



# OKINAWA CITY Newsletter

July 2021 Vol. 21 No. 7

Okinawa-shi Yakusho Bunka geino Ka (B1) 26-1 Nakasone-Cho, Okinawa City, Okinawa 904-8501

## Announcements

### COVID-19

#### -Who is Considered as "Person in Close Contact"?

Close contacts are those who had any of the following contacts during the "period of possible infection" of a positive person, including asymptomatic persons:

1. People who live with a positive person
2. Those who are likely to have come into direct contact with the cough or sneeze of a positive person, or with objects to which such cough or sneeze has adhered.
3. Those who have had contact with a positive person for more than 15 minutes at a distance that can be touched by hand (about 1 meter) and without necessary precautions.



#### "period of possible infection"

If positive person have symptoms: From two days before the first symptom onset until hospitalization or other isolation is initiated.

If positive person do not have symptoms: From two days prior to the date of the test that tested positive until the start of quarantine.

#### Situations considered as "necessary precautions":

A situation where we are both wearing masks. If the positive person is not wearing a mask, it is OK if the other person wears a mask and face shield. However, in a small space with poor ventilation, such as in a car with the windows closed, even if both parties are wearing masks, they are still considered to be close contacts.

◆ If you are a close contact, you will be subject to PCR testing even if you have no symptoms.

### Announcement From Kodomo Katei Ka (Child Welfare Division)

#### A Notice to Single Parents Receiving Child/Special Child Rearing Allowance

Single parents who receive 児童扶養手当 (Jido Fuyo Teate —Child Rearing Allowance For Single Parent) or 特別児童扶養手当 (Tokubetsu Jido Fuyo Teate—Special Child Rearing Allowance) are required to submit a 現況届 (Genkyo Todoke—Current Status Report) every year. Those receiving "Special Child Rearing Allowance" must submit a 所得状況届 (Shotoku Jyokyo Todoke—Income Status Notification).

If you fail to submit this notification, you will not be able to continue receiving Single Parent Allowance benefits for November / Special Child Rearing Allowance benefits for August and thereafter, even if you qualify.

\* The notification can only be submitted by the recipient (not by a proxy).

\*The notification must be submitted even if payments have been suspended due to the income limit.

\*If you fail to submit the required notification for 2 consecutive years, you will lose qualifications to receive benefits.

\*Notification to the individuals will be mailed within July. Please read it through for the required documents etc.

**In principle, we accept submission by mail.**

#### Submission Period:

Child Rearing Allowance -

Aug. 2 (Mon) ~ Sept. 30 (Thu) **\*Must be Received**

Special Child Rearing Allowance-

Aug.12(Thu) ~ Sept. 3 (Fri) **\*Must be Received**

\*Please use the return envelope enclosed with the notification to return the application.

**If you cannot mail, you can visit for interview:**

#### Interview Period:

Child Rearing Allowance - Aug. 2 (Mon) ~ 31 (Tue)

Special Child Rearing Allowance- Aug.12(Thu) ~ 25 (Wed)

Hours: Weekdays AM 9:00~11:00, PM 1:00~4:00

(not including Saturdays and Sundays except for **Aug.15 (Sun)** with week-day hour).

Location: Okinawa City Hall basement level 2, Main Hall

\*In order to prevent overcrowding, we will send notices to individuals with designated dates and times.

\*During the submission period, Okinawa Hellowork will open a temporary job consultation service window to focus on supporting moms and dads who are looking for a job.

**\*Please wear a mask and bring a writing utensil with you when you come to the office. If you have a fever or feel not well, please come on another day within the period.**

Contact: Kodomo Katei Ka (Children's Welfare Division)

Ext. 3196/3197



Okinawa City Hall will be **Closed** on **July 22 (Thu) & 23 (Fri)** for Japanese holiday (Marine Day & Sports Day).

