

May 8, 2020 – 9:00 AM

*Please note resources and updates are evolving rapidly.*

### Resources

- U.S. Treasury announced via an [update to its FAQs](#) (Questions 44-45) that the safe harbor for returning PPP funds has been extended until May 14, 2020. Here is additional guidance regarding the Paycheck Protection Program:
  - [Interim Final Rule on Nondiscrimination and Additional Eligibility Criteria](#)
  - [Summary of Round 2 Data](#) (Updated on May 7, 2020)
    - *PPP Round 2 loan data will be posted at the above link EOD going forward.*
- The CARES Act provides a mortgage payment forbearance option for all borrowers who, either directly or indirectly, suffer a financial hardship due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) national emergency.
  - [Click here](#) for a fact sheet.
- The IRS has posted [Employee Retention Credit FAQs](#) and [Paid Family Leave and Sick Leave FAQs](#) that will help answer questions.
  - Updates on the implementation of the [Employee Retention Credit](#) and other information can be found on the [Coronavirus](#) page of IRS.gov.
- U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross announced that the Economic Development Administration (EDA) is now accepting applications for our \$1.5 billion CARES Act Recovery Assistance funding opportunities.
  - Here is the [link](#) to the press release. Here is the [link](#) to an FAQ.
  - Please visit [eda.gov/coronavirus](http://eda.gov/coronavirus) with information on eligible entities and assistance that is available for communities and regions to respond to and recover from the coronavirus pandemic.

### State Updates

- The Ohio Department of Health reported Thursday that coronavirus cases increased by 555 and deaths increased by 46 from Wednesday, bringing the respective totals to 22,131 and 1,271. Cases have resulted in 4,052 hospitalizations and 1,151 intensive care unit admissions.
  - Thus far, over 175,000 Ohioans have been tested for coronavirus, Ohio Department of Health Director Dr. Amy Acton said.
- More than 1.1 million Ohioans have filed for unemployment in the past three weeks which is more people than the prior three years combined.
- Gov. Mike DeWine announced at his Thursday briefing that places of business such as hair salons, barbershops, day spas, nail salons, and tanning facilities may reopen on May 15.
  - A list of mandatory and recommended best practices for personal services is [here](#).

- In addition, restaurants and bars can open for outside dining on May 15 with indoor dining opening on May 21.
  - Detailed lists of guidelines are [here](#), and best practices are [here](#).
- On Monday, the Governor said he'll have an announcement about childcare.
- Under previously announced reopening plans, elective surgeries without an overnight hospital stay resumed May 1, manufacturing, distribution, construction and general office businesses reopened May 4 and consumer, retail and services businesses will reopen on May 12.
- On the state re-openings Governor DeWine said, ““Let me just state the obvious. The risk is up. The more contacts we have, the more that we do, the more risk there is.”
  - The business industries discussed Thursday want strict enforcement to identify any bad actors that can damage their collective reputations, Lt. Governor Husted added.
- The Office of Budget and Management (OBM) released preliminary April 2020 revenue data.
  - Total General Revenue Fund tax receipts finished the month \$866.5 million (-35.3%) below estimates.
  - Details on the specific impacts on K-12 schools and higher education institutions can be found at the following links: [Higher Education](#), [K-12 Education](#), [K-12 Summary Tables](#).
  - The Governor's 3.8% cut in funding for each of Ohio's public colleges and universities adds up to \$76.7 million overall, according to information released by the state's budget office. [See here for more details from Cleveland.com](#).
  - School district-level [details](#) for the planned \$300.4 million in cuts to the state's public K-12 schools through the end of the fiscal year on June 30 showed the largest cuts by percentage were in the suburban counties of Geauga (13.5%) and Delaware (13.2%).
  - The Cleveland school system is slated to lose \$5.6 million, or about 1%.
- The Ohio Senate sent a bill to the Ohio House on Wednesday that would provide \$350 million to local governments to pay for expenses racked up to combat the coronavirus.
  - The money comes from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which Congress passed last month.
  - It can only be used on expenses related to the pandemic -- such as disinfectant, personal protective equipment and emergency personnel expenses.
  - The state has more money to send to local governments, but because federal guidelines are very strict, some state legislators are hopeful the federal rules will ease soon and they'll release the rest of it.
- Ohio House Republicans amended and passed a bill that would limit Ohio Department of Health orders to 14 days, unless a legislative panel agrees to extend them.
  - “We are in the middle of an emergency now,” Governor DeWine said. “....I don't understand why anyone would think this is a great time to be changing the law, to be taking away the power of the executive branch to protect people.”
  - Another bill the House passed Wednesday would decriminalize violations of the health orders, making them a minor misdemeanor.
  - The Ohio Senate has not acted on either piece of legislation.

