



## OHIO TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION

HEIDI M. FOUGHT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
6500 TAYLOR ROAD, SUITE A  
BLACKLICK, OH 43004  
PHONE: 614-863-0045 • FAX: 614-863-9751

**Monday, May 18, 2020**

*Questions?*

Contact Marisa Myers at [myers@ohiotownships.org](mailto:myers@ohiotownships.org)  
or Heidi M. Fought at [fought@ohiotownships.org](mailto:fought@ohiotownships.org)

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

---

### COVID-19 Updates:

*House Considering SB 310*  
*Examples of What May Be Included in CARES Act Funding*  
*Masks Sent to County EMAs*  
*Sample Policies for Employees Returning to Work*

---

### HOUSE CONSIDERING SB 310

#### UPDATE ON DISTRIBUTION OF CARES ACT FUNDING

The Ohio Senate has passed SB 310, which provides a formula for distribution of federal CARES Act funding to local governments, including townships. We have included information on this bill in past emails. You may review a summary [here](#).

SB 310 is currently pending in the House Finance Committee and had its first hearing last week. The OTA is working with our local government partners and members of the House and Senate on this legislation.

Additionally, as currently written, SB 310 requires local governments to pass a resolution ahead of receiving funding. The OTA, in collaboration with the Office of Budget and Management, will have a sample resolution available upon the bill's enactment.

The OTA encourages you to contact your [state representative](#) and express support for quick passage of SB 310 so that townships may utilize this funding.



## EXAMPLES OF WHAT MAY BE INCLUDED IN CARES ACT FUNDING

The OTA has received numerous questions on what SB 310/CARES Act revenue can be used for. While the OTA cannot speak to specific uses of funding and we encourage townships to work with legal counsel, the OTA has put together a list of examples based on [U.S. Treasury guidance](#).

While funding may not be used to fill general revenue shortfalls, below are examples of expenses that may be included if related to COVID-19:

- Emergency medical response;
  - Examples: transportation of COVID-19 patients, disinfection of transport unit afterward, etc.
- Acquisition and distribution of medical and protective supplies;
  - Examples: PPE, hand sanitizer, shields, etc.
- Safety service personnel costs;
  - Hiring of additional personnel;
  - Testing of employees; and/or
  - Establishing a testing facility (i.e. tent or similar structure)
- Payroll and expenses of public safety and public health professionals;
  - Public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency
- Disinfection of public areas and facilities;
- Improvements of telework capabilities;
- Provision of required paid sick or FMLA leave;
- Expenses for the care of homeless populations related to COVID-19;
- Communication and enforcement of public health order(s); and
- Unemployment insurance costs if not otherwise covered by the federal government.

## MASKS SENT TO COUNTY EMAS

### *STATE DISTRIBUTING ONE MILLION MASKS TO COUNTY EMAS*

County EMA directors were recently advised by the Ohio EMA that the State will be sending 1 million washable/reusable cotton masks to county EMAs. The distribution uses a per capita basis by county and occurred on Friday, May 15th. This allotment is intended to be distributed by the local EMAs to local government entities within the EMA's jurisdiction – county, municipal, and township – to deploy as each chooses based on their determination of highest and best use within that political subdivision. EMAs were encouraged to consult and collaborate with their local political subdivision partners to determine the allocation plan within the county.

As you have heard Governor DeWine and Lt. Governor Husted announce, the State is also working with the Ohio Manufacturers' Association to support Ohio-based companies to manufacture reusable face coverings as part of the Manufacturing Alliance to Fight COVID-19 (<https://repurposingproject.com/>). In support of this effort, the Ohio Department of Administrative Services committed \$2.5 million to buy 1 million masks.



We encourage townships to work with their county EMA leaders to discuss the needs and best uses of the reusable masks in their political subdivision and community.

**SAMPLE POLICIES FOR EMPLOYEES RETURNING TO WORK**

*DOCUMENTS TO ASSIST IN TOWNSHIP WORKPLACE SAFETY DURING COVID-19*

[Sample COVID-19 Building and Workplace Policy](#)

[Sample COVID-19 Restart Checklist](#)

[Township Employees Returning to Work FAQ](#)

**\*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.*