



News Release

For Immediate Release

Dec. 8, 2020

Contact: Jennifer Jarrell 614-466-7740

Jennifer.Jarrell@com.state.oh.us

Time is Running Out for Bar & Restaurant Pandemic Relief Program *Less than 60% of Eligible Permit Holders Have Applied, Deadline Dec. 30*

(COLUMBUS, Ohio) —The Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control is strongly urging all eligible on-premises liquor permit holders to take advantage of the state’s Bar & Restaurant Assistance Fund before the Dec. 30 deadline.

“Right now, a little more than half of all eligible permit holders have applied for funding, and that’s concerning with only three weeks left until the deadline,” said Sherry Maxfield, Director of the Department of Commerce. “Our goal is that every eligible establishment takes advantage of this opportunity. Many permit holders have told us this support has helped them at a time they needed it most.”

Gov. Mike DeWine announced the creation of the \$38.7 million Bar & Restaurant Fund in late October. Permit holders began applying for the program, which is funded with federal CARES Act dollars, on Nov. 2.

The Division hopes a \$2,500 check will provide some relief to the bar and restaurant industry in Ohio.

“It [this money] means I’m able to cover rent and utilities on the cocktail lounge that I’m now operating as a carry out.” said Faith Pierce, managing member of Silver Family Restaurants. “I feel like, ‘why wouldn’t someone register to get a check from the state?’ – I’ll take whatever I can get.”

Currently, the Division of Liquor Control has more than 15,400 permit holders that qualify for the assistance. Approximately 30 permit types are eligible, including bars, restaurants, distilleries, wineries, casinos, and private clubs. Permit holders can check eligibility and apply at businesshelp.ohio.gov.

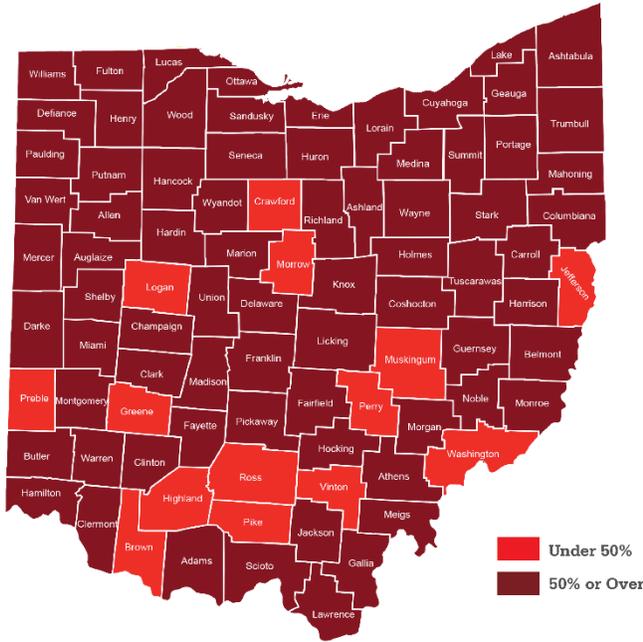
As of Monday, Dec. 7, 14 of Ohio’s 88 counties had less than 50% participation among eligible permit holders. Those counties are highlighted in light red on the below map.

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Department of Commerce

Bar and Restaurant Assistance Fund Application Data



Percentages by County

Adams	60%	Hamilton	51%	Noble	67%
Allen	56%	Hancock	53%	Ottawa	68%
Ashland	50%	Hardin	56%	Paulding	65%
Ashtabula	54%	Harrison	62%	Perry	46%
Athens	59%	Henry	66%	Pickaway	57%
Auglaize	55%	Highland	33%	Pike	35%
Belmont	58%	Hocking	56%	Portage	66%
Brown	36%	Holmes	67%	Preble	46%
Butler	53%	Huron	59%	Putnam	70%
Carroll	70%	Jackson	54%	Richland	55%
Champaign	57%	Jefferson	49%	Ross	46%
Clark	51%	Knox	50%	Sandusky	64%
Clermont	50%	Lake	62%	Scioto	53%
Clinton	50%	Lawrence	56%	Seneca	58%
Columbiana	56%	Licking	56%	Shelby	59%
Coshocton	85%	Logan	44%	Stark	59%
Crawford	48%	Lorain	55%	Summit	58%
Cuyahoga	55%	Lucas	51%	Trumbull	64%
Darke	57%	Madison	54%	Tuscarawas	52%
Defiance	72%	Mahoning	54%	Union	63%
Delaware	77%	Marion	66%	Van Wert	79%
Erie	56%	Medina	58%	Vinton	33%
Fairfield	55%	Meigs	57%	Warren	51%
Fayette	58%	Mercer	68%	Washington	49%
Franklin	55%	Miami	59%	Wayne	55%
Fulton	72%	Monroe	63%	Williams	69%
Gallia	63%	Montgomery	50%	Wood	64%
Geauga	61%	Morgan	91%	Wyandot	55%
Greene	49%	Morrow	48%		
Guernsey	74%	Muskingum	46%		

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The Division of Liquor Control is part of the Ohio Department of Commerce. The department is Ohio's chief regulatory agency, focused on promoting prosperity and protecting what matters most to Ohioans. We ensure businesses follow the laws that help them create jobs and keep Ohioans safe. To learn more about what we do, visit our website at com.ohio.gov