



OKINAWA CITY Newsletter

March 2019 Vol. 19 No. 3

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

Events

The 8th Okinawa City Brass Band Festival

You're sure to feel satisfied by the outstanding passionate performances crossing generations.

March 17 (SUN)
Open 10:30/Start 11:00

Okinawa Civic Hall
(1-1-1Yaeshima, Okinawa)

FREE Admission

Contact: 文化芸能課
(Culture & Traditional Arts Division)

TEL:098-929-0261



2019 Okinawa City Spring Plant Fair (Free Admission)

Flowers, tropical fruits, landscaping plants, green plants and bonsai for sale! The charity auction will be held to donate the benefit to the welfare organizations.

Date: **March 1 (Fri)- 10 (Sun)**

Time: **9:00-18:00**

Charity auction: March 9 (Sat) 14:00-

Venue: Okinawa City Agricultural Training Center
(2380 Noborikawa, Okinawa City)



A Secondary Public Parking Is Available

Thank you always for your understanding on usage of our public parking. Please use the Secondary Public Parking when the Public Parking is full.

Also, please allow the nearest parking spot to be open for the physically disabled, the elderly, and pregnant women.

Thank you for your cooperation during congestion.
Contact: Keiyaku Kanzai Ka (Contract Custodianship Division) Ext. 2096

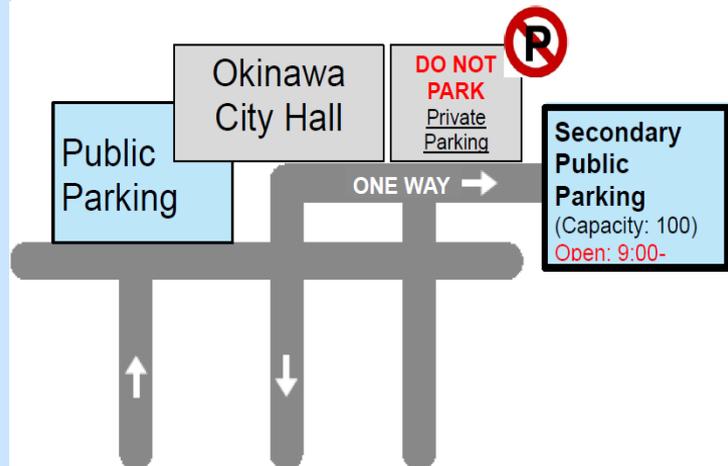
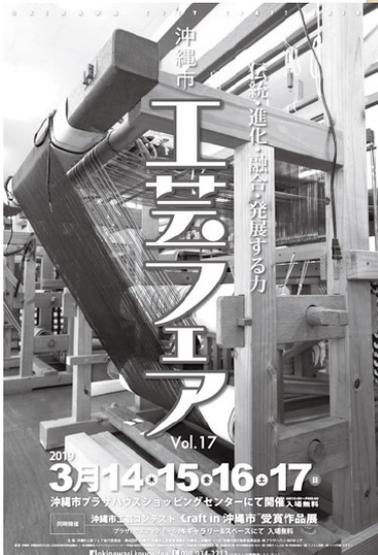
Okinawa City Craft Fair

Valuable crafts such as pottery, textile fabric, lacquer, etc., from all over the island will be converged in Okinawa City during the following days!

March 14(THU)/15(FRI)/16(SAT) & 17 (SUN)
10:00- 20:00

Plaza House Shopping Center 1F-3F
(3-1-12, Kubota, Okinawa City)

FREE Admission



Total Population: 142,259

[Japanese Population] Male: 68,007 Female: 72,624
[Foreign Population (52 Countries)] Male: 999 Female: 629

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. Services are provided in Japanese only (unless otherwise indicated).** For English support, please email: kokusai@city.okinawa.okinawa.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



▶ Notice From The National Health Insurance Division: Your Insurance Certificates Must Be Renewed In March.

New certificates will be mailed to the following households

1. Households who have completed making insurance premium payments by January 31 and are not behind on any payments. Households that pay by account transfer must have completed payments for the past years and up to the 7th payment term in the current fiscal year.

• New certificates will be sent **Beginning of March**.

2. Households with no record of late payments and have completed payments by February 28.

• New certificates will be sent between **mid to late March**.

*Your new insurance certificates will be enclosed in the mail. If you are not at home, a claim notice will be left in your mailbox. Please contact the number on the notice.



Old<Blue>

NEW<Green>

The following households must receive their new certificate at the National Health Insurance Division service counter.

Households who make payments after the deadline or have overdue payments, or have addresses within a military base, please come to the National Health Insurance Division service counter **between March 18 (Mon)~ 29 (Fri)** to receive your new insurance certificate.

* Households who are not able to complete their payments can receive their new insurance certificate after receiving a payment consultation.

What to bring to the service counter to receive your new insurance certificate:

*The postcard you received notifying you to renew your insurance certificate, your current insurance certificate and the head of household's *inkan* (seal).

* Your ID (driver's license, etc) and inkan.