Total Population: 142,787

[Japanese Population] Male: 68,331 Female: 72,649  
[Foreign Population (59 Countries)] Male: 1,128 Female: 679

The Okinawa City Hall's Bunka Geino Ka (the Culture & Traditional Arts Division) selects excerpts from the city's public relations newsletter (Koho Okinawa) and published them in English and Chinese in hopes of better serving our community of residents who may have difficulty reading or understanding Japanese. **These articles are translated by the Culture & Traditional Arts Division staff and are provided for reference only. Administrative services are provided in Japanese only (unless otherwise indicated).** For English support, please email: [kokusai@city.okinawa.lg.jp](mailto:kokusai@city.okinawa.lg.jp). You can also view monthly issues of the newsletters and other information about living in Okinawa City by clicking the ENGLISH/中文 link on the Okinawa City website: <http://www.city.okinawa.okinawa.jp/>

# Administrative Announcements



## ► An Announcement About Koki Koreisha Iryo Seido

(後期高齢者医療制度 **Elderly Health Insurance System**)

### Regarding the Insurance Certificate (被保険者証) and Reduction of Standard Cost Amount Certificate (減額認定証):

The insurance certificate and reduction certificate will be renewed from **August 2021**.

(Certificates **will expire on July 31, 2022**)

#### 1. Renewal of Elderly Health Insurance Certificate:

Those who are not behind on any premium payments will get their new certificate mailed (registered mail) to their house by the end of July.

Those who are behind on premium payments, please come to the National Health Insurance Division service counter with your current certificate. \*Please keep in mind that if you are behind on premium payments, you might only get a temporary certificate.

#### 2. Renewal of Elderly Health Insurance Maximum Co-Payment Amount Certificate/ Reduction of Standard Cost Amount Certificate (減額証):

If you are a tax-exempt household, the cost of medical treatment for your visit, dosage or the meal fee during hospitalization will be reduced by showing the **Reduction of Standard Cost Amount Certificate**. If you already have one, the new certificate will be mailed with your insurance certificate in August. If you don't have one, you have to come to the service window to apply.

※If you may be hospitalized for a long period of time....

If you have been hospitalized more than 90 days between the

period you are certified for **Reduction of Standard Cost Amount Certificate**

(**Category II**) between August 2020 and July 2021, the cost of meals can be reduced after you apply. If you wish to apply, please bring documents issued by the hospital (such as receipts) to confirm the period of hospitalization, your health insurance certificate, and *inkan*. A proxy applying for the applicant must bring their ID and *inkan*.

#### 3. Renewal of the Limit Application Certificate (限度証):

If you are the active income earner in category I & II, the cost of medical treatment for your visit, hospitalization, or dosage will be reduced by showing the **Reduction of Standard Cost Amount Certificate**. If you already have one, the new certificate will be mailed with your insurance certificate. If you don't have one, you have to come to the service window to apply.

#### NOTE

If you wish to get these certificates above issued, please make sure all the family members (for #2) or insured members (for #3) in the same household have to file the tax since their income information is essential to get the regular determination of income.

### -The Elderly Health Insurance Premium-

#### The premium payment period for the fiscal year 2021 will start in July.

\*The payment slip will be mailed around the middle of July.

You can pay the premium at convenience stores (any day, all day available), banks in Okinawa and Japan Post Bank as well.

With regard to direct debits for the insurance premiums, when a direct debit could not be made due to insufficient balance in the account or other reasons, we used to send a notice informing you that the direct debit could not be made before sending a reminder, however, **this notice will no longer be sent**.

For payments that could not be made by direct debit, please contact us as soon as possible, as we will be able to issue a payment slip before the reminder letter is sent.

#### Revision of the Premium Reduction Plan for the FY 2021

Revision on reduction of per capita rate amount: Reduction rate compare to last year will be revised from 77.5% to 70%:

#### The revised standard of the total income amount of households (insured person & head of household)

**70%** Premium Reduction— Households which do not exceed the basic exemption amount (430,000 yen) ★ earn less than **¥800,000** for pension annuity. (Or, there is no other income.)

**50%** Premium Reduction— Households which do not exceed the amount of “basic exemption amount (430,000 yen) ★ + 285,000 yen × number of insured person who belong to the household”

**20%** Premium Reduction— Households which do not exceed the amount of “basic exemption amount (430,000 yen) ★ + 520,000 yen × number of insured person who belong to the household”

★. . . For households with two or more salary earners, the following amounts are added to the basic deduction (430,000 yen):

(Salary earners-1) × 100,000 yen

Definition of “salary earner”: Those who earns certain amount (550,000 yen or more)/ Those who receives pension annuity (600,000 or more for under 65 y/o, 1,110,000 yen or more for 65 y/o or older)

**Contact: Kokumin Kenko Hoken Ka** (National Health Insurance Division) ext. 2101, 2118, 2128

**All services are provided in JAPANESE ONLY** (unless otherwise indicated). For postal and emailing services, or any inquiries in ENGLISH, please email: [kokusai@city.okinawa.lg.jp](mailto:kokusai@city.okinawa.lg.jp)

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## ▶ **FY 2021 National Pension Premium Exemption Applications Begin [July 1](#)**

There are exemptions and deferments for payment of insurance premiums for those who have financial difficulty to pay their National Pension Insurance premiums. Please do not leave it unpaid.

