



COVID-19 TOOL KIT

Information gathered by your Chamber

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) was first identified in Wuhan, China, and reported by the World Health Organization on December 31, 2019 and has now been detected in more than 100 locations internationally, including the U.S. Around the globe, the Coronavirus is receiving heightened attention for infecting tens of thousands of people.

The respiratory illness caused by a Coronavirus is thought to spread between people who are in close contact with one another (about six feet) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land on common surfaces or in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby, or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. COVID-19 is a respiratory virus that is spread from person to person.

The onset of symptoms typically begins between 2-14 days after exposure. At this time, there is no vaccine to protect against COVID-19 and no medications approved to treat it. According to the CDC, symptoms include mild-severe respiratory symptoms like:

- Pneumonia
- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of Breath

The Westerville Area Chamber is closely tracking the impact of the Coronavirus for our businesses and the Greater Westerville area. Below are resources for advice on how your business and family can plan for and respond to the virus. We will update this page as information is made available.

We are regularly reviewing guidance from the CDC as well as Governor Mike DeWine, we are proceeding in a calm, cautious and responsible manner advancing the work of the Chamber supporting the free enterprise system in greater Westerville.

The next few weeks will determine how many lives are impacted and how long this pandemic will last.

Monitoring:

Ohio Department of Health: [Director's Stay At Home Order](#)

CDC's Coronavirus Report: [CDC Report](#)

Check latest travel information: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel>

Business Resources:

[SBA assistance](#)

- [SBA Disaster Relief Loans](#)

CDC Guidance for Business/Employers: [Coronavirus CDC](#)

Expanded Unemployment Benefit Access: <http://jfs.ohio.gov/ouio/CoronavirusAndUI.stm>

Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation payments deferred to June 1...[Learn more.](#)

****"BWC will not cancel coverage or assess penalties for amounts not paid because of the coronavirus pandemic," said Lt. Governor Husted. "Installment payments due for the three-month period are totaled at approximately \$200 million, and that money will now stay in the economy."*

U.S. Chamber Guidance for Employers to plan and respond: [Guidance for Employers](#)

State of the virus in Ohio: <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home>

Congress Finalized Legislation COVID-19 Coronavirus Response Act:

<https://www.uschamber.com/issue-brief/summary-of-latest-congressional-action-coronavirus-response>

State of Ohio Liquor Control for Restaurants and Bars: *Buy Back Program*

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/UPDATED-PROCESS--Wholesale-Return-Requests.html?soid=1102307935227&aid=nUu1rgD69DQ>

Retreating Options and Higher Education (Below)

Limit the spread of germs and infectious disease:

- **Avoid close contact** with people who are sick.
- **Cover your cough or sneeze** with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.**
- **Clean and disinfect** frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- **Stay home when you are sick**, except to get medical care.
- **Hand Hygiene- Wash your hands often** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- **Stay home when sick**
- **Remove candy dishes and limit sharing pens and workplace equipment**

Community Resources:

Local Health Districts and Providers: <https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/Novel-Coronavirus/2019-nCoV>

Ohio Dept. of Health has opened a call center to answer questions regarding coronavirus and update out the risk in Ohio. Licensed nurses and infectious disease experts are available to answer your questions 7 days a week from 9:00am to 8:00pm and can be reached at 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

Franklin County Public Health action: <https://myfcph.org/covid-19/>

Delaware County Foundation is creating an emergency response fund, which their Board of Directors pledged \$100,000 to. The **Delaware County COVID-19 Response Fund** will provide immediate and longer-term resources to nonprofits serving vulnerable residents across our county. [Learn more.](#)



RETRAINING OPTIONS

OHIO TECHNICAL CENTERS: <https://www.ohiohighered.org/otc/locations>

- Ohio Technical Centers provide post-secondary career and technical education (CTE) at 54 career centers across Ohio.
- These institutions offer programming in the skill trades (i.e., HVAC, Phlebotomy, Police Training, EMT, etc.) that prepare adult learners for certificates, industry-recognized certifications, and state licensures.
- Ohio Technical Centers are positioned to respond quickly to the needs of business and industry by providing customized trainings and business consultation services to companies in order to assist with meeting Ohio's workforce goals.

