



OKINAWA CITY Newsletter

February 2022 Vol. 22 No. 2

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

Announcements

► Announcement from the Okinawa Tax Office: Tax Filing

Tax Filing Venue:

Aeon Mall Rycom (3F: Aeon Hall)

Please wear mask when you visit.

Period:

Feb. 1 (Tue)- Mar. 15 (Tue), 2022

*Closed on weekends and Japanese holidays

Hours: 9:00-16:00

**Please be aware that you may have to wait for a long time for tax filing consultation at the tax filing venue, so please come early.

Numbered admission tickets will be distributed at the Grand Square entrance on the first floor main entrance before 10:00a.m. After 10:00 a.m., they will be distributed three times at the AEON Hall entrance.

Registration may be closed early depending on crowded conditions.

Tickets are also available with online pre-issuance through LINE (Japanese).

Scan the code and add "National Tax Agency 国税庁" as a friend. Apply for consultation and present the completed screen at the entrance.



For this year's tax return, you can also file it by e-Tax on the National Tax Agency website : <https://www.nta.go.jp> (Scan the code when apply by your smart phone.)



Or by mailing to Okinawa Tax Office.

Contact: Okinawa Tax Office TEL: 098-938-0031

► FY 2020 Tax Filing for Residential Tax and National Health Insurance Premium

Period: **FEB 16 (Wed)~ MAR 15 (Tue)** (not including weekends)

Hours: **9:00 – 16:00**

Place: **Okinawa City Hall 1F**

English speaking staff available on site.

To reduce congestion, residents in each area will be scheduled as follows:



Check out the designated date for your residential area.

<February>

17 (Thu)/ Goya, Shiromae

18 (Fri)/ Moromizato,

Kubota, Higashitobaru

21 (Mon)/ Hiyagon, Sonda

22 (Tue)/ Miyazato,

Akemichi

24 (Thu)/ Minamitobaru,

Awase Daiichi

25 (Fri)/ Awase, Yaeshima

28 (Mon)/ Koja, Kamara,

Awase Daini, Kaihocho

<March>

1 (Tue)/ Yamauchi,

Yamazato, Higashi

2 (Wed)/ Ozato, Yogi, Nakanomachi

3 (Thu)/ Matsumoto, Murokawa, Sumiyoshi, Teruya

4 (Fri)/ Misato, Yoshihara,

7 (Mon)/ Chibana, Center, Awase Daisan

8 (Tue)/ Ageda, Ikehara, On base

9 (Wed)/ Takahara

10 (Thu)/ Noborikawa, Goeku

*If you are not able to visit on the designated day, you can visit on any other day above or **before March 15.**

*It gets very crowded and the waiting time gets longer, so please come early to file.

Business owners or those who had real estate income are requested to file their tax between February **24 (Thu)-March 4 (Fri).**

Please wear a mask when you come to the office. Please refrain from coming to the office if you have a fever, cold symptoms, or any other health problems. Please visit our website if you wish to file your tax by mail. <https://www.city.okinawa.okinawa.jp/english/>

Contact: Residential Tax Division Ext. 3252- 3255

Okinawa City Hall will be **Closed** on

February 11 (Fri) & 23 (Wed)

for a National Foundation Day and Emperor's Birthday as Japanese holiday.



Total Population: 143,169

[Japanese Population] Male: 69,594 Female: 73,575
[Foreign Population (59 Countries)] Male: 1,047 Female: 673



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 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/>

FEBRUARY 2022



Administrative Announcements

▶ Please Note:

February is the payment deadline for the following taxes:

Real-estate tax (4th term)/ Long-term care insurance premium (9th term)/

National health insurance premium (8th term)/ Medical care for the elderly insurance premium (8th term).

If you use automatic bank transfers, payments will be withdrawn on February 28. Make sure you have enough money in your bank account the day before.

▶ Temporary Special Benefit For Households Exempt From Residential tax, etc.

住民税非課税世帯等に対する臨時特別給付金

This is a new benefit that provides 100,000 yen per household to households that are exempt from the resident tax on a per capita basis and households that have experienced a sudden depression in their finances due to the effects of COVID-19. In order to receive the benefit, the following procedures are required.

