



OKINAWA CITY Newsletter

April 2019 Vol. 19 No. 4

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

Announcements

City Hall Will Be Closed During The 10-Day Holiday (Golden Week)

Due to the enforcement of the law regarding the holiday on the day of Emperor's reign and the ceremonial day, between April 27 (Sat) and May 6 (Mon) will be enacted as Japanese holidays and Okinawa City Hall will be closed. Please contact each public facility outside of Okinawa City Hall for their schedule.

Thank you for your understanding.
Contact: Somu Ka (General Affairs Division)
Ext.2342/2343



Emperor's Reign And Gengo (Era Names)

In Japan, we use the Gregorian calendar (A.D.) and also **Gengo** (Japanese era name) to describe "Year". You might see two Kanji and a number after that to write the date of birth or dates. The two kanjis is what we call **Gengo**.

Gengo is changed when the Emperor changes. The current **Gengo** "平成" (Heisei) has been used for 31 years since the current Emperor was enthroned.

Therefore this year (2019) is described as

『平成 (Heisei)31年』

in **Gengo**, and this will end by April this year.

Because the current Emperor will make a living succession to the prince in May this year, a new **Gengo** will start under the law.

The new **Gengo** has been announced on April 1 as:

『令和』 (Reiwa)

After May 1, the year in Japanese **Gengo** will be

『令和元年』 (Reiwa Gan-nen).

元年 (**Gan-nen**) means "The first year".

Not only at the City Hall, but also in a various occasion we will see this **Gengo** for many processes and paperwork. It will help if you learn about **Gengo** when you complete paperwork in Japan.

平成
(Heisei)



令和
(Reiwa)

Okinawa City Hall Will Open Its Service Window During Lunch Time

We open our service window during the lunch time (12:00-13:00) since January 2019.

Please contact to make sure what kind of services are available during this time.

Contact: Policy Planning Division
Ext.2381



Trash Collection During 10-Day Holiday

The trash collection between April 27 (Sat) and May 6 (Mon) is scheduled for pick-up as usual.

The application for bulk trash will start on May 7 (Tue).



Contact: Kankyo Ka (Environmental Division).
Ext. 2223—2226



Total Population: 142,263

[Japanese Population] Male: 67,997 Female: 72,612
[Foreign Population (51Countries)] Male: 1,016 Female: 638



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.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

▶ Combined Measles And Rubella (MR) 2nd Term Vaccination In FY 2019

Getting your child vaccinated twice with the MR vaccination is a highly effective way to prevent them from getting Measles and Rubella. Your child should first get vaccinated when they are 1 years old, then for a second time a year before they start elementary school. The 2nd term MR vaccination for 2019 is as follows:

Eligible Children:

Those born between April 2, 2013 (Heisei 25) ~April 1, 2014 (Heisei 26)

Vaccination Period: April 1, 2019 (Mon) ~March 31, 2020 (Tue)

Frequency: One time

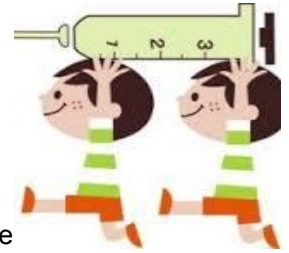
Fee: FREE

Vaccination Site: Designated medical facilities (appointment required)

※April through June is the MR vaccination reinforcement period. The effects of prevention are enhanced when everyone eligible gets vaccinated during this time. This year, it might be very crowded at the hospitals for adult male being also covered for this vaccination service.

※Vaccination types and schedules in foreign countries (including military bases) may differ. Please come to the service window to confirm your child's vaccination history.

Contact: 2F, *Kodomo Sodan/ Kenko ka* (Child Consultation/ Health Division) ext. 2232, 2233



▶ Disability Benefit System

●**Special Disability Benefits (at least 20 years old)**

This benefit is available to people who are at least 20 years old and lives at home with a severe disability, and needs special and constant assistance throughout the day. People who are staying at a care facility or are hospitalized are not eligible for this benefit.

●**Welfare benefits for Disabled Children (under 20 years old)**

This benefit is available to children under 20 years old and lives at home or are currently in a hospital with a severe disability, and need special and constant assistance throughout the day. Children who are staying at a care facility are not eligible for this benefit.

How to apply: You must provide a doctor's statement and other documents. Please contact the division in charge for details.

Regarding the revision of the amount of Special Disability (Children/ Welfare) Benefit

Based on the national Price Index for the year 2018, which was disclosed as of January 18, 2019, the amount of benefits will be revised to increase at 0.1% as of April 2019.

