

Please note resources and updates are evolving rapidly.

Resources

- On Wednesday at 11:15 a.m., the Federal Reserve Bank of New York will host a virtual forum on the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on small businesses and how community stakeholders and capital providers can support minority-owned businesses. [Register here](#).
- The federal government released a [document](#) last week listing the criteria small businesses must follow to have Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans forgiven.
 - Over the weekend, the U.S. Small Business Administration [released guidance](#) on loan forgiveness for the PPP. While the guidance does provide some clarity on several loan forgiveness questions, the guidance does not alter the eight-week period during which PPP funds must be spent to qualify for forgiveness and does not change the requirement that borrowers spend at least 75% of the funds on payroll costs. These issues may be addressed by Congress.
- The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) is working with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to support federal, state, and local communities.
 - [This link](#) is an outline of programs available to state and local entities that are eligible for direct access to GSA sources.
- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) [announced a 45-day deadline extension](#) for providers who are receiving payments from the Provider Relief Fund to accept the Terms and Conditions for Provider Relief Fund payments.
 - Visit hhs.gov/providerrelief for more information.
- Nearly four million people are being sent their Economic Impact Payment by prepaid debit card. The determination of which taxpayers receive a debit card was made by the Bureau of the Fiscal Service, another part of the Treasury Department that works with the IRS to handle distribution of the payments.
 - The card will come with instructions on how to activate and use it. Learn more at www.eipcard.com.
 - For more information please see here:
[Economic Impact Payments by Prepaid Debit Card](#)
[Economic Impact Payment Card](#)
[Economic Impact Payment Information Center](#)

State Updates

- The Ohio Department of Health reported Tuesday that coronavirus cases increased by 529 and deaths increased by 15, reaching respective totals of 33,006 and 2,002.
 - Cases have resulted in 5,579 hospitalizations and 1,450 intensive care unit admissions.

- The Ohio Senate introduced their version of a re-appropriations bill, SB 316, on Tuesday.
 - The Senate Finance Committee will meet Wednesday for its first hearing on the legislation.
 - The Ohio Office of Budget and Management (OBM) Director Kim Murnieks will present and Chairman Matt Dolan will provide sponsor testimony during the hearing.
- The Ohio House also has a version of a capital re-appropriations bill, HB 670.
 - The House Finance Committee will also hold its first hearing on HB 670 on Wednesday with sponsor testimony provided by Representative Derek Merrin.
- The capital re-appropriations bills will each have emergency clauses attached to ensure that there is not a lapse in funding for existing capital projects at the end of the fiscal year on June 30. However, the House as-introduced version is nearly half the size of the Senate version in terms of funded projects, which is expected to require negotiations over the next several weeks. The debate will focus on the fact that the Senate version includes, but the House version removes, the Department of Administrative Services (DAS), Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA), and Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) projects. As of now, it is expected that a re-appropriations bill will pass by the end of June.
- The Ohio House Civil Justice will have its fifth hearing for possible amendments and a vote on civil immunity legislation, HB 606, on Wednesday; the Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee will hold its fourth hearing on SB 308 on similar legislation with possible amendments.
- The Ohio House Finance Committee will hold its fifth hearing for all testimony on broadband expansion legislation, HB 13.
- COVID-19 signage and health screening questions for use with customers/clients as resources for businesses and other organizations are available on the coronavirus website [here](#).
- Governor Mike DeWine announced Tuesday that newly-formed Congregate Care Unified Response Teams, which include medically-trained members of the Ohio National Guard, have been deployed to provide COVID-19 testing to long-term care facilities, which have been hit particularly hard during the pandemic.
- As a result of the economic impact of COVID-19, Governor Mike DeWine announced \$775 million in reductions to Ohio's General Revenue Fund for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2020, which ends on June 30.
 - These budget reductions, in addition to identifying areas of savings, are deemed necessary to ensure Ohio fulfills its constitutional requirement of maintaining a balanced state budget each year.
 - The budget reductions for the Ohio Development Services Agency (DAS) will preclude their ability to award funding to any of the applications submitted for the Industry Sector Partnership Program in the current fiscal year. At this time, all applications submitted for funding will be retained. If funding is available for the program next fiscal year, DAS will proceed with scoring the applications currently received and awarding grant funds in accordance with the program guidelines.

