




Mike DeWine, Governor  
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor

Office of Budget  
and Management

Kimberly Murnieks, Director

**Memorandum**

To: Cabinet Directors and Chief Financial Officers

From: Kimberly Murnieks 

Subject: Ohio Grants Partnership

Date: April 20, 2020

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Over the past several weeks, Congress and President Trump enacted three federal supplemental appropriations bills in response to the COVID-19 pandemic: the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act (P.L. 116-123), the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L. 116-127), and the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (H.R. 748). As a result, several federal programs managed through state agencies will receive additional funding to assist in Ohio's fight against COVID-19 and to support our citizens for economic recovery. These additional funds will be accompanied by additional reporting requirements.

To ensure that the Governor's Office and the Office of Budget and Management have complete information regarding your agency's federal appropriation authority needs and to manage the overarching reporting that will be necessary, OBM has established the **Ohio Grants Partnership**.

The initial focus of the Ohio Grants Partnership will be federal grants related to COVID response and recovery. Attached is the Ohio Grants Partnership Policy – this policy was in development prior to the pandemic and is being implemented now to streamline implementation of COVID-19 grants, to ensure oversight and coordination of applications to maximize the State of Ohio's ability to receive grant-related revenue, to build relationships with our federal and local partners, and to reduce redundant administrative processes.

When fully implemented, the grants partnership will serve as a centralized repository for grants-related resources and funding opportunities including the administration of a centralized website to make it easier for local governments and other subrecipients to find funding information (grants.ohio.gov is currently under development), and ultimately, to apply for grants.

Stacie Massey will be leading the grants partnership team at OBM and will be reaching out to your finance offices today to begin gathering information related to the COVID-19 federal grant awards. OBM will also work with your agency fiscal staff to coordinate all

Controlling Board requests for appropriation authority when allocations are received and when additional spending authority is required.

The Ohio Grants Partnership will also host, at least quarterly, Enterprise Grants Forum meetings for state agency partners to promote the strengthening of statewide accountability in grants, coordinate an Advisory Committee of state partner representatives which provides guidance and recommendations on various grant initiatives or topics that have statewide impact, and provide opportunities for training and support of all partners to include local governments, non-profits, and others that receive grant funding from the State of Ohio.

OBM, through the grants partnership, will also review all grant-related letters of support requested by entities including local governments, associations, colleges and universities, or individuals, and will liaison to the Governor's Office to discuss such requests for support to ensure alignment with Administration policy objectives. Requests, including draft letters, should be emailed to [grants@obm.ohio.gov](mailto:grants@obm.ohio.gov) for review.

Thank you for all that you and each member of your teams are doing to respond to this unprecedented challenge. Please let me know if you have questions. We are all in this together, Ohio!