Special Disability Benefits : ¥27,200 (+ ¥260 from the previous year amount)

Welfare benefits for Disabled Children: ¥14,790 (+ ¥140 from the previous year amount)

*If you are already receiving benefits, please notify *Shogai Fukushi Ka* of any major changes, such as a change to your name or address, if you entered a care facility, are in a hospital for more than three months, or the beneficiary is deceased. If you continue receiving benefits without submitting the appropriate notice, you will be required to return the full amount that you have received.

Contact: *Shogai Fukushi Ka*

(Disabilities Welfare Division, Person in Charge of Special Disabilities Benefits) ext. 3157



▶ Basic Life-saving Certification

Category 1 <CPR/AED/Homeostatic method used in Adults>

Date: April 13 (Sat) **Time:** 9:00– noon **Location:** Fire Dept. Misato Branch

Date: April 23 (Tue) **Time:** 14:00- 17:00 **Location:** Fire Dept. Misato Branch

Capacity: 20

Date: April 16 (Tue) **Time:** 14:00- 17:00 **Location:** Fire Dept. Yamauchi Branch

Capacity: 10

Category 3 <CPR/AED/Homeostatic method/ Foreign body Removal used in infants and kids>

Date: April 25(Thu) **Time:** 14:00- 17:00 **Location:** Fire Dept. Misato Branch

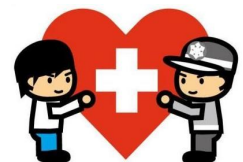
Capacity: 20

Fee: Free ***Classes are provided in Japanese only.**

(Certificates will be issued to all participants who complete the class.) Please call below to sign up.

Application: By phone. Mon-Fri (9:00-17:15) Closed on weekends and Japanese holidays.

Contact: *Okinawa Shi Shobo Honbu* (Okinawa City Fire Department Headquarter) TEL:098-929-0900



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:**

April is the payment deadline for the following tax:

Real-estate Tax (1st term).

If you use automatic bank transfers, payments will be withdrawn on May 7.

Make sure you have enough money in your bank account the day before!!

▶ **Free Cooking Classes**

Cooking with Egg/milk/flour-Free Recipe

Date & Time: April 20 (Sat) 10:00-noon

Place: Okinawa City Welfare Center (Address: 1-14-29 Sumiyoshi, Okinawa City)

Eligibility: Children and their parent who reside in Okinawa City (6 years old to 6th grade Elementary school)

Capacity: 6 pairs **Application Deadline:** April 10 (Wed) 15:00 **Contact:** Residents Health Division Ext.2242

Mother's Day Cooking For Kids

Let's get prepared to make your Mother's Day special with your cooking!

Date & Time: May 11 (Sat) 10:00-noon (Bring your apron, cooking cap and towel)

Place: Okinawa City Welfare Culture Plaza (Address: 7-35-1 Takahara, Okinawa City)

Eligibility: Children who reside in Okinawa City (6 years old to 6th grade Elementary school)

Capacity: 16 **Application Deadline:** April 24 (Wed) 15:00

*Participants will be decided by drawing when applicants are more than capacity.

Contact: Residents Health Division Ext.2242



▶ **Free Fitness Trial Lesson For Moms**

Yoga to build your muscle strength, and nutrition balance guidance (with smoothie tasting) will be offered.

Date & Time: April 19 (Fri) 10:00-12:30

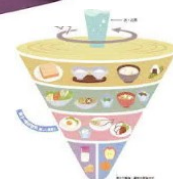
Place: Miyazato Jido Center (Address: 2-7-24 Higashi, Okinawa City)

Eligibility: People who are residing, or working in Okinawa City

Capacity: 15 (First come first serve basis) **Childcare:** Up to 10 children (6 month-old or older)

What to Bring: Indoor shoes, towel, your own beverage

Application Deadline: April 17 (Wed) 16:00 **Contact:** Residents Health Division Ext.2243



▶ **Sports Class**

Parent-child Soccer Class

Date & Time: May 11 (Sat) 14:00-15:30 * Bring your indoor shoes

Place: Okinawa City Koza Athletic Park Multi-purpose Field (next to gym)

(Address: 2-1-1 Moromizato, Okinawa City)

Eligibility: Children from 4 years old to 3rd grade in Elementary school and their parent

Capacity: 20 pairs (First come first serve basis) **Fee:** ¥100 (For insurance)

Make sure to bring indoor shoes.

Contact: Residents Sports Division TEL:098-932-1294 Email: simins03@city.okinawa.okinawa.jp



▶ **Community & School Facilities Will Be Open For Public Use**

You can use designated rooms at each school for your life-long learning activities.

Facilities Available: Community & School facilities in Okinawa City (10 Elementary Schools and 4 Junior High Schools listed below).