- The Ohio House economic recovery task force Ohio 2020 will meet Friday at 10:00 a.m.
  - You can find all of the past testimony and agendas [here](#).
- The Ohio Supreme Court will hear arguments on May 13 in a [challenge by local communities](#) to the state's legislature's decision to centralize municipal tax collection.
  - Two separate appeals will be heard, with one being an Elyria group of plaintiffs representing 28 Northeast Ohio communities.

### **Federal Updates**

- The total number of cases world-wide rose to nearly 3.85 million Friday, with about a third of those in the U.S., according to data compiled by Johns Hopkins University.
  - The U.S. death toll, the highest in the world, stood at more than 75,000, according to Johns Hopkins.
- Speaker Nancy Pelosi and House Democrats are planning to unveil a CARES 2 package in the coming days, with a possible (not yet confirmed) House floor vote as early as next week.
  - The bill's release is "imminent," and is expected to include at least \$800 billion in funding directed to state and local governments, along with money for COVID-19 testing and food stamp funding, unemployment support and other direct payouts for the needy and unemployed.
  - "This is not plowing any new territory," Pelosi said. "It is digging deeper with more money."
  - House passage would set up a clash with Republicans in the Senate, where Majority Leader Mitch McConnell is calling for a "pause" in emergency aid, to allow the trillions of dollars already allocated to get out the door.
  - Having put negotiations on pause, Senate Republicans continue to insist on including language to protect businesses from virus-related lawsuits and liability.
  - On Thursday, President Trump said that employers, including sports stadiums and team owners, need protection from lawsuits that may stem from infections with COVID-19 as national activities resume
- U.S. House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy named Ohio Congressman Anthony Gonzalez to a new GOP task force that will examine Chinese threats to the United States.
- President Trump said on Wednesday that the coronavirus task force will continue on "indefinitely" as the country struggles with the balancing act of reopening the economy and stemming the spread of the virus, with more dire economic numbers set to be released on Friday.
  - The president made the announcement a day after he and Vice President Pence said the task force would soon be wound down.
- The Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM) announced the launch of its ["Strengthening American Competitiveness"](#) initiative.
  - It will begin with a kick-off series of teleconferences with American businesses and stakeholders, and will focus on how EXIM can support U.S. companies that seek to compete in the global marketplace.

### **Additional Federal Guidance (as of May 7, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.):**

- **HHS** - HHS Extends Deadline for Attestation, Acceptance of Terms and Conditions for Provider Relief Fund Payments to 45 Days ([Click here](#))

- **HHS** - HHS Awards More than Half Billion Dollars Across the Nation to Expand COVID-19 Testing ([Click here](#))
- **CMS** - May 7 News Alert ([Click here](#))
- **CMS** - Interim Final Rule Updating Requirements for Notification of Confirmed and Suspected COVID-19 Cases Among Residents and Staff in Nursing Homes ([Click here](#))
- **FDA** - May 6 Daily Roundup ([Click here](#))
- **FDA** - FDA Continues to Combat Fraudulent COVID-19 Medical Products ([Click here](#))
- **NIH** - NIH-supported research survey to examine impact of COVID-19 on rare diseases community ([Click here](#))
- **DHS-FEMA** - How We Make Decisions During COVID-19 to get Supplies to the Right Place at the Right Time ([Click here](#))
- **Treasury/IRS** - Three new credits are available to many businesses hit by COVID-19 ([Click here](#))
- **DOL** - U.S. Department of Labor Awards Over \$10 Million in Dislocated Worker Grants in Response to the Coronavirus Public Health Emergency ([Click here](#))
- **DOC** - U.S. Department of Commerce Announces Availability of \$1.5 Billion in CARES Act Funds to Aid Communities Impacted by the Coronavirus Pandemic ([Click here](#))

### Local Updates

- Mayor Frank Jackson sought Thursday to provide reassurance, answers and cautious advice as the city and Ohio prepares to reopen their economies after more than a month of people staying at home.
  - Joined by Congresswoman Marcia Fudge, the pair took questions from residents on a telephone town hall.
  - Health concerns are the reason City Hall and the recreation centers and swimming pools remain closed Jackson said.
  - “Stay at home. Stay at home, unless you need to go out,” Jackson said. “And if you have to go out, maintain a safe social distance.”
- University Hospitals developed the [UH Healthy Restart Playbook](#) for Northeast Ohio businesses and non-profits on how to best prepare to reopen their doors.
  - The publication helps explain the science behind infection control measures recommended by current official guidelines and how to consider implementing it in your workplace.
- [Cleveland.com](#): Cedar Fair is considering capacity limits, virtual queuing, in reopening of Cedar Point, other parks.