



Number of visitors to the Okinawa City library reached **200,000!**



OKINAWA CITY Newsletter

March 2018 Vol. 18 No. 3

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

Events

Eisa MUSEUM
エイサー会館

3/25 SUN
オープニング
セレモニー&イベント開催

EISA Museum
平成 30年 3月 25日(日) **OPEN**

入館料 一般 300円 小学生~高校生 100円 小学生未満 無料
お問い合わせ: 098-989-5066 (エイサー会館)

The 7th Okinawa City Brass Band Festival

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

March 18 (SUN)
Open 10:00/Start 10:30
Okinawa Civic Hall
(1-1-1Yaeshima, Okinawa)
FREE Admission
Contact: 文化芸能課
(Culture & Traditional Arts Division)
TEL:098-929-0261



EISA Museum Will Open!!

Come join us to enjoy Eisa, and you might experience a new side of its world & history at the Eisa museum!

March 25 (SUN) 13:45-
Opening Event @ KOZA Music Town
Eisa Performances
Free Craft Workshops
*Number of participants limited. First-come, first-served basis!
Eisa Photo Exhibition
..and More!

Admission Fee
Adult: ¥300 ~~¥0~~ **Admission FREE Only on 25 Sun!***
Child:
-Elementary School-High School: ~~¥100~~ **¥0**
-Before Elementary School: **Free**

* You will be given a discount for the Music Town parking fee. Please get your parking ticket stamped at the museum entrance.

Contact: エイサー会館 (Eisa Museum)
TEL:098-989-5066

	Total Population: 141,800	[Japanese Population] Male: 67,849 Female: 72,458		
		[Foreign Population (49 Countries)] Male: 885 Female: 608		

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 **late February**.

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.



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 16 (Fri)~ 30 (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

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



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



▶ **Financial Aid Project For Higher Skills Training** (高等職業訓練促進給付金)

This program supports single parent households and will provide financial aid for a certain period to approved applicants who will be studying at a training institution for more than a year to acquire advantageous licenses to find employment (e.g. nurse, child care provider, physical therapist, work therapist, beautician, cook, welfare official, Dental Hygienist, Confectionary Hygiene Master etc.).

Eligibility: Single parents who are currently living in Okinawa City and also satisfy all the requirements listed below:

- ① You are a recipient of Child Rearing Allowance for Single Parents (*jidofuyoteate*), or your amount of income meets the standard requirement to receive an allowance.
- ② You have been studying at a training institution for more than a year and are expected to acquire some form of qualification from the training .
- ③ It is recognized that you are having difficulty balancing work, child-raising, and your training.
- ④ You have never received this benefit before.
- ⑤ You are not currently receiving benefits similar to this one.

*All the applications will be reviewed to receive the benefit. Please visit us for consultation if you are already under training or will start training.

Application Period:

March 1 (Thu) - 23 (Fri)

Contact: *Kodomo Katei Ka*

(Children's Welfare Division) Ext. 3196, 3197

▶ **National Early Warning System (J-Alert) Drill**

On **March 14 (Wed) around 11:00 a.m.**, the Fire and Disaster Management Agency will conduct a J-Alert system test. The announcement will be broadcast through the wireless "disaster prevention speakers" set throughout Okinawa City.



Announcement/ chime +

This is a test of J-Alert

"korewa J-Arato 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

▶ **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 (Thu) – April 27(Fri)**

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 children's school office

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

▶ **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, 2017**, 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 2017 through March: **March 1 (Thu)-23(Fri)**

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

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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 that it can take more than two hours to complete the process when it is crowded.

Other Announcements From Residential Division:

[Temporary Suspension of Certificate Issuance At Convenience Stores]

We would like to ask for your understanding regarding the temporary suspension of certificate issuance at convenience stores during the following period due to the controlled power outage in Okinawa City Hall. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Suspension Period: **18:00 March 17 (Sat)- 21:00 March 18 (Sun) 2018**

*You can get the form at the service counter or the city website.

[Open on March 31 (Sat) & April 1 (Sun) For Following Procedures]

Certificate Issuance/ Change of Address 8:30- Noon

-Move-in (From other cities)/ Change of Address (within the city) Move-out (To other cities)

*The procedure of move in/out of public housing cannot be done.

**No other services other than those written above will be provided. Thank you for your understanding.

Submit the notification between 30 days prior to, or within 14 days after your move-out date.

My Number Card Issuance 9:00-11:30 *Please contact in advance.

Contact: Shimin Ka (City Residential Division) ext. 3123

▶ 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 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.



Required documents for application:

-Physical disability certificate/ intellectual disability certificate

-Applicant's health insurance certificate

-Bank account book (Applicant's name)

-Inkan (non-registered one is ok. If submitted by proxy, need one of the proxy)

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

Application/ Contact: Shogai Fukushi Ka (Disabilities Welfare Division) Ext.3153

▶ The Envelope Color Of The Elderly Health Checkup Changed From Orange To Blue

For the FY 2018, residents who are enrolled in the *Medical Care System For People Aged 75 and Over* will receive this health checkup coupon in a **BLUE** envelope, which is the same as the one for the cancer checkup.

This will be mailed in **late March**.

Contact: National Health Insurance Division
Ext. 2118,2128

▶ Change of Payment Day For Medical Expense Aid For Single Parents

The change will be made **after April 2018** as follows:

Application Deadline: 10th of the month ⇒ to the **end of the month**
Payment Day: 15th of the following month ⇒ to the **end of the following month**

*Payment for applications made between FEB 13 and MAR 9 will be on APR 15. *Or, the previous business day if any date falls on a closed day. *You will not be notified for payments made. Please check your bank book. **Contact:** Children's Welfare Division Ext. 3196



Okinawa City Library News

Book readings & hand games: Saturdays, March 10, 17, & 24 starting at **3:00 pm**

Days Closed: Mar. 5 (Mon), 12 (Mon), 19 (Mon), 21 (Wed: Spring Equinox Day), 22 (Thu: for inspection), and 26 (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!

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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