



## **CARES Funding: Applications Now Open**

**Small Business Relief Program:** The package includes \$125 million in CARES Act funding to provide grants to small businesses with no more than 25 employees. The grant funding will help businesses pay for a variety of expenses, including mortgage or rent payments; utility payments; salaries, wages, or compensation for employees and contractors; business supplies or equipment; and other costs. The application for the Small Business Relief Program is now available at [businesshelp.ohio.gov](https://businesshelp.ohio.gov).

**Bar and Restaurant Assistance Fund:** The administration will also designate \$37.5 million of CARES Act funding for the Bar and Restaurant Assistance Fund. This fund will be available for Ohio restaurants and bars struggling financially as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and limited in the full use of their liquor permit.

Businesses with an on-premise consumption permit will be eligible to receive \$2,500 per unique business location. Businesses need to have an active on-premise permit as of close of business October 23, 2020. Starting today, permit holders can apply for assistance at [businesshelp.ohio.gov](https://businesshelp.ohio.gov).

**Home Relief Grant:** The administration is allocating \$50 million from the Coronavirus Relief Fund to 47 Community Action Agencies to provide rent, mortgage, and water and/or sewer assistance to Ohioans in need. This assistance will help Ohioans pay outstanding balances back to April 1, 2020.

Ohio households behind on their bills with an annual income at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines will be eligible for assistance. For a family of four, that is an annual income up to \$52,400. Starting today, Ohioans can apply for assistance through their local Community Action Agency. A list of agencies can be found at [businesshelp.ohio.gov](https://businesshelp.ohio.gov).