- Last week, Lt. Governor Husted announced several new sector opening dates in Ohio:
 - On June 1, catering and banquet centers may reopen if they can meet required safety protocols. Protocols include six feet between tables, no congregating, and a crowd size of no more than 300 people.
 - Guidance for these Orders are here: [baseball](#), [golf](#), [general non-contact sports](#), and [skills training](#).
 - Full guidelines to ensure that these sectors operate in the safest manner possible are/will be available at coronavirus.ohio.gov.

- On Tuesday, the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals has at least delayed a lower court ruling ordering Ohio to accept electronically collected signatures for ballot initiatives and delaying the filing deadline, writing that the district court exceeded its authority by rewriting Ohio election law.
 - The order blocked the lower court decision and remains in effect while the appeals court continues its review of the case.
 - Under Ohio law, proposed constitutional amendments aiming for the November ballot must submit valid signatures from 452,958 voters collected from 44 of Ohio's 88 counties before a July 1 deadline and there are two initiatives seeking to secure constitutional amendments on the Ohio ballot.
 - “Ohioans for Secure & Fair Elections”: would allow for same-day voter registration and the ability to cast a ballot during early voting and on Election Day.
 - “Ohioans for Raising the Wage”: want to raise Ohio’s minimum wage incrementally to \$13 by 2025.

Federal Updates

- As of May 25, the Small Business Administration has approved 430,906 Economic Injury Disaster Loan applications resulting in \$37.8 billion in disaster loan funds available to assist businesses and their employees.
 - The SBA has also approved over 4.4 million Paycheck Protection Program applications resulting in \$511.2 billion available to assist businesses and their employees.

- The U.S. House of Representatives is scheduled to reconvene, with possible votes expected to reauthorize the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) and on legislation to change parts of the small business loan program that launched in March in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said on Tuesday Congress will “probably” have to pass another coronavirus relief package, with talks expected to take place “in the next month or so” on a bill.

- On Tuesday, the Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service issued final regulations clarifying the reporting requirements generally applicable to tax-exempt organizations.
 - The final regulations reflect statutory amendments and certain grants of reporting relief announced by the Treasury Department and the IRS in prior guidance to help many tax-exempt organizations generally find the reporting requirements in one place.

- Among other provisions, the final regulations incorporate the existing exception from having to file an annual return for certain organizations that normally have gross receipts of \$50,000 or less. That exception was previously announced in Revenue Procedure 2011-15. The regulations also provide that the requirement to report contributor names and addresses on annual returns generally applies only to returns filed by Section 501(c)(3) organizations and Section 527 political organizations. All tax-exempt organizations must continue to maintain the names and addresses of their substantial contributors in their books and records. This change will have no effect on transparency, as contributor information that is open to public inspection will be unaffected by this regulation.
- The final regulations allow tax-exempt organizations to choose to apply the regulations to returns filed after September 6, 2019.
- The U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) is seeking public comments on how to improve the exclusion process for tariffs and quotas imposed on steel and aluminum imports under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 ("Section 232").
- An executive order signed by President Trump directing agencies to decrease regulations to boost the economy may lead to court challenges.
 - The order directs agency heads to "identify regulatory standards that may inhibit economic recovery," highlighting that regulations could be permanently or temporarily lifted to fight the economic fallout of the coronavirus.
- For more information on the President's phased-in approach, in response to COVID-19, based on the advice of public experts see below:
 - Guidelines for Opening Up America Again
 - Testing Overview ([HERE](#))
 - Testing Blueprint ([HERE](#))
 - Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools and Homes ([HERE](#))
 - CDC guidance for [Camps](#), [Child Care Programs](#), [Schools](#), [Mass Transit](#), [Restaurants And Bars](#), and [Workplaces](#)
 - CDC Activities and Initiatives Supporting the COVID-19 Response and the President's Plan for Opening America Up Again ([HERE](#))

Local Updates

- Cleveland.com: Cuyahoga County considers using \$30 million in federal aid for coronavirus-related modifications to county buildings
- Cleveland.com: Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson extends coronavirus civil emergency proclamation through June 30
- Crain's Cleveland: WSJ introduces its readers to an important Cleveland real estate project