



## OHIO TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION

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*Questions?*

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## COVID-19 Updates & Other Relevant Information for Township Officials

### COVID-19 Updates:

*Township COVID-19 Funding*  
*USDA Resources*  
*Open Meetings Reminder*  
*OTA/OSU Zoom 101 Webinar*  
*BWC Open Enrollment*  
*Federal Updates*

### TOWNSHIP COVID-19 FUNDING

*TOWNSHIPS MAY SEE FUNDS FROM CARES ACT AS OF APRIL 10TH*

Did your township bank account have a mysterious deposit on April 10th or thereafter that was described as shown below?

If yes, your township is a recipient of a portion of the \$30 billion being infused into the healthcare system per the CARES Act. All facilities and providers that received Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) reimbursements in 2019 are eligible for this initial rapid distribution, which will be made via direct-deposit. These are payments, not loans, and will not need to be repaid. All relief payments are made to the billing organization according to its Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN). As a condition to receiving these funds, providers must agree not to seek collection of out-of-pocket payments from a COVID-19 patient that are greater than what the patient would have otherwise been required to pay if the care had been provided by an in-network provider. For more information about the CARES Act Provider Relief Fund, please visit <https://www.hhs.gov/provider-relief/index.html>.

04/10/2020 External Deposit US HHS Stimulus HHSPAYMENT



## USDA Resource Guide

The US Department of Agriculture recently published a Rural Resource Guide, which details programs providing immediate and long-term assistance to rural communities affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. You may access the guide [here](#).

### OPEN MEETINGS REMINDER

#### *RESOURCES AVAILABLE ON THE OTA WEBSITE*

As a reminder, townships are able to hold meetings and hearings electronically during the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes teleconference, video conference, or other electronic means. **Again, a township may host their meetings by conference call.** Resources for conducting online meetings are available [here](#) and in the box to the right.

Townships are still required to provide notice of these meetings and allow public access, pursuant to Ohio's Open Meetings Act. A summary of these requirements is available [here](#).

### WEBINAR:

#### *OTA/OSU ZOOM 101 WEBINAR*

The OTA, in collaboration with OSU Extension - Community Development, put together a webinar on electronic meetings with a basic tutorial on using Zoom for townships that may need assistance getting started. Below are links to the webinar and materials presented in the video.

- [OTA/OSU Zoom 101 Webinar](#)
- [Electronic Meetings Best Practices](#)
- [Open Meetings Act Changes and HB 197](#)

## BWC OPEN ENROLLMENT POSTPONED

### *COVID-19 POSTPONES BWC'S MCO OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD*

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 on Ohio's business community, the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation is postponing this year's enrollment period for employers to select a managed care organization (MCO) to manage their injury claims.

Offered every two years in the spring, the enrollment period is an opportunity for employers to select a new MCO that may best fit their needs. The official enrollment period, scheduled for April 27 – May 22, will now occur May 3 – May 28, 2021.

BWC will continue to publish its annual MCO Report Card, which provides employers with objective information on the performance of each of the 11 MCOs that contract with the state of Ohio. The 2020 MCO Report Card, along with an MCO Selection Guide, is scheduled to be available by the end of April at [bwc.ohio.gov](http://bwc.ohio.gov).



## FEDERAL UPDATE

As the federal government is working on its ongoing COVID-19 response, the OTA has requested the state's assistance with the following items:

- Ensuring that CARES Act funding reaches the local level;
- Providing guidance on what is COVID-19 related for purposes of federal funding;
- Accessing FEMA funding to support local communities as soon as possible.

**For more information on COVID-19 pertinent to Ohio townships, visit the OTA's [website](#).**

**\*NOTE FROM THE OTA: Please share this information with your fellow township officials. Thank you!\***

*The Ohio Township Association is a statewide organization dedicated to the promotion and preservation of township government in Ohio. The OTA was founded on June 28, 1928, and is organized in 87 Ohio counties. OTA has more than 5,200 active members, made up of trustees and fiscal officers from Ohio's 1,308 townships, and more than 4,000 associate members.*