If your application is approved, the exempted period will be included in the eligible period (paid period) which enable you to receive pension in the future, and you will also be eligible to receive the basic disability pension in case you are disabled due to an accident, etc.

**Applications will be accepted during the following period:**

**[Exemptions for July 2021~June 2022](#)**

**Required Documents:**

● **Identification document with face photo.**

● **When applying for special exceptions due to unemployment, etc., one of the following copies which proof your separation from employment is required.**

-雇用保険被保険者離職票 (Ask your company to issue)

-雇用保険被保険者資格喪失確認通知書 (Issued at Public Employment Security Office)

-雇用保険受給資格者証 (Issued at Public Employment Security Office)

\*There is also a temporary exception application in case you are influenced by COVID-19.

\*You can consult about receiving an exemption for the past two years.

\*The exemption is determined based on your income the previous year. You must file your income in advance of applying.

\*If someone applies on your behalf, they must provide their ID. They must also provide a Power of Attorney if they are not from the same household.

[Power of Attorney](#)---You can get the form at the Pension Agency Office/Residential Division counter or you can download it from the Japan Pension Service website (Form & Sample are in Japanese).

[http://www.nenkin.go.jp/service/jukyu/tetsuduki/kyotsu/seikyu/20140306.files/consult\\_01.pdf](http://www.nenkin.go.jp/service/jukyu/tetsuduki/kyotsu/seikyu/20140306.files/consult_01.pdf)

About the Japanese Pension System (English Link)

<http://www.nenkin.go.jp/international/english/nationalpension/nationalpension.html>

For more details, please visit Pension Office TEL: 098-933-2267

Or *Shimin Ka, Kokumin Nenkin Tanto* (City Residential Division National Pension Section.) ext. 2133/2134

## ▶ **Supportive Measures in “National Health Insurance” ,“Medical Care System for the Elderly” Regarding COVID-19 infection**

### **[Accident and Sickness Benefit](#)**

When an insured person is absent from work for medical treatment due to infection or suspected infection with the COVID-19 and is unable to receive all or part of their salary, etc. from the employer, the insured person will receive an "Accident and Sickness Benefit". The applicable period has been extended until [September 30, 2021](#).

For more information on the requirements and how to apply, please refer to the official website of Okinawa City. For more information, please visit the Okinawa City Hall official website or contact /visit our office.

**Contact:** National Health Insurance Division (Ext.2114)/

Medical Care System for the Elderly (Ext.2101)

## ▶ **Supportive Measures in “National Health Insurance” ,“Medical Care System for the Elderly” And “Long-term Care” Regarding COVID-19 infection**

### **[Reduction of Premium](#)**

Reduction and exemption of insurance premiums due to the impact of the COVID-19 is planned for FY2021. As soon as the details are decided, they will be announced in Okinawa City Newsletter and on the Okinawa City Hall official website .

**Contact:** National Health Insurance Division (Ext.2106,2108)/

Medical Care System for the Elderly (Ext.2128) /Long-term Care Insurance Division (Ext. 3146/3147)

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▶ **Please Note:**

**July** is the payment deadline for the following taxes: **Real Estate Tax** (2nd term)/ **Long-term care insurance premium** (2nd term)/ **National Health Insurance premium** (1st term)/ **Medical care for the elderly insurance premium** (1st term). If you use automatic bank transfers, payments will be withdrawn on August 2nd. Make sure you have enough money in your bank account the day before.

▶ **Supportive Information for Okinawa City Citizens**

**Business**

**Contact:** Industrial And Commercial Development Division (Ext. 3226/3227)

**\*We Support Application For Management Consultation And Cooperative Grants, etc. (Ext. 3227)**

We provide advice for business improvement, introduction of support systems implemented by the national, prefectural, and municipal governments, and support for application.

◎Consultation with a small- and medium-sized enterprise diagnostician

◎Application Support for Prefectural Cooperation Funds

Eligibility: Small and medium-sized businesses in the city

**\*Subsidies For Office Renovation, etc. (Ext. 3226)**

Subsidize the cost of renovation work, equipment maintenance, take-out containers, disinfectant, etc., for the purpose of performance recovery

Eligibility: Small and medium-sized businesses in the city (restaurants, beauty salon, etc.)