[Eligibility]

Category 1. Households in which all members of the household are exempt from resident tax on a per capita basis for the FY 2021. -A "Confirmation of Requirements for Provision of Temporary Special Benefit for Households Exempt from Resident Tax, etc. Form(住民税非課税世帯等に対する臨時特別給付金支給要件確認書)" will be sent to eligible households registered as residents of Okinawa City as of **December 10, 2021**. Please check the contents and return **it with the enclosed return envelope**.

*If you have a household member who moved into Okinawa City on or after January 2, 2021, you will need to apply separately.

The form will be mailed around the end of February (subject to be changed)

Category 2. Households whose income has rapidly decreased since January 2021 and whose income is equivalent to the exemption from the resident tax on a per capita basis. -Households in which the income of all household members has decreased due to the effects of COVID-19 are eligible for this program.

Application is required to receive this benefit.

We will verify your eligibility by confirming your estimated income (withholding tax certificate, copy of tax return, etc.) for the year 2021 or any one month after January 2021.

The application documents are available around the end of February (subject to be changed) at Temporary Special Benefit Section 非課税世帯給付金担当窓口 5F, Okinawa City Hall.

More information will be updated on our website as soon as it is decided.

NOTES:

1. Even if you meet all of the conditions on category 1 and 2, you only apply with one of those categories. 2. If all members of the household are dependent on relatives, etc., who are in a resident taxable household, they will not be able to receive benefits. 3. If the details of your application are incorrect, you may be asked to return the benefits. Also, if you intentionally submit a false application, you may be charged with fraud as a fraudulent receipt of benefits. 4. If the application is not submitted by the deadline, it will be considered that the applicant for this benefit has been declined.

Call Center for Temporary Special Benefit:

TEL: 0120-545200 *English & Chinese are available only on this number.

Mon-Fri (Closed on weekends and Japanese holidays) Hours: 8:30-17:15

Contact: Temporary Special Benefit Section 非課税世帯給付金担当窓口 5F, Okinawa City Hall (Ext.3312)

▶ "FY2021 Temporary Special Benefits for Households Raising Children in Okinawa City" -For Those Who Need to Apply-

子育て世帯臨時特別給付金

Eligibility Those who apply to the following categories are required to apply.

(1) Public servants who are receiving child allowance (*except for special benefits) for Sep. 2021. (2) Parents or guardians who are raising only those born between Apr. 2, 2003 and Apr. 1, 2006 and whose income is high. (3) Those who are receiving child allowance for newborn babies born between Dec. 1, 2021 and Mar. 31, 2022 (*excluding special benefits). *The application form was sent out on Dec. 28, 2021 to those who may be eligible.

Amount of allowance: 100,000 yen per child

How to apply: In principle, by mail (please use the enclosed return envelope for the application form)

Application must be postmarked by Mon, Feb. 28, 2022.

Contact: Children's Welfare Division (Ext.3192/3194)

▶ COVID-19 Self-reliance Support Benefit

生活困窮者自立支援金

If a household is unable to use the Special Emergency Small Loans provided by the Social Welfare Council (i.e., those with the borrowing amount has reached the limit or their re-lending request has been disapproved) and they meets the requirements, support money will be provided per month (for three months).

In addition, those who have received the benefit for three months and also meet certain requirements can receive it again (only once).

*Please contact below for the details.

Place: Public Assistance Division (保護管理課)

Hours: 9:00 - 16:00

Application Deadline: Thu, Mar. 31, 2022

Contact: Public Assistance Division Ext.2153/2151

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税金(Zelkin:TAX)

住民税 (Jumin zei/ Resident Tax)

自動車税 (Jidosha zei/Vehicle Tax)

固定資産税 (Kotei shisan zei/Real-estate Tax)

所得税 (Shotoku zei/Income Tax)

軽自動車税 (Kei jidosha zei/Light motor vehicle Tax)

▶ Do Not Miss the Payment Due Date for National Pension Premium Payment

The monthly amount of national pension premium between April 2021 and March 2022: **¥16,610.**

If you have not paid by the due date, you will receive a notice from the Japan Pension Service asking you to pay as soon as possible.

