



Seneca County EMA Situation Report #45
COVID-19 Response
May 13, 2020
County EOC Status: Monitoring
State EOC: Activated

Distribution List: Villages, Townships, Seneca County Elected Officials, City of Tiffin Elected Officials, City of Fostoria Elected Officials, Fire Chiefs, Law Enforcement, Seneca County Education Contacts and LEPC/HS and Mental Health Recovery Services

Ohio

Confirmed Cases: 22,891 (+1,354 in last 24 hours)
Probable: 1,476
Confirmed Deaths: 1,347
Probable Deaths: 136

Seneca County

Total Cases: 14
Deaths: 1
Recovered: 9

Resources:

Ohio ODH: coronavirus.ohio.gov

CDC: [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)

Seneca County General Health District: senecahealthdistrict.org

Executive Summary

No Press Conference Today

Governor DeWine reports that there is now an email set up to coordinate donations and offers to help. This address is together@governor.ohio.gov.

Dr. Acton reports there is a new coronavirus interactive dashboard at <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home/dashboard>.

Seneca County Commissioners: www.senecacountyohio.gov

Seneca County Commissioners Board Meeting Thursday, May 14th at 10am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/92595230790>

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Seneca County General Health District: www.senecahealthdept.org

The Health said there are 14 total confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus including nine people who have recovered from the illness and one who has died due to complications of COVID19.

Seneca County Health Commissioner will produce Facebook Live videos with updates from the Health District. This will occur at 10:30 on Wednesdays. Videos will be archived on Facebook and can be viewed live on the Health Department's and Commissioner's FB pages.

Emergency Management Agency

The EMA will continue to update our partners on the numbers on a daily basis Monday through Friday with weekend reports only being published if there is breaking news. Please continue to send your information to be shared with our partners to jspahr@senecacountyohio.gov.

Blood Collection: www.redcross.org

Mental Health and Recovery Board of Seneca, Sandusky and Wyandot Counties: www.mhrsbsw.org

City of Tiffin: www.tiffinohio.gov

Job and Family Services: <https://djfs.co.seneca.oh.us/>

COLUMBUS, OHIO – Ohioans can now apply for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), a new federal program that covers many more categories of workers than the traditional unemployment program, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) announced today. Those who believe they may be eligible should visit pua.unemployment.ohio.gov and click the button that says “Click Here to Apply for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance.” Individuals who pre-registered for the program received an email earlier this week with instructions for how to complete their applications.

“We appreciate everyone’s patience as we diligently worked to build this new system in record time for the agency,” said ODJFS Director Kimberly Hall. “We encourage anyone who believes they may be eligible to apply. Even after you return to work, you still may be eligible to receive retroactive benefits, dating from as early as February 2.”

PUA was made possible by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which was signed into law on March 27. The program offers up to 39 weeks of benefits to many who traditionally have not qualified for unemployment benefits, including self-employed individuals, 1099 tax filers and part-time workers. The benefit amount is similar to traditional unemployment payments, plus an additional \$600 per week through July 25.

Many who were denied regular unemployment benefits may be eligible for PUA. Those who have pending unemployment claims may apply before they receive a determination, and individuals who have exhausted traditional unemployment benefits and any available extensions also may be eligible. The program is effective through December 31. There is no minimum income requirement. To be eligible, individuals must NOT be eligible for regular unemployment benefits and must meet one of the following circumstances:

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The individual has been diagnosed with COVID-19, or is experiencing symptoms and is seeking medical diagnosis.

A member of the individual's household has been diagnosed with COVID-19.

The individual is providing care for a family member or member of the household who has been diagnosed with COVID-19.

A child or other person in the household for which the individual has primary caregiving responsibility is unable to attend school or another facility is closed as a direct result of the COVID-19 emergency, and the school or care is required for the individual to work.

The individual is unable to reach the place of employment because of a quarantine imposed as a direct result of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

The individual is unable to reach the place of employment because a healthcare professional has advised him or her to self-quarantine due to COVID-19 concerns.

The individual was scheduled to commence employment and does not have a job or is unable to reach the job as a direct result of COVID-19.

The individual has become the breadwinner or major support for a household because the head of the household has died as a direct result of COVID-19.

The individual has quit his/her job as a direct result of COVID-19.

The individual's place of employment is closed as a direct result of COVID-19.

Over the last seven weeks, ODJFS has received more than 1 million initial regular unemployment claims, more than the previous three years combined. More than 89% of those applications have been approved, and fewer than 11% are pending.

For more information, visit unemployment.ohio.gov/expandedeligibility.

EBT Benefits

About 850,000 Ohio children who receive free or reduced-price meals at school will soon receive money to buy food through the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) announced today. This funding was made possible by the federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act. ODJFS worked with the Ohio Department of Education to submit Ohio's plan, which just received federal approval.

"We know families are struggling right now, balancing work or career searches, distance learning, and caring for families," said Ohio Governor Mike DeWine. "Hopefully, this additional assistance will provide more choices for families."

The P-EBT benefits may be added to the Ohio Direction cards of families that receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. Families that do not receive SNAP benefits will be sent P-EBT cards with the one-time benefit added. No application is needed. ODJFS estimates that it will issue \$150.9 million to 506,953 children in SNAP households and \$103.6 million to 343,047 children in non-SNAP households.

"Food budgets have been stretched thin as a result of the pandemic," said ODJFS Director Kimberly Hall. "We are grateful to be able to provide this extra help to families, especially since some children may not be able to access emergency school or community meal locations."

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Individuals may qualify for SNAP if their household's gross monthly income is at or under 130% of the federal poverty guidelines. Ohioans can apply at benefits.ohio.gov. Benefits can be used to buy most food products, with the exception of alcoholic beverages, vitamins and/or medicines, and hot food made to be eaten immediately, including prepared food from grocery stores and restaurants.

"Our highest priority continues to be ensuring the health and safety of students," said State Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria. "That's why we are eager for this opportunity to work together with ODJFS to facilitate an additional way for students to receive meals while school buildings are closed. While many schools continue to offer meal services, this EBT opportunity will add one more option for families and caregivers to make sure students are getting the nutrition they need."

ODJFS has provided additional assistance to SNAP recipients during the pandemic:

Those who did not already receive the maximum monthly allotment for their household size in March and April were issued additional payments. This same benefit will be issued in May, as well. Administrative verifications normally required at food banks were waived, to streamline the process and limit person-to-person contact.

Recertification periods for March, April, and May were extended by six months. June recertifications also will be extended.

Recipients can take advantage of "click and collect" payment options to order groceries online and pay at pickup.

Education: <http://www.ncoesc.org/>

OSS Solid Waste District: <https://recycleoss.org/>

Economic Recovery (Seneca County): <https://www.tiffinchamber.com/coronavirus-resources>

Economic Recovery (State)

This daily situational report will be sent around 4 p.m. each day M-F and as needed over the weekend. If you wish to update or add information to this report, please get it to the EMA at jspahr@senecacountyohio.gov by 2:30 p.m. each day.

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