



Office of Community Development Weekly Digest

January 7, 2022

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

January 15, 2022	PY 2020 Homeless Crisis Response Program Status Reports Due PY 2020 Supportive Housing Program Status Reports Due
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OCD Meetings and Training Events

No new events

Other Training and Professional Development Events

February 1-16, 2022	Housing Rehab Specialist Training
February 23, 2022	IRS 1040 Method - Income Determinations

Virtual Trainings

(click underlined text for more information)

- [Avoid Compliance Pitfalls with SS income](#)
- [Basically CDBG Online](#)
- [Tiny Chat: Fair Housing](#)
- [URA the HUD Way](#)

New and Updated Items

COVID-19 Items

- No new items

Administrative Items

- [Environmental Review Technical Assistance](#) (updated)
- [Fair Housing Basics](#) (updated)
- [Civil Rights Technical Assistance for Supportive Housing Grantees](#)
- [Additional Resources](#) (updated)
- [Accessibility and Reasonable Accommodations and Modifications](#) (updated)

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

Homeless Crisis Response Program CARES Act Status Reports

Homeless Crisis Response Program CARES Act status reports are due January 15, 2022. OCD is currently experiencing an issue with grantees initiating status reports. For grantees who are experiencing this issue, it should be resolved by end of the day January 12, 2022. Affected grantees should submit the status reports as soon as possible. Grantees must complete and upload either an Emergency Shelter or Housing Stability ESG-CV Expense Report in OCEAN. Click [here](#) to download the report templates.

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

Farewell, Mary Oakley

After 25 years at Development, Mary Oakley will be leaving Development. Her last day is Friday, January 7, 2022. Mary spent her career at Development in the Community Development section, starting as an intern while pursuing her master's degree. Among her roles throughout the years, Mary administered the CDBG Economic Development Program and currently manages the Community Investments section. Mary greatly values her experience with Development and will miss serving the people of Ohio and their communities. Join us in wishing Mary the best of luck.

Supportive Housing and Homeless Crisis Response Programs Status Reports

PY 2020 Supportive Housing Program and Homeless Crisis Response Program status reports are due January 15, 2022. OCD is currently experiencing an issue with grantees initiating status reports. For grantees who are experiencing this issue, it should be resolved by end of the day January 12, 2022. Affected grantees should submit the status reports as soon as possible.

Reports must be completed and submitted in OCEAN for review. For assistance on completing status reports, click [here](#) for the Status and Final Performance Reports Quick Reference Guide. If you have questions about completing and submitting status reports, contact your program representative.

OCD Partner Information

Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Grant Program

The Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Grant program will help fund important water and wastewater infrastructure projects throughout Ohio. The program will provide nearly \$250 million in grant funding to Ohio communities.

Governor DeWine has announced the [three rounds of funding](#), awarding nearly \$250 million to Ohio communities.

Funding Opportunities Available to Clean Up Blighted and Vacant 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.

Applications and program guidelines are available 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.

Program guidelines are available at Development.Ohio.Gov/Demolition.

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