



OKINAWA CITY Newsletter

January 2018 Vol. 18 No. 1

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



New Year's Greeting From Mayor

Happy New Year to All Residents of Okinawa City!

I am optimistic that you began your new year full of hope.

Last year, we had many events that allowed us to forefeel the further growth of Okinawa City's "Sports Convention City" declaration, such as holding a Victory Parade to celebrate Hiroshima Toyo Carp's winning of the Central League championship, Ryukyu Golden Kings playing in the championship tournament in the opening year of the B League, FC Ryukyu successfully acquiring the J2 license, and furthermore, Okinawa City being chosen to host the FIBA Basketball World Cup preliminary rounds in 2023. This encourages us to move forward to develop the multipurpose arena with a seating capacity of 10,000, and we will do our best to promote the city and prefecture's wonderful qualities to the world as we work together with related organizations.

Also, the "Origami Project" (which was started to commemorate Okinawa Citizens' Peace Day) unified the hearts of each citizen through crafting a lei of origami cranes to become a bridge of hope for peace. It was measured at an overwhelming length of 9.7 km and certified as a Guinness World Record. Okinawa City sincerely supports its citizens' strong desire for peace, and will strive to be a peaceful government.

The Okinawa City Library opened as a community and family-friendly facility to provide citizens a place to study, relax, and to activate the surrounding business area. We also started outsourcing administrative services at the Residential Division at the city hall to provide faster and better services, and also to generate employment.

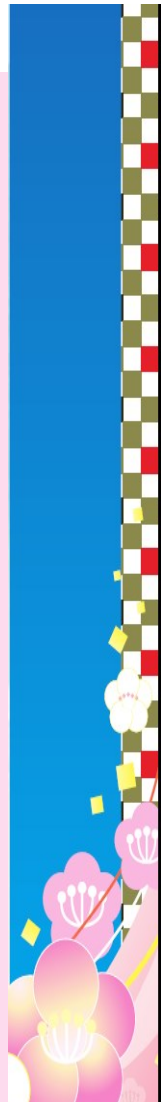
Our efforts to realize becoming a "city of full of energy" is starting to take shape.

As we face the year 2018, we will continue to dedicate all our efforts into highly anticipated projects starting with the opening of the Eisa Kaikan (which will be a hub to preserve and succeed our traditions) and the new Histreet Museum (which will educate us about post-war culture), and the east-coast development project (which will be the prefecture's biggest artificial beach). We have seen new accommodations and shops open in the central business area, allowing us to feel the momentum of cultivating new business opportunities.

We would like to celebrate the New Year with you, and ask for your understanding and cooperation in our efforts to build a "City of Full of Energy" where we work together with one another and value the voice of the community.

Finally, my sincerest wishes to you and your family for health and happiness this year.

Sachio Kuwae
Okinawa City Mayor



Total Population: 141,772

[Japanese Population] Male: 67,850 Female: 72,439
[Foreign Population (47 Countries)] Male: 878 Female: 605



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 publishes 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

41st Okinawa City Industry Festival

January 27 (SAT)~ 28 (SUN) 2018 *Free Admission

Get to know unique brands of Okinawa City!

Attracting a large crowd each year, the Okinawa City Industry Festival exhibits agricultural and marine produce, arts and crafts, traditional Ryukyu musical instruments, pottery, awamori and many more local specialty goods. The event also includes live entertainment, hands-on activities, delicious food, and lots of fun for the whole family. Get to know your community by visiting the Okinawa City Industry Festival ♪

Date & Time: January 27 & 28 10:00-18:00 *17:00 on Sunday

Venue: Okinawa Comprehensive Athletic Park Gymnasium and its vicinity

See link for details: <http://kozaweb.jp/event/detail.html?&sp=true&id=3538>



▶ Tax deduction application for those with a disability

In Okinawa City, if you are at least 65 years old and certified that you apply to a certain level of physical disability or dementia, you may be approved to be issued a

shogaisha kojo taishosha nintei sho

障害者控除対象者認定書 (tax deduction certificate for persons with a disability), which will allow you to receive a deduction during the income tax filing process. If you are eligible for this certificate and need it for filing your taxes,

Korei Fukushi Ka

please come to the 高齢福祉課 (Elderly Welfare Division) window for assistance with the application process.

shogaisha techo ryoiku techo

※If you already have a 障害者手帳 or 療育手帳, you can submit your disability certificate to receive tax deductions. You do not need to apply for this service.

<<What to bring for the application>>

-Applicant's inkan ("mitome-in")

-ID (Driver's License, health insurance card, etc.)

※If someone will be applying on your behalf, please prepare a power of attorney.

(Please get an application form from the division in charge.)