Open Hours: Mon-Fri (18:00-22:00)/Sat & Sun, holidays (9:00-22:00) *Please understand that school activities take priority of this service.

Eligibility: Groups of more than 10 people who reside, work, or go to school in Okinawa City (regardless of the school district as long as the principal approves). * Children can only use facilities with an adult's supervision.

How to Apply: Applications have to be processed through each school's management director under the approval of the Board of Education. Contact the applicable school listed below for details.

<Available Schools and Their Contact>

Yamauchi Elementary School (ES)933-6562/ Kitami ES 937-3616/

Murokawa ES 938-2177/ Misato ES 938-8844/ Mihara ES 934-0021/ Awase ES

934-2122/ Hiyagon ES 930-0581/ Nakanomachi ES 933-3054/ Shimabukuro ES

933-3365/ Takahara ES 937-3618/ Yamauchi Junior High School (JHS) 933-4793/

Misato JHS 937-3614/Okinawa-higashi JHS 934-9460/ Bito JHS 937-3613

Contact: Shogai Gakushu Ka (Career Planning Division) Ext. 2743



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▶ Special Payment Application For Students (National Pension)

People, even students, must enroll in the National Pension System when they turn 20 years old. For students who earn less than the amount specified by the Japanese National Pension System, the "Special Payment System for Students" offers a reprieve from payments regardless of family income. **Eligibility** :Students of universities, colleges, high schools, or special technical schools under the School Education Act, or other institutes which offer courses for more than a year.



Application : April 1, 2019~

Required Documents : If the student applies: School certificate, student ID, etc. to prove that they are attending school. * Make sure your student certificate is valid.

If a proxy applies on behalf of the student: ID, inkan (a power of attorney will be required if the proxy is not from the same household).

Please visit the division in charge for more information.

Contact: Shimin Ka, Kokumin Nenkin Tanto (Residents Division, National Pension Section) ext. 2131/ 2133/ 2134

▶ "Case Memo" For Home Medical Care Patients Needs To Be Updated

If you or your family are under medical care patients registration system by Okinawa City Fire Department, the registration needs to be updated every year. Please keep in mind that if you leave it unprocessed, the registration will be cancelled. Please update your registration no later than **May 31 (Fri)**. *Closed on Sat, Sun, and Japanese holidays.

Get the form at the fire department and submit it to fire department office below.

Contact: 沖縄市消防本部 (Okinawa Shi Shobo Honbu Keibo Ka) Okinawa City Fire Department Headquarter TEL:098-929-0900

▶ All Restaurants Are Obligated To Install Extinguisher

Due to the revision of Fire Service Act in March 2018, all the restaurants with instruments for fire use will be obligated to install extinguisher regardless the restaurant's dimension since **October 1, 2019**.

*This applies to all existing restaurants as well. Contact for the detail such as location or quantity required or exemption.

Contact: Okinawa Shi Shobo Honbu Keibo Ka (Okinawa City Fire Department Headquarter) TEL:098-929-0901



▶ Post Partum Checkup Expense Will Be Covered After April 2019

In order to make sure of post partum mother's condition, the expense for the checkup at obstetric facilities or maternity centers will be covered by the government. Please use "post partum checkup coupon" for checkups at the medical facilities under contract for the checkup program.

Eligibility : Mothers who gave birth after April 1, 2019

Valid Term : Around 2 weeks and around a month after birth, one time each.

Amount of Coverage : Up to ¥5,000 per checkup.

*You have to pay the amount which exceeds the coverage. The coverage can only apply for the designated items of examination.

Contact: Kodomo Sodan-Kenko Ka(Child Consultation-Health Division, persons in charge) ext. 2283/ 2284/ 2235

How To Get A Post Partum Checkup Coupon?

If you get your mother and child health record book issued after April, you will get the coupon with other maternity checkup coupon at the window.

If you have already got your mother and child health record book issued by March 31, 2019, and will give birth after April, the coupon will be mailed to your house in the beginning of April.

*Please contact us if you have moved in but not notify your pregnancy, not received the coupon, or if you plan to get a checkup outside of Okinawa.



Okinaawa City Library News

Book readings & hand games: Saturdays, April 13, 20, & 27 starting at 3:00 pm

Days Closed: April. 1 (Mon), 8 (Mon), 15 (Mon), 22 (Mon), 25 (Thu: for inspection),

And 29 (Mon: Showa Day). ※Up to 20 books per person.

-Volunteers Wanted-

We are open for paid volunteers for "Book Start Project" to support parents with babies through the picture books. Contact us for more information.

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 Geino Ka

沖縄市役所 文化芸能課 (B1)

26-1 Nakasone-Cho, Okinawa City, Okinawa

Tel: (098) 929-0261 FAX: (098) 939-7341



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