* National health insurance premium bills (to confirm receipts)

* Dependents who will move outside of Okinawa City to attend school must provide a certificate of school registration.

Contact: *Kokumin Kenko Hoken ka* (National Health Insurance Division Benefits Section) ext. 2107, 2112

▶ National Pension System ~ Please submit a notification if the following applies to you~

All registered residents of Japan between the ages of 20 and 60 must be enrolled in Japan's National Pension System.

※You must notify your category at the time of enrollment, as well as in the following situations:

○ **You are under 60 years old** and have retired, are not receiving pension benefits, and have resigned from the employees' pension system or mutual aid society (this does not apply if you become your spouse's dependent and become a Category 3 insured person).

○ **You are 59 years old or younger** and are the dependent spouse of a person who are to resign from their employees' pension system or mutual aid society due to retirement.

*Please do not forget to notify your category status. If you forget, the amount of benefits you may be eligible to receive could decrease, or benefits may not be provided at all.

There are three categories of insured persons under this system.

◎ **Category 1 Insured Persons:** People who are self-employed, agricultural and fishery employees and their spouses, and students who are 20 years old and older.

◎ **Category 2 Insured Persons:** People who are covered by employees' pension insurance or mutual aid society.

◎ **Category 3 Insured Persons:** People who are the dependent spouse of a Category 2 insured person.

※For questions about your pension benefits or its process, please visit your nearest pension office or the division in charge at your municipal government office.

Contact: *Shimin Ka, Kokumin Nenkin Tanto* (Residents Division, persons in charge) ext. 2131,2133,2134
Koza Nenkin Jimusho (Koza Pension Office) TEL: 933-2267



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.okinawa.jp

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▶ **Please Note:**

March is the payment deadline for the following taxes:
Long-term care insurance premium (10th term)/ **Medical care for the elderly insurance premium** (9th term). If you use automatic bank transfers, payments will be withdrawn on **April 1!** Make sure you have enough money in your bank account the day before!!

▶ **Medical Care Support For Children-Change of Certificate (For the New 1st Graders of Elementary school)**

The certificate and how to apply for the “Medical Care Support for Children” changes when children become new 1st graders of Elementary School. The new certificate will be sent to eligible residents (it will be mailed after the end of March). Please keep this in mind when your children receive medical care.

*You don't need to do any paperwork for the change.

Eligibility:

Children born between April 2, 2012 and April 1, 2013.

For treatments up to March 31 (Certificate: Pink)

Payments will be covered at accounting for the insurance-covered expenses.

For treatments from April 1 (Certificate: Orange)

You have to pay at accounting, but the insurance-covered amount will be automatically reimbursed (or reimbursed by application) to your bank account.

Contact: *Kodomo Katei Ka*

(Children's Welfare Division) Ext. 2124,2125,3189

▶ **Photochemical Oxidant Alert**

Photochemical Oxidant is formed by nitrogen oxide contained in gas from factories and when exhaust gas from vehicles are changed into toxic material for human body by ultraviolet light. The density of it tends to be higher during March and June in Okinawa. It does not give serious side-effects to us immediately, however, please refrain from unnecessary outdoor activities and protect yourself as much as possible if an photochemical oxidant alert is announced. Announced by Central Public Health and welfare Center



▶ **FY2018 Okinawa City Schools Lunch Fee Aid**

In order to support parents with multiple children, Okinawa City provides financial support for school lunch fees. This aid is provided to the third child and every child born after. You must apply for this service every year. Please make sure you don't forget to apply.

Eligible Children: Children in the family who are enrolled at an elementary or junior high school in Okinawa City and are the third child or younger.

Requirements to receive aid: Children must be Okinawa City residents. They must not be receiving public assistance or meet the standards to receive public assistance.

Application period:

March 1 (Fri),2019 – Feb 10(Mon), 2020

Application form: You can get it at your children's school or you can also download it from the Okinawa City website. *You need to apply for the aid each year.

Where to apply: Your third children's school office

Contact: Okinawa City *Gakko Kyushoku* Center (School Lunch Center) TEL: 929-4776



▶ **FY 2018 March Residents' Public Health Checkup Schedule**

Please check the schedule below and make sure not to miss the date for your own health management.

You can also get it at medical facilities.

Sign-in during the reception hours provided below.

Mar. 3 (Sun) & Mar. 17 (Sun) 8:30-10:30

@ Industrial Exchange Center

(1-11-25 Awase, Okinawa City)

*Make sure to bring your insurance certificate and check-up coupon.

*If you lost your coupon, please visit Residents' Health Division in advance to get it reissued.

Contact: *Shimin Kenko Ka*市民健康課 (Residents' Health Division) Ext. 2240



▶ **Announcement For Non-taxed Households With Children Who Go To a Private Nursery School**

If you satisfy all the requirements below, you can receive a subsidy for tuition.