Korei Fukushi Ka

Contact: 高齢福祉課 (Elderly Welfare Division) ext. 2085, 3186



▶ New 20-year-old Citizens! You Have Reached the Age to Join the National Pension System

Anyone who lives in Japan between age 20 and 60 have the obligation to join the National Pension System. If you join the system early in your life and continue paying the premium, you will be able to receive your pension benefit when you get old, or if you develop a disability as a result of injury or illness, or lose an income earner in your family.

-A Big Support in the Future-

The National Pension System consists of residents between age 20 and 60 as premium payers, and managed by the national government. This is an ensured life-time benefit.

-Not Only for Post-Retirement Years -

The National Pension System supports you not only when you get old, but it also has the following benefits:

<Disability Pension Benefit>

Provided if you become disabled as a result of an accident or disease.

<Pension Benefit for the Bereaved>

Eligible dependents, such as your child or spouse, will be qualified to receive this benefit when you pass away.

Please contact the pension office or *Shimin Ka* (市民課 City Residential Division) for details or questions about the process:

Koza Pension Office 098-933-2267

Shimin Ka (市民課 City Residential Division) Ext. 2132/ 2134



▶ Tax Deduction Certificate for Medical Expenses Spent on Adult Diapers

If you are bedridden and are certified as "long-term-care-need" in Okinawa City, you can issue this tax deduction certificate for medical expenses spent on adult diapers at the city hall if this is your second year or more to apply for medical deductions.

*If this is the first time you are applying for the deduction, please consult with your doctor to receive a "Certificate of Diaper Use."

Eligibility: You have a doctor's statement of "Bedridden Level B1~C2" and "Possibility of Incontinence." (For those who are certified as "long-term-care need" for another 13 months, the doctor's statement from the previous year is acceptable).

Contact: 高齢福祉課

(Elderly Welfare Division) ext. 3167



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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► Issuance of Physical Disability Certificate

-This certificate is issued to those who have a disability defined under the Physically Disabled Persons Welfare Act.
 -Levels of disabilities are defined from 1 to 6, depending on the type and degree of disability.

Disability Types: Vision/hearing/equilibrium/vocal or verbal/mastication/deformity/heart/kidney/respiratory organ/bladder/back passage/small bowel/immune system/liver

The physical disability certificate enables the certificate holder to receive welfare services, benefits for assistive devices, subsidies for medical expenses, deductions on designated expenses, and tax deductions.

Application Categories	Required Documents
New Application ● When you apply for the first time	● Diagnoses/ statement of disability (*) ● Two face-photos (4cm x 3cm) ● My number card(**) ● Applicant's inkan (the guardian's inkan if under age 15)
Re-issuance Application ● When there is a change in the degree of disability ● An additional disability is recognized ● Re-certification	● Diagnoses/ statement of disability (*) ● Two face-photos (4cm x 3cm) ● Applicant's inkan (the guardian's inkan if under age 15) ● Current certificate ● My number card(**)
Re-issuance Application ● Loss, damage, change of face-photo	● Two face-photos (4cm x 3cm) ● Applicant's inkan (the guardian's inkan if under age 15) ● Current certificate ● My number card(**)
Change of Information Notification ● Update address or name ● Update guardian's status for those under age 15	● Current certificate ● Applicant's <i>inkan</i> ● My number card(**) Note: If you move out of city, a resident certificate for new place
Return Notification ● When the disability no longer applies under the Physically Disabled Persons Welfare Act ● The certificate holder passes away ● The certificate becomes unnecessary	● Current certificate (except for the case of lost) ● Submitter's <i>inkan</i> ● My number card(**)

(*) Only doctors designated under Article 15 of the Physically Disabled Persons Welfare Act can write the diagnoses and statement. The term of validity is 3 months. The form is available at the service counter at *Shogai Fukushi Ka* (Disability Welfare Division). (**) Your individual number and ID is necessary. Contact below if you haven't applied for My number card, or apply through a representative.

Contact: *Shogai Fukushi Ka* (障がい福祉課 Disability Welfare Division) Ext.3157

► Filing Depreciable Assets for the FY 2018

This applies if you own any depreciable assets used for business as of January 1, 2018 (the assessment base date), not including land or building establishments (see "Applicable Assets"). (If you own even one depreciable asset, you are still subject to report and file them, whether or not you are taxed.) Please remember to indicate your line of business. For inquiries regarding special measures for each asset, please contact the division in charge.

Assets To File:

- Assets acquired/ lost between 01/02/2017~ 01/01/2018
- Assets acquired before 01/01/2017 that you currently own.
- Assets utilized up until now, but disposed or transferred as of 01/01/2018.

Filing Period: 2018 January 4 (Thu) ~ 31 (Wed)
Where to File: Property Tax Division Ext. 2252/ 2253

Reductions for Solar Power Generators, etc.

Solar power generators, or assets acquired by small companies to improve business may be eligible for reductions if they meet the requirements.

For more information about reductions (and special exceptions), please contact the division in charge or visit our website (Japanese only).

Please Submit a notice in the following cases:

- Establishments you presently own have been torn down:
messhitsu shinkoku sho
 (滅失申告書 — disposition of property report)
- New establishments or extensions to already existing ones have not yet been registered:
kaoku shinkoku sho
 (家屋申告書 — building establishment report)
- There is a change in your establishment's intent of use:
kaoku shinkoku sho
 (家屋申告書 — building establishment report)
- Establishments that were bought or sold, donated or inherited have not yet been registered:
shoyusha henko gan
 (所有者変更願 — transfer ownership)
- The owner of the fixed asset has passed away and the inheritance process is not complete:
sozoku daihyosha shitei todoke
 (相続代表者指定届 — inheritance notification)
- You live outside of Okinawa City and have difficulty making tax payments:
nozei kanrinin shitei todoke
 (納税管理人指定届 — tax agent notification)

※Submit a proxy letter if a representative applies to issue any documents related to your income or property.

***Please bring your inkan.**

Contact: Shisan Zei Ka (Property Tax Division) Ext. 2252/ 2253

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▶ Please note:

January is the payment deadline for the following taxes:

Residential Tax (4th term)/Long-term Care Insurance Premium (8th term)/National Health Insurance Premium (7th term)/ Medical Care for the Elderly Insurance Premium (7th term). If you use automatic bank transfers, payments will be withdrawn on January 31. Make sure you have enough money in your bank account the day before.

▶ FY 2017 Home Renovation Construction Subsidy!

For Barrier-free/ Energy-saving Renovations

Up to ¥250,000 subsidy for total cost of Barrier-free/energy-saving (insulation/heat shield) renovations.

*In order to receive the subsidy, you must apply before you start the construction, and you must be able to report the completion of construction by the end of February 2018. Applications may closed when the subsidy budget is met.

Contact: Shiei Jutaku Ka (Municipal Housing Division) 6F TEL: 894-6139 (Direct line)



▶ Okinawa Marathon Pre-event AED Training

(Date/ Time/ Location/ Capacity) Fee: Free

January 24 (WED)/ 14:00-15:30/ Fire Department Misato Branch/

Capacity: 20 (Runners, event staff and volunteers)

Age: age 10 and up *Basic life-saving Certifications Please call to sign up.

Classes and services are provided in Japanese only.

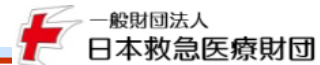
Contact: 沖縄市消防本部 (Okinawa-shi shobo honbu)

Okinawa City Fire Department Headquarter TEL:098-929-0900

▶ FYI: Facilities with AED

Scan the code to locate AED-installed facilities (nation-wide). Information provided on iPhone app (free). Or search with "QQMAP"

Information provided by:



まいにち にほんご Daily Nihongo

住民税 申告 (Jumin Zei Shinkoku)

Residential Tax Return

Residential tax is used for public services such as disaster management, road maintenance, education, welfare, and etc. All residents have to file their income at their residing (as of January 1, 2018 or of the current year) city office. But if you apply to the situation below, you don't have to file your residential tax return:

-You file your income tax return.

If you need to file your residential tax return, please visit Okinawa City Hall during the following period:

2018 February 16-March 15 9:00-16:00

*Closed on weekends, Japanese holidays except for March 11 (Sun).

If you miss this period, you have to wait to do this until

June 11 (Mon)

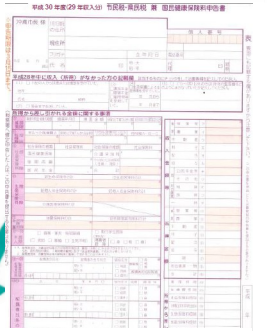
If you visit the city hall to file your residential tax return, try this Japanese to tell the administrator, or to ask at the information desk:

"Jumin Zei Shinkoku ni kimashita.

住民税申告にきました。"

I'm here for residential tax return.

A tax return form on the right will be mailed. Even if you don't receive it, if you think you need to file please visit the city hall.



平成30年度(29年収入分) 市民税・県民税 兼 国民健康保険料申告書



Okinawa City Library News

Book Readings & Hand Games: Saturdays, January 13, 20 & 27 starting at 3:00 pm.

Days Closed: 1 (Mon)- 3 (Wed) for New Year's Holiday, 8 (Mon: Coming of Age Day),

9 (Tue: makeup holiday), 15 (Mon), 22 (Mon), 25 (Thu: inspection) and 29 (Mon).

*January 4 (Thu) : Library opens at 13:00

※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 Geino Ka (B1) 26-1 Nakasone-Cho, Okinawa City, Okinawa Tel: (098) 929-0261



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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