If you do not pay your insurance premiums, you will not only receive a reduced pension in the future, but you may also be unable to receive the Basic Old-Age Pension, Basic Disability Pension, or Basic Survivor's Pension. Please make sure that you have not forgotten to pay your premiums.

You can pay by: Cash with payment slip, credit card, bank transfer, electronic payment using the internet etc..

Advance payments will give you discount.

Application deadline for each advanced payment plan:
 6 months in advance (Apr. -Sep.2022)—End of Feb., 2022
 6 months in advance (Oct.2022-Mar.2023)—End of Aug, 2022
 A year in advance (Apr. 2022-Mar.2023)—End of Feb., 2022
 2 years in advance (Apr. 2022-Mar.2024)—End of Feb., 2022

If you have difficulty paying your insurance premiums due to financial reasons, etc., there is a system to exempt or postpone the payment of premiums, so please contact below for consultation.

Contact: Koza Pension Agency TEL: 098-933-2267 or *Shimin Ka* (Residential Division) ext.2133/2134



▶ Antibody Test And Regular Vaccination For Rubella (40's -50's Male)

The rubella antibody test at the medical facilities has been decided to be offered as an additional provision to males who haven't received MR vaccination in the past.

***You cannot receive vaccination without taking antibody test.**

Eligibility: Male born between April 2, 1962 and April 1, 1979

Eligible Period: Until March 31, 28 (Mon), 2024

Location: Designated medical facilities, and Okinawa City Group Health Examination Venue (reservation required).

Cost: Free (Covered by government)

Those who have lost their free coupon for antibody test can apply for reissuance.

Please contact below for more information.

Please make sure you bring your resident card to the medical facility.

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



▶ Reserve Your Spot For The Health

Checkup ! Do not miss this chance!

The Public Health Check-up in FY2021 Requires

Reservation

(Reservation accepted at first come first serve bases)

Reservation Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30-17:00

*Except for weekends and Japanese Holidays.

*You can also check the schedule on the local TV channel (QAB) with the "d-button (for data broadcasting)" on your remote control.

*If you make a reservation at least two weeks in advance to the date of checkup, we will mail an examination kit which is needed for the checkup to your resident.

Contact for Reservation: *Shimin Kenko Ka* (Residents Health Division) Ext.2245/2246

If you want to get the checkup individually at the hospital, the list of medical facility which you can use the coupon is enclosed as a checkup guide.

	Date		Venue	Capacity
Feb.	1	Tue	Agricultural Training Center	120
	8	Tue		120
	16	Wed	Okinawa City Budo-kan	150
	17	Thu		150
	23	Wed		150
Mar.	24	Thu	150	
	16	Wed	Okinawa City Budo-kan	150
17	Thu	150		

▶ EISA Premium Vouchers -We Offer The Special Sale Due to Popular Demands-

エイサー商品券の特別販売

Last year, Okinawa City sold a special "Eisa Premium Vouchers" that can be used at cooperating stores in the city due to the prolonged effects of the COVID-19 and the tight economic situation. We have decided to make a special sale due to its popularity, so please do not miss this opportunity.

Sales started on Jan. 31 (Mon) *One book per household (first come, first served)

Each booklet costs 5,000 yen and can be used to purchase 7,500 yen worth of vouchers (5 x 1,000 yen vouchers and 5 x 500 yen vouchers).

How to purchase: Bring the "Postcard with exchange ticket 引換券付きはがき(*)" and purchase at the designated sales store indicated on the postcard. (*)The postcards will be sent to the head of the household by Jan. 28.

Period of Use: Until **Feb. 28 (Mon)**

Vouchers marked "Aug. 2, 2021 (Mon) - Jan. 31, 2022 (Mon)" can also be used until Feb. 28, 2022.

NOTE: You cannot use it after **Feb. 28 (Mon)**, so please use it before the date.

Contact: EISA Premium Vouchers Office TEL: 098-851-3406 Monday-Friday (except for Japanese holidays)

Hours: 10:00-16:00

Phrases: **住民税の申告に 来ました。**
Jumin zei no Shinkoku ni kimashita.
 I'm here to file my **resident tax.**

軽自動車税を払いたいです。
Kei jidosya zei wo haritai desu.
 I want to pay my **light vehicle tax.**

More announcements..