Requirements

1. Your children go to a private nursery school and you are also certified that you have applied to a public or government-approved nursery school (Document issued when you apply to public or government-approved nursery school).
2. You are non-taxable household.
3. You are not behind on payment for government approved nursery school (if any of your children were or are applied).
4. You have paid the tuition which is eligible for the subsidy to the private nursery school.
5. You are not receiving "A Subsidy on Private Nursery School Tuition for Single Parents in Okinawa City" * You will not be eligible for this subsidy when you are accepted to a government-approved nursery school.

Amount of Subsidy: The difference between the tuition at public/government approved schools and those at private schools (Up to ¥5,000/month).

Eligible Period: After **September 1, 2018**, and also the following month of the month you satisfy all the requirements. (If you fulfill the requirements on the 1st of the month, the subsidy will be eligible on the same month.)

Application Period: For subsidies from September 2018 through March 2019: **March 1 (Fri)-15(Fri),2019**

How to Apply: Contact *Hoiku Yochien Ka* (Nursery/Kindergarten Division) Ext.3176, 3131

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.okinawa.jp

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▶ The Residential Division Will Be Very Crowded In March & April

The service counter will be very busy with change of address procedures during March and April.

Service Hours/ 8:30– 17:15 (Except for Sat, Sun and Japanese Holidays)



*Please understand it can take more than two hours to complete paperwork when it is crowded.

Other Announcements From Residential Division:

[Certificate Issuance With My Number Card Is Available At Convenience Stores] **[Open on April 6 (Sat) & April 7 (Sun) For Following Procedures] 10:00-14:00**

- 1. **Certificate Issuance** - Resident Certificate (*Juminhyo*), Inkan Certificate (*Inkan Shomei*), Family Registration Certificate (*Koseki Shomei*), etc.
 - 2. **Change of Address** - Move-in (From other cities)/Move-out (To other cities)/Change of Address (within the city) *The procedure of exceptional move in/out or public housing cannot be done.
 - 3. **Inkan Registration Procedure**
- Contact:** *Shimin Ka* (City Residential Division) ext. 3123

Service Hours:
18:30—23:00
(Available on Sat, Sun and Japanese holidays)

*Except for Dec. 29-Jan.3 of the following year and maintenance day.

<NOTE>

- Make sure you have enough time to wait for any paperwork.
- Parts of processes that need to be done through the resident registry network, or needs confirmation with other municipal offices will not be offered.
- Passport application or temporary numbers issuance is not available.
- Please note that this is for service only provided by the Residential Division. You have to come back during another business day for other city hall division's matters.
- Please contact the Residential Division for more information.

▶ Have You Applied For The Medical Expense Subsidy For People (Children) With Severe Mental And Physical Disabilities?

Those who hold a certificate of physical disability or intellectual disability and the following conditions apply are eligible to receive subsidies for medical expenses which accrued after they had their disability certified. (Available between a month after and within a year of payment).

Eligibility:

- Okinawa City residents.
- Those who are the insured by the government medical insurance and hold one of the following certificates:
 1. Physical disability certificate (1st or 2nd degree).
 2. Intellectual disability certificate (A1 or A2)
 3. Both physical disability (3rd degree) and intellectual disability (B1).

*If the total income of the subsidy beneficiary and the person financially responsible exceeds a certain amount, they will not be eligible to receive subsidies.

*Those who are receiving public assistance are not eligible.

*If the beneficiary is eligible for Medical Care Support for Children as an outpatient, they will not be eligible.

Application/ Contact: *Shogai Fukushi Ka* (Disabilities Welfare Division) Ext.3154,3157,3165



Required documents for application:

- Physical disability certificate/ intellectual disability certificate
- Applicant's health insurance certificate
- Bank account book (with applicant's name)
- Inkan* (non-registered one is ok. If the application is submitted by proxy, need one of the proxy)

*If applicant moved in from outside of Okinawa City, they need to submit their income taxation certificate.

After April 2019, the day of the payment (bank transfer) will change from the "last Wednesday of the each month" to the "end of the each month".

*When the transfer day falls on a closed day, payments will be made on the previous business day. Check your bank account book for payment records since payment notifications will not sent.



Okinawa City Library News

Book readings & hand games: Saturdays, March 9, 16, & 23 starting at 3:00 pm

Days Closed: Mar. 4 (Mon), 11 (Mon), 18 (Mon), 21 (Thu: Spring Equinox Day), 25 (Mon), and 28 (Thu: for inspection). ※Up to 20 books per person.

Address: 2-28-1 Chuo, Okinawa City Korinza Mall (1F) **TEL:** 098-929-4919



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

Email: kokusai@city.okinawa.okinawa.jp

You can also visit, call or fax us at:

Okinawa-shi Yakusho Bunka Kanko Ka (5F)
26-1 Nakasone-Cho, Okinawa City, Okinawa
Tel: (098) 929-0261 FAX: (098) 939-7341



Koza International Plaza

Contact KIP for free Japanese classes, legal consultations, fun events and MORE!

1-17-15 Chuo, Okinawa City

TEL 989-6759 FAX 989-6758

Monday-Sunday 10:00~ 21:00

E-mail: okinawa_kip@yahoo.co.jp

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



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