

Businesses & Workers Assistance Overview

DeWine Administration's aggressive steps to help Ohio businesses and individuals impacted by COVID-19.

On March 15, 2020, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine announced that the Ohio Department of Health has issued a [Director's Order](#) closing all bars and restaurants in Ohio to in-house patrons. Restaurants with take-out and delivery options may continue to operate those services, even as their dining rooms are temporarily closed.

Enhanced Unemployment Aid For Ohioans

Executive Order 2020-XXX gives the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services the authority to accept and grant requests for unemployment compensation immediately, suspending the normal one-week waiting period.

This order also gives 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 also be exempt from the requirement that they be actively seeking work.

To apply for benefits, go to unemployment.ohio.gov anytime day or night, or call 1-877-644-6562 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays.

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 is intended to 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 can return 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.

Questions about this program should be directed to the Liquor Enterprise Service Center at 1-877-812-0013 or OhioLiquorInfo@Com.Ohio.gov.

Support For Small Businesses & Non-Profits

The Ohio Development Services Agency is preparing to submit an application this week to qualify Ohio for the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program. This program provides low-interest loans up to \$2 million to help businesses overcome the temporary loss of revenue during the state of emergency.

Non-profit organizations in Ohio will also be eligible for low-interest loans through the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program.

In order to complete the state's application, businesses impacted by the current public health crisis should immediately send their contact information to BusinessHelp@Development.Ohio.gov. Additional information on the SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program is available at SBA.gov/Disaster.

Visit coronavirus.ohio.gov
or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH for answers

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