



Governor Mike DeWine has taken quick and decisive action in order to slow the spread of the coronavirus, which causes COVID-19. Each of these actions is to ensure that Ohio's healthcare system is able to remain strong and available to anyone who needs it.

DeWine stated, "We are aware that the disruption caused by the coronavirus pandemic is and will continue to modify regular life for all Ohioans; however, our state is home to world-renowned healthcare institutions and together we've taken the steps needed to keep Ohioans safe. Once the initial threat of this virus has passed, Ohioans will return to work and school, our stadiums and arenas will open their doors to spectators again, and our restaurants will fill with patrons."

Industries within the Chamber's membership impacted by executive orders at this time include: schools and universities, fitness centers, gyms, bowling alleys, public rec centers, movie theaters, indoor water parks, indoor trampoline parks, bars and restaurants. Bars and restaurants may remain open to carry out and delivery orders, and alcohol may still be purchased in grocery stores and drive-through locations.

Below please find state-related resources for small businesses and non-profit organizations:

[Support for Small Businesses & Non-Profit Organizations](#)

The Ohio Development Services Agency is working this week to qualify Ohio for the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program, with an announcement expected very soon that will enable Ohio businesses to access loans up to \$2 million to overcome the temporary loss of revenue during the state of emergency. Non-profit organizations in Ohio will also be eligible for EIDL loans.

[Enhanced Unemployment Aid for Ohioans](#)

The Governor has issued an executive order, which will grant the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) with the authority to accept and grant requests for unemployment compensation suspending the normal 1-week waiting period. This order will also give relief to applicants who are not offered paid leave through their job, as well as those who have been quarantined by a medical professional, their employer, or whose employers must temporarily close. Those who apply for unemployment under these circumstances will be exempt from the requirement that they be actively seeking work. For more information, please visit JFS.Ohio.gov/Coronavirus.



SharedWork Ohio

SharedWork Ohio is an alternative to layoffs for employers. It allows workers to remain employed and employers to retain their staff during times of reduced business activity. Under a SharedWork Ohio plan, employers reduce hours to avert a layoff. The participating employee works the reduced hours, and ODJFS provides an unemployment insurance benefit proportionate to their reduced hours. Interested employers should provide ODJFS with a list of participating employees and specify their normal weekly hours of work, not to exceed 40 hours and not including overtime. Part-time employees may be eligible, but all employees in an affected unit must have their hours reduced by the same reduction percentage. For more information, please visit JFS.Ohio.gov/SharedWorkOhio.

TechCred

We encourage Ohio employers to take advantage of the State of Ohio's TechCred program and upskill their employees while they may be unable to perform their typical day-to-day duties. Many of these trainings can be completed online. TechCred offers employers up to \$2,000 in reimbursement for every technology-focused credential earned by an employee, up to \$30,000 per employer per round. These technology-focused credentials take a year or less to complete and prepare current and future employees for the technology jobs Ohio employers need. The current application period is open through March 31st on TechCred.Ohio.Gov. If a business has questions about the program they should email Workforce@OWT.Ohio.gov.

One-time Liquor Buyback

The Ohio Department of Commerce will immediately begin offering a one-time liquor buyback option to support bars and restaurants. This will especially aid those establishments that have stocked up on high-proof liquor ahead of the St. Patrick's Day holiday for which they now have no use, due to their closure to in-house patrons. Bars and restaurants wishing to take advantage of this opportunity should return their unopened, high-proof liquor products (obtained within the past 30 days) to the agency where they purchased the product. This opportunity is also extended to those with temporary (F2) permits for events scheduled between March 12 and April 6, 2020. If a business has questions about this program, they should reach out directly to the Liquor Enterprise Service Center (LESC) at 1(877) 812-0013 or by emailing OhioLiquorInfo@Com.Ohio.gov.