COMMUNITY COLLEGES: <https://www.ohiohighered.org/campuses/map>

- Ohio's two-year college system is made up of 23 technical and community colleges.
- These institutions allow students to complete the first two years of a bachelor's degree and/or pursue a technical certificate, Associate degree, or microcredential.
- At an affordable rate, employers can utilize two-year colleges for upskilling and retraining their employees in a variety of fields.

- Two-year colleges also offer certification prep and customized training in Ohio's most in-demand industries.

UNIVERSITIES: <https://www.ohiohighered.org/campuses/map>

- Ohio is a national leader in postsecondary education with 14 public universities and 51 private colleges and universities.
- Many universities offer certificate programs that can be completed in less than a year, giving employees the opportunity to upskill in the short-term.

MICROCREDENTIALS

- Microcredentials indicate an understanding or mastery in a specific skill or set of skills. Most microcredentials can be earned online and in a self-paced format.
- Microcredentials provide an opportunity for employee development that leads to increased business productivity without the time commitment of other traditional educational programs.
- Through Ohio's TechCred program employers can be reimbursed up to \$2000 when employers complete these types of credentials.

TECHCRED: techcred.ohio.gov

- TechCred reimburses Ohio employers when they invest in their employees by sponsoring them to earn tech-focused credentials.
- Employers can apply for the current round of TechCred, which runs through March 31st.
- 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.
- Credentials can be offered by a provider of the company's choice and many of these trainings can be completed online.

OHIOMEANSJOBS CENTERS: jfs.ohio.gov/wioamap/

- OhioMeansJobs centers are located within each of Ohio's counties and assist job seekers, employers and youth with job search assistance, employee recruitment, job training, and more.
- Many OhioMeansJobs centers help subsidize the cost of employee training and upskilling through their Incumbent Worker Training and On-The-Job Training programs.
- Employers can connect with their local OhioMeansJobs center to connect with new talent or learn more about opportunities to upskill their current workforce.

OHIOMEANSJOBS.COM: <https://jobseeker.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/>

- OhioMeansJobs.com provides all Ohioans with access to free online training and assessments. OhioMeansJobs.com has free online courses on business and computer topics, such as Microsoft and Adobe products.

LINKEDIN LEARNING: [linkedin.com/learning/](https://www.linkedin.com/learning/)

- LinkedIn Learning is an online tool where users can take courses to earn business, creative, and tech skills. LinkedIn Learning has over 15,000 expert led courses.
- LinkedIn Learning is available for free to any Ohioan with a valid public library card.

OTHER FREE ONLINE EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- In addition to the resources available through OhioMeansJobs.com and LinkedIn Learning, there are a number of other online education and training providers through which part or all of their course content can be accessed for free.
- A few examples of the many great online resources include: Code.org, Coursera, edX, Udacity, and Khan Academy.
- Code.org: <https://code.org/>
- Coursera: <https://www.coursera.org/>
- edX: <https://www.edx.org/>
- Udacity: <https://www.udacity.com/>

- Khan Academy: <https://www.khanacademy.org/>

eBASED ACADEMY: <http://www.ebasedacademy.org/learn>

- The eBasedAcademy is an online learning platform hosted by OhioMHAS. From behavioral sciences to the science of addiction, eBasedAcademy offers classes from Ohio's top educators, professors and professionals.
- Through the eBasedAcademy you can earn Continuing Education Credits in a variety of fields including psychology, nursing and social work.

SHAREDWORK OHIO:

SharedWork Ohio is a voluntary layoff aversion program. It allows workers to remain employed and employers to retain trained staff during times of reduced business activity. Under a SharedWork Ohio plan, the participating employer reduces affected employees' hours in a uniform manner. The participating employee works the reduced hours each week, and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) provides eligible individuals an unemployment insurance benefit proportionate to their reduced hours. You can visit JFS.Ohio.gov/ouio/SharedWorkOhio for more information.