

# OKINAWA CITY Newsletter

March 2021 Vol. 21 No. 3

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



## Information

### Okinawa Kokusai Carnival

We will see you online!!

**FREE!**  
**¥0** **March 13 (Sat), 2021**  
**15:00-**

The Okinawa International Carnival 2020 has gone online to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

In addition to Okinawan culture, the event will be available on two channels: the "Carnival Channel," which introduces Korean and Taiwanese performing arts, and the "Music Channel," which features live music performances by artists representing the city of music.

<https://www.oki-carnival.com/>



## Okinawa City Economic Support

### 1. Free Consultation for Financial Grants

Until March 25, 2021

Small and medium-sized enterprise diagnosticians will be assigned to provide support to businesses in the city, regarding the use of various subsidy plans related to COVID-19 and business continuity.

**Contact:** Industrial & Commercial Development Division (Ext.3228)

### 2. Expense Coverage Support in Hiring Specialists for Financial Grant Consultation

Until March 19, 2021

If a small or medium-sized business affected by COVID-19 uses a specialist (administrative scrivener, etc.) to apply for or consult on various subsidies for COVID-19 countermeasures, a subsidy of **up to 30,000 yen** will be provided for the cost. (Up to three times per business).

**Contact:** Industrial & Commercial Development Division (Ext.3227)

### 3. Sukusuku-Support Benefit for Household with New-Born Babies

Until May 17, 2021

**Eligibility:** Babies born between April 28, 2020 and March 31, 2021, are registered as Okinawa City citizens, and also their mother must be continuously registered as an Okinawa City citizen from April 27, 2020 up to the time of application of this benefit.

**Grant Amount:** 100,000 yen

**Contact:** Child Planning Division (Ext. 3405)

### 4. Housing Rent Assistance

Rent support for a certain period of time for residents who lost or left work affected by COVID-19, and are having difficulty paying their rent.

**Contact:** Public Assistance Division (Ext.2151)

### 5. Flu Vaccination Expense Assistance

Apply no later than March 26, 2021

The program is to support the cost of influenza vaccination for citizens between the ages of 50 and 64. (1,000 yen is self-pay).

**Eligibility:** Citizens aged 50 to 64 who received vaccinations at their own expense between **October 1 and October 25, 2020**. Or those who received vaccinations at their own expense before receiving the notice mailed from the city hall by mid-November.

**Contact:**

Child Consultation-Health Division (Ext.2248)

Total Population: 143,037

[Japanese Population] Male: 68,394 Female: 72,812  
[Foreign Population (60 Countries)] Male: 1,152 Female: 679

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.lg.jp](mailto: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/>

# Administrative Announcements



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

New cards will be mailed to all households

**Households which the insurance card is mailed:**

Insurance cards for April 1, 2021 and later will be mailed to all households from early March 2021. As it is mailed by registered mail, please contact the address written on the absence notice for redelivery and other inquiries.

### ◆ Expiration date of insured person's card for those turning 70 years old:

For those who will turn 70 years old between April 2, 2021 and March 1, 2022, their insurance card will be valid until the last day of their birth-day month (or the day before if they were born on the first day of the month).

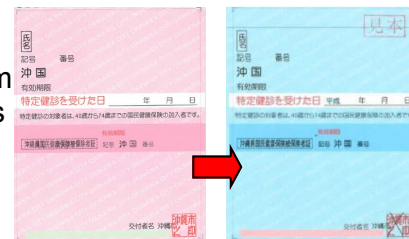
\*A new insurance card (valid until March 31, 2022) will be mailed to you again before the expiration date.

### ◆ Expiration date of the insured person's card for those turning 75 years old

The expiration date of the insured person's card for those who will enter the latter half of the senior citizen medical care system between April 2, 2021 and March 1, 2022 is the day before their 75th birthday.

\*An insurance card for the medical care system for the aged will be mailed to you before the expiration date.

**Contact:** *Kokumin Kenko Hoken ka* (National Health Insurance Division ) ext. 2108,2121



Old<Pink>

NEW<Blue>

## ▶ 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 insured by the government medical insurance and hold one of the following certificates:

1. Physical disability certificate (1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> degree).
2. Intellectual disability certificate (A1 or A2)
3. Both physical disability (3<sup>rd</sup> 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.3157,3158

### Required documents for application:

-Physical disability certificate/ intellectual disability certificate

-Applicant's health insurance card

-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 tax certificate.



## ▶ 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. If they do not apply and leave the pension premium unpaid, they may not be able to receive a disability basic pension for their disability caused by unexpected accidents or diseases in the future.

**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.

**Valid Term:** April 1, 2021-

**Required Documents:** If the student applies: School certificate, student ID, etc. to prove that they are attending school. Certificates have to be issued April 1, 2021 or later.

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). You can apply retroactively up to 25 months prior to the time of application.

Please visit the division in charge for more information.

**Contact:** *Shimin Ka, Kokumin Nenkin Tanto* (Residents Division, persons in charge) ext. 2133/2134  
Koza Pension Office TEL: 098-933-2267

ねんど

年度(Nendo: Fiscal Year)

**Nendo** indicates Japanese fiscal year, as well as the Japanese academic year. \*令和 (Reiwa) is the current era of the Japanese official calendar, which began on May 1, 2019.



▶ **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 **March 31!** Make sure you have enough money in your bank account the day before!!

▶ **FY 2020/2021 Residents' Public Health Check-up Requires Reservation!**

Please check below the last scheduled day for Group Health Check-up in FY 2020.

\*Reservation is required:

Date: **March 14 (Sun)**

Venue: **Sangyo Koryu Center**

(Address: 1-11-25 Awase, Okinawa City)

To make a reservation, please call **Shimin Kenko Ka**

If you wish to receive the check-up at hospitals, please contact the hospital to make an appointment.



**FY 2021**

**Residents' Public Health Check-up**

The coupons for the public health check-up in FY 2021 will be mailed to each resident in the end of March. Please check the **BLUE** envelope. With the enclosed coupon, you will receive the basic check-up items for free. Please check the schedule and the list of medical facilities available for check-up on the Health Check-up Guide enclosed in the envelope.

Contact: **Shimin**

**Kenko Ka**

(Residents Health Division)

Ext.2245/2246



▶ **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 middle 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, 2014 and April 1, 2015.

**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

▶ **"My-Na" (My Number) Point Reservations Will Be Available at the City Hall**

As a measure against the rise in consumption tax, the government plans to start giving "My-Na points" (マイナポイント) to those who use their My Number card.

In order to use My-Na points, you have to acquire your **My Number card**, and reserve your points on the website (My-Key platform マイキープラットフォーム).

Reservations can be made at the service window set up during the operation hours in Okinawa City Hall.

Period: until **September 30, 2021 (Thu)**

Hours: 9:00-17:15

(Closed on weekends and Japanese holidays)

Place: "My-Na point reservation booth", Okinawa City Hall 1F (waiting lounge)

What to Bring: your My Number card, 4-digit PIN for user's certificate (利用者用証明書)

Any questions about "My-na point"?

-About "My number card" (Multilanguage)

<https://www.cao.go.jp/bangouseido/foreigners/index.html>

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications



▶ **FY2021 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 out of siblