



Office of Community Development Weekly Digest

December 9, 2021

Our offices are closed on the weekend. If you think you'll need to access OCEAN during that time, make sure you can log in by 12 p.m. Friday.

For password resets, email ocd@development.ohio.gov. DO NOT submit a ticket to the OCEAN Help Desk.

Upcoming Events and Grant Deadlines

(click underlined text for more information)

Upcoming OCD Grant and Application Deadlines

No new items

OCD Meetings and Training Events

December 9, 2021 [Brownfield and Demolition Programs Overview Webinar](#)

Other Training and Professional Development Events

December 15, 2021 [Getting Ready for the Audit](#)

Virtual Trainings

(click underlined text for more information)

[Avoid Compliance Pitfalls with SS income](#) (new training from the Ohio Housing Finance Agency)

[Basically CDBG Online](#)

[Tiny Chat: Fair Housing](#)

[URA the HUD Way](#)

New and Updated Items

COVID-19 Items

- No new items

Administrative Items

- [Updates to HCRP and HCRP CARES Act Guidelines](#)

Active OCEAN users automatically receive the OCD Weekly Digest.

If you are an active OCEAN user and not receiving the Digest, please check with your administrator and make ocd@development.ohio.gov a safe sender.

If you would like to sign up to receive the Digest directly, you can [sign up here](#). If you are currently an active OCEAN User, you do not need to complete the form. You will continue to receive the weekly email when a new edition is posted. Click here to submit your information.

Also, check your OCEAN profile and ensure your email address is correct. Click [here](#) for the Quick Reference Guide to update your information. Remember to use Internet Explorer when using OCEAN.

If you need assistance navigating OCEAN, **[do not submit a ticket to the OCEAN Help Desk](#)**. Email your program representative with the [grant number and screen shots of the issue](#).

Environmental Review Process

Until further notice, grantees must submit environmental review Request for Release of Funds and/or Certification documentation via email to ocd@development.ohio.gov. Grantees may view and download Project-Specific Release of Environmental Conditions documents in OCEAN. OCD will not mail hard copies of these documents. Please email Cecilia Castillo at Cecilia.Castillo@development.ohio.gov or Tim Allen at TimothyM.Allen@development.ohio.gov if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

COVID-19 Administrative Updates

PY 2020 Round 2 Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV) Program Funding Availability

The Office of Community Development has funds available through Round 2 of the Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV) for renovation and street outreach. Supplemental funding for Round 1 Homeless Crisis Response Program (HCRP) CARES grantees for emergency shelter, alternate shelter, homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing is also available. For more information, including how to apply, click [here](#) to download the forms.

Coronavirus Relief Fund Local Government Assistance Program

The State of Ohio, through the Coronavirus Relief Fund Local Government Assistance Program, provides financial assistance to local governments for expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information on these resources, visit their [webpage](#). For assistance in reviewing proposals or eligible uses, contact the Office of Budget and Management at grants@obm.ohio.gov.

Administrative Updates

Amended Attachment D for CDBG-funded Grants

We recently realized grants funded with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds (included CARES Act funds) included an incorrect Attachment D: Grantee Assurances and Certifications. Grantees with executed grant agreements should have received an amended Attachment D to sign and those with grants in the execution process received a full corrected grant agreement to sign and return.

Please have your authorized official sign the attached amendment then scan and return it as soon as possible.

Residential Revitalization Specialist Position Available

The Office of Community Development has an opening for a Residential Revitalization Specialist position in the Residential Revitalization section. The deadline to apply for the position

is **December 22, 2021**. For detailed information, including job duties and salary information, click [here](#).

OCD Partner Information

New Grant Programs Help Clean Up Blighted and Hazardous Sites

The Ohio Department of Development is launching two new programs to help local communities fund brownfield cleanup and demolition projects. Program guidelines are now available on the program webpages. Applications will be available in the coming weeks.

The Brownfield Remediation Program provides grants for the remediation of brownfield sites throughout Ohio. Nearly \$350 million in funds are available. A \$1 million set-aside per county will be available until June 30, 2022. Remaining funds will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Find more information at development.ohio.gov/brownfield.

The Demolition and Site Revitalization Program provides grants for the demolition of commercial and residential buildings and the revitalization of surrounding properties. Nearly \$150 million in funds are available. A \$500,000 set-aside per county will be available until June 30, 2022. Remaining funds will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Find more information at development.ohio.gov/demolition.

Join us for a program overview webinar: Thursday, December 9 at 1:30 p.m.

[Register Now](#)

Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Grant Program

The Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Grant program will help fund important water and wastewater infrastructure projects throughout Ohio.

Governor DeWine has announced the [third and final round of funding](#). In total, approximately \$250 million in grant funding is going toward 183 critical water infrastructure projects across the state.

Grant and Loan Programs Available to Ohio Businesses

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted announced grant and loan programs to help small, medium and minority-owned businesses recover from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic and help women and minority overcome obstacles to establishment and growth.

The [Women's Business Enterprise Loan Program](#) offers loans from \$45,000 up to \$500,000 at interest rates up to 3%. Loans can be repaid within 10 years for equipment and machinery and 15 years for owner-occupied real estate. Businesses must be at least 51% under ownership and control by women or be certified as a Women-owned Business Enterprise (WBE) in Ohio.

The [Ohio Micro-Loan Program](#) offers loans of \$10,000 up to \$45,000 at zero percent interest. Loans will be repaid within five years for permanent working capital and seven years for equipment. Businesses must be certified in Ohio as either a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) or a Women-owned Business Enterprise (WBE).

Four business grant programs are available as well:

- Food and Beverage Establishment Grant
- Entertainment Venue Grant
- Lodging Grant
- New Small Business Grant

The programs will provide \$155 million in grant funding to businesses that opened in 2020, food and beverage establishments, entertainment venues, and lodging venues. The funds were made available by the Ohio General Assembly as part of Senate Bill 108 and Senate Bill 109 in May.

All four programs will be administered by the Ohio Department of Development, formally Ohio Development Services Agency. Program guidelines, terms and conditions, and required documentation for all four programs are available now at <https://businesshelp.ohio.gov/>.



Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor

Department of
Development

Lydia L. Mihalik, Director