▶ The 3rd Dose Vaccination For COVID-19 Will Start in February!

Additional COVID-19 vaccinations to re-establish the immunity created by the body and maintain the effectiveness of preventing the onset and severity of the disease will begin this month.

Who is Eligible?

Those who are 18 years old or older, registered as a resident of Okinawa City, and have been vaccinated for at least 8 months after the second dose.

*Medical personnel and residents/workers of elderly facilities can take the 3rd dose after more than 6 months from the 2nd dose, while the elderly people at 65 years old or older can take one after 7 months have passed from 2nd dose or after February 2022.

When Can I Get Vaccinated?

If you took the 2nd dose in :	You can take the 3rd dose after:
June, 2021 →	February, 2022
July, 2021 →	March, 2022

Venue: Okinawa City Gym (2-1-1 Moromizato, Okinawa City)

NOTE: ● **Reservation required.** ● You can make a reservation after you receive the vaccination coupon. ● The vaccination coupon will be mailed in a sequential order to those who have passed more than 8 months after their 2nd vaccination.

COVID-19 Vaccination Schedule

February

9 (Wed) - 11 (Fri), 15 (Tue) - 17 (Thu), 22 (Tue) - 24 (Thu)

March

1 (Tue) - 3 (Thu), 5 (Sat), 6 (Sun), 8 (Tue) - 10 (Thu), 12 (Sat), 13 (Sun), 15 (Tue) - 17 (Thu), 24 (Thu), 29 (Tue) - 31 (Thu)

Call Center: **098-923-2401** / 8:30-17:00 Mon-Sat (except for Sundays and Japanese holidays)

*English is available at the call center.

Contact: *Kodomo Sodan Kenko Ka, Yobo Gakari*

(Child Consultation/ Health Division Vaccination Section) ext. 2232, 2233

▶ National Early Warning System (J-Alert) Drill

On **February 16 (WED)** around **11:00 a.m.**,

The Fire and Disaster Management Agency will conduct a J-Alert system test. The alert system will be automatically activated after the announcement is sent via satellite, which will then be broadcast through the wireless "disaster prevention speakers" set throughout Okinawa City.

Announcement/ chime +
This is J-alert system test
"korewa J-Alert no tesuto desu" x 3
This is Okinawa City Hall Disaster Prevention Division
"Kochira wa bosai Okinawa shiyakusho desu"
+ **chime**

This system (J-Alert) enables us to receive instant information about earthquakes, tsunamis, and other emergencies via satellite.

Contact: *Bosai Ka*
(Disaster Prevention Division Ext. 2349, 2047)

▶ Prepare a Stockpile of Food in Case You Have to be Treated at Home

COVID-19 can be contracted by anyone, anywhere, at any time. It is important to be aware of it and stockpile of food at home on a daily basis to be prepared in case you have to be treated at home.

Stock Your Food Wisely!

1. Buy little bit more than you usually do and eat foods with the oldest expiration dates first.
2. Buy more before they run out of stock.
3. Helpful to have when you're not feeling well.

For example...

Rice (retort-packed rice)/cereal/water/sports drink/instant noodles/retort foods/supplemental foods/snacks/prescribed medicine/over-the-counter medication (pain reliever etc.)/toilet paper/paper napkins/ mask/ rubbing alcohol/ sanitary napkins etc.



Okinawa City Library News

Book readings & hand games: Saturdays, Feb. 12, 19 & 26 starting at **3:00 pm**

Days Closed: Feb. 7(Mon), 11(Thu: National Foundation Day), 14(Mon), 21 (Mon), 23(Tue: The Emperor's Birthday), 24(Thu: for inspection), and 28(Mon).

※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! **Visit our website NOW!**

Email: kokusai@city.okinawa.lg.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) 923-3485



Koza International Plaza

Moved to new place!

We are here to support you!

1-7-8 Chuo, Okinawa City (※KIP can be closed temporarily depending on the COVID-19 situation.)

TEL 080-9850-4667

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

www.facebook.com/ociakip

Email: kip@ryukyumirai.jp

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

Support Service Hours: 9:30-15:30 (Mon-Fri)

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