HB 388, legislation regarding out-of-network care.
 - The legislation, sponsored by Representative Adam Holmes, received its last hearing in mid-December and can be viewed [here](#).
- For the week ending April 25, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) reported 92,920 initial unemployment claims, taking the state's coronavirus-related six-week total to 1,057,486.
 - "To put that in perspective, the total for the last six weeks of claims is 341,974 more than the combined total of 715,512 for the last two years," ODJFS said in a news release.
 - More than \$1.45 billion in unemployment compensation payments has been distributed to more than 481,000 claimants over the last six weeks, according to the department.

Federal Updates

- Federal policymakers are set to start returning to Washington on Monday and they appear to be no closer to an agreement on the next potential relief bill.
- President Trump said that he will not support another round of COVID-19 stimulus funding without a payroll tax cut included; the remark was made while discussing his support for federal investments in infrastructure projects as a job-creating ingredient in future legislation.
- Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown has joined Democratic colleagues in a letter that asks Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer to include a \$50 billion child care bailout in upcoming legislation to help the nation recover from the coronavirus pandemic.
- Senator Brown and Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur have said they want the next aid package to include money to shore up multi-employer pension systems.
- The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) invites small business and workers to participate in the DOL's "Opening America's Workplaces Again National Online Dialogue." Through this dialogue, the public can play a key role in helping to reopen America's workplaces safely. The public – including employers, workers, local authorities and advocacy groups – is invited to share ideas on six topics:
 1. Reopening businesses;
 2. Commuting safely;
 3. Working safely;
 4. Accommodating members of vulnerable populations;
 5. Supporting America's families; and

6. Reducing regulatory burdens.

Ideas and feedback collected during the dialogue will be used by the DOL as it continues to develop compliance assistance materials and guidance for workers and employers, and will be shared with policy-makers at the federal, state and local level as they develop and refine plans on reopening America's workplaces. The comment period ends May 7, 2020.

The department's Office of Compliance Initiatives (OCI) will host the dialogue in partnership with OSHA, WHD, the department's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, its Employee Benefits Security Administration, its Employment and Training Administration, its Office of Disability Employment Policy, its Veterans' Employment and Training Service and its Women's Bureau. Please register to participate at <https://OpeningWorkplaces.ideascale.com>.

OCI is part of the department's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy. It aims to foster a compliance assistance culture within the department, complement its enforcement efforts and improve compliance assistance outreach. Through Worker.gov and Employer.gov, OCI provides information about worker rights and employer responsibilities.

Please join the dialogue to submit your ideas, votes, and comments directly to DOL. Visit <https://OpeningWorkplaces.IdeaScale.com> to learn more and register for the dialogue.

Local Updates

- Cleveland.com: Coronavirus reopenings, cancellations and restrictions in Northeast Ohio for Monday, May 4, 2020