**For renovation:** up to 300,000 yen (or 80%) per business/ open for 50 businesses **For equipment:** up to 150,000 yen (or 80%) per business/ open for 100 businesses **For consumable goods:** up to 20,000 yen (or 80%) per business/ open for 250 businesses

**Child Support**

**\*Youth Sanitary Products Support Project**

In order to support the households in difficulty purchasing sanitary products due to financial reasons, etc., by the influence of COVID-19, sanitary products will be distributed at children's centers (*Jido-kan*) and high schools in the city, mainly to young people between the ages of 15 and 19. In addition, the city will distribute consultation service cards, which will lead to appropriate support.

Eligibility: Those between the ages of 15 and 19 who live or study in the city and in need of the products.

Contact : *Child Consultation-health Division* Ext. 3199

**Education**

**\*Project to support Sanitary Products for Children**

In the Corona disaster, schools will prepare and provide necessary supplies for elementary and junior high school students who are unable to secure sanitary products (menstrual sanitary products, etc.) and who have difficulty in their daily lives due to financial reasons, etc., .

Eligibility: Children who go to Elementary /Junior High School children who are residing in Okinawa City.

Contact: Educational Affairs Division, Okinawa City Board of Education (Ext. 2723)

**Life Support**

**\*Projects to Prevent the Spread of Infection in the Home**

In order to prevent the spread of new coronavirus infections in the home, we will subsidize the cost of staying at a hotel in the city for people who have been in close contact with the new coronavirus or family members of people who have been in close contact with the new coronavirus.

Eligibility: A family member living with a close contact, or the close contact themselves.

\*There are detailed conditions, such as a negative result after PCR test.

Contact: Residents' Health Division (Ext. 2262/2264)

**\*COVID-19 Self-Support Grant for the Needy**

Households that are unable to use the Council of Social Welfare's Special Emergency Small Amount Loans (for households whose loans have reached the limit or whose re-lending has been disapproved) and who meet the requirements will receive monthly support payments.

\*The details will be announced on our official website.

-The Grant will be start after July and paid for three months.

Monthly Grant Amount: Household of one (60,000 yen)/ 2 (80,000 yen)/ 3 or more (100,000 yen)

Application Deadline: August 31 (Tue)

Where to Apply: Hogo Ka (Public Assistance Division)

Ext. 2151

Hours: 9:00-16:00

\*As a precaution against new coronavirus infections, the number of applicants may be limited when the reception desk is crowded.

**MHLW Call Center (Toll Free)** \*For domestic calls only

COVID-19: 0120-565-653/ COVID-19 Vaccines: 0120-761-770

Supported languages and Open hours

(Everyday including weekends and holidays):

-English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese and Spanish: 9:00-21:00

-Thai: 9:00-18:00 -Vietnamese: 10:00-19:00

Please take notice that this service cannot provide medical advice such as diagnosis.

**\*Exchange Ticket for Premium Vouchers Will be Sent in August**

For taxable households, one book per person (worth 7,500 yen) will be sold for 5,000 yen. (2,500 yen savings).

For tax-exempt households, one book per person (worth 2,500 yen) will be distributed free of charge.

Eligibility: Must be a registered resident of Okinawa City as of the end of June. Ticket will be sent to eligible citizens by mail.

Contact: Okinawa City Eisa Vouchers Office

TEL: 098-851-3406

**Okinawa City Library News**

**Days Closed:** 12 (Mon), 12 (Mon) , 19(Mon), 22 (Thu: Marine Day), 23 (Fri: Sports Day), 26 (Mon) and 30 (Thu: Inspection).

**Address:** 2-28-1 Chuo, Okinawa City **TEL:** 098-929-4919

Would you like our newsletters emailed or mailed to you? Let us know!

Email: [kokusai@city.okinawa.lg.jp](mailto:kokusai@city.okinawa.lg.jp)

You can also visit, call or fax us at:

Okinawa-shi Yakusho

Bunka Geino Ka

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Mon-Fri :10:00-21:00\*/ Sat: 10:00~ 19:00

<https://ja-jp.facebook.com/ociakip>

Email: [okinawa\\_kip@yahoo.co.jp](mailto:okinawa_kip@yahoo.co.jp)

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