



Friday, February 12, 2021

MESSAGE FROM OBM DIRECTOR KIMBERLY MURNIEKS

Last week, Governor Mike DeWine and Lieutenant Governor Jon Husted presented the Governor’s Executive Budget “Blue Book” for Fiscal Years 2022-23 to the General Assembly. The Governor’s budget plan includes a \$1 Billion *Investing in Ohio Initiative*, an aggressive plan to accelerate growth and ensure the state’s economic vitality. To view Governor DeWine’s press conference announcing the Executive Budget [please click here](#). The Executive Budget and accompanying fact sheets are posted on www.budget.Ohio.gov. For more information on the recommendations in Fiscal Years 2022-2023, [please click here](#).

All of us in public service and government finance have been working so very hard throughout the global COVID-19 pandemic to ensure that our teams and citizens have the resources they need. Ohio has started distributing safe, effective COVID-19 vaccines statewide. For more information on public health, [please click here](#).

Thank you for your expertise and stewardship within our communities and local government.



AROUND THE STATE

Coronavirus Relief Funding Extension

On December 27, 2020, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 was enacted, providing an extension on the use of federal Coronavirus Relief Funds provided to state and local governments from the CARES Act **through December 31, 2021**. Subsequently, the Ohio Controlling Board held a special meeting

on December 30, 2020 and approved OBM’s request to extend the state’s deadline for local subdivisions to incur expenses to their Coronavirus Relief Funds likewise through December 31, 2021 and to extend the date by which local subdivisions must pay any unexpended balance of money in the subdivision's local Coronavirus Relief Fund to the state treasury to December 31, 2021. The US Treasury submitted final guidance to the federal register on

January 15, 2021 and OBM formally updated our accompanying guidance. The updated guidance was emailed to all in the OBM Grants system and is also available by [clicking here](#). All other programs such as the Public Library Assistance program can find the guidance under the archived opportunity located [here](#).

The extension of time also required OBM to extend reporting requirements and eliminated the need for a final report on February 1, 2021. Any cash on hand reported on the cycle 7 report due on January 5, 2022 must be returned to OBM no later than December 31, 2021. **There is no longer a requirement to return funds on February 1, 2021.**

Below is a table of CRF reporting periods and due dates:

Reporting Cycle	Reporting Period	Due Date
Cycle 4	January 1, 2021 to March 31, 2021	April 6, 2021
Cycle 5	April 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021	July 6, 2021
Cycle 6	July 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021	October 6, 2021
Cycle 7	October 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021	January 5, 2022

Remember the Grant Contact listed on the registration is the person provided access to the grants portal to complete the financial status reports. The grants portal can be accessed at grantsportal.ohio.gov. Several local governments have not filed reports that were due on October 20, 2020 and January 6, 2021. If you are experiencing issues accessing the portal, please contact the Ohio Grants Partnership at grants@obm.ohio.gov.



CONNECTING WITH OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

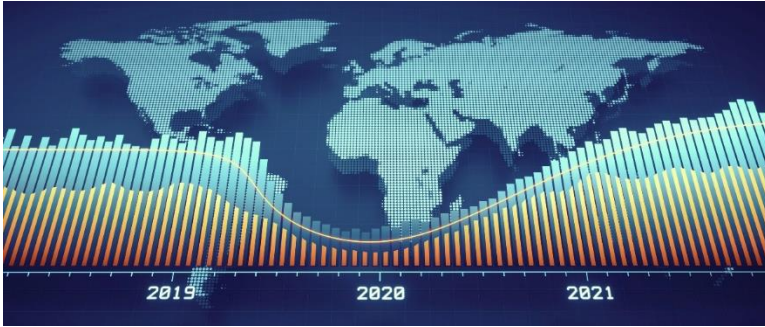
OBM Local-Regional Financial Summits

In January, OBM hosted several Regional Finance Summits with our local government partners in the SW (Middletown), SE (Athens) and NW (Perrysburg) regions of Ohio. Members of OBM’s leadership presented on the

current budget, the Monthly Financial Report, Grant Programs for Local government, and other resources to assist you. Please click below to access the video and/or download the presentation from the event.

[Video](#)

[Presentation](#)



ECONOMIC UPDATE **Monthly Financial Reports** **(MFR)**

As a reminder, the Office of Budget and Management publishes a detailed financial report each month that provides an economic overview and detailed information about

state revenues and expenditures. To view the February 10, 2021 report, click [here](#).

GRANTS ADMINISTRATION **UPDATE**

Coronavirus Relief Fund Registration

OBM is aware of several local governments that received Coronavirus Relief Funding through the County Auditor, but that have not yet followed the requirements of HB 481 and HB 614 by submitting a copy of the resolution to OBM and/or registering with OBM. The registration is still open to allow those that need to get caught up with the requirements to register, [click here](#). The resolution can be submitted to OBM via e-mail at grants@obm.ohio.gov. Jurisdictions registering for the first time should ensure they immediately access the Grants Portal to get the late reporting requirements fulfilled. The grant contact on the registration will get a log-in upon approval of the application. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Ohio Grants Partnership at grants@obm.ohio.gov. Guidance, job aids, training, and other helpful information is available on the Ohio Grants Partnership > [Funding Opportunities](#).



SAM Renewal Alert

Local governments that received a DUNS and registered it with SAM for the first time to receive the Coronavirus Relief Funds may be receiving a notification in the coming months to renew their registration. SAM requires a renewal annually and the renewal process is **FREE**.

Be aware that fraudsters are looking for all angles to take advantage of the current pandemic and the increase in federal funds being distributed. At the beginning of the pandemic, a federal granting agency alerted the State of a fraudulent website that has the look and feel of the System for Award Management (SAM) site. Be sure to stay clear of this fraudulent website: <https://sam.gov.org/>. It also is important to note that it is free to renew your SAM registration. Carefully review all expiration e-mail notices that indicate your SAM is about to expire. Do not follow any redirect links, you should go directly to <https://sam.gov/SAM/> to

renew. OBM has been alerted to a company in Florida that sends e-mails from Renewal Support (info@renewalsupport.com) and indicates your SAM registration is about to expire. Another company OBM was alerted to out of Texas is also sending out notifications that mimic the SAM logo and look official. These e-mails are sent from Renewal Support (admin@renewables-samwithsupporting.com). These e-mails typically have your specific registration information in areas like the subject line or within the body that are gleaned from the public search in SAM.gov. This information may make a reader believe it is an official e-mail from SAM, but it will redirect you to a professional renewal service to update your registration for a fee. Updating the SAM is easy and free, so please do not pay someone to update your information.

If you have any issues or concerns navigating the SAM process, please feel free to reach out to the Ohio Grants Partnership at grants@obm.ohio.gov.

Additional COVID Relief Funding

OBM continues to follow discussions in Congress regarding potential additional relief funding for state and local governments. Although the US Treasury relaxed requirements on obtaining a DUNS and having it registered with the federal SAM system, it is possible that may not happen again. All are encouraged to prepare for the potential future receipt of federal funds and to get a DUNS and have it registered. This is a requirement for the receipt of federal funds, to include funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The Ohio Grants Partnership has developed step by step instructions located [here](#) to assist with the process. Remember, you should never pay anyone to obtain and register your DUNS. If you need help connecting with the correct federal partners, please reach out to the Ohio Grants Partnership at grants@obm.ohio.gov.

If you have any comments or suggestions regarding Ohio Connect\$, we would like to hear from you, please e-mail teri.lester@obm.ohio.gov.

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OBM Communications

30 E. Broad Street, 34th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
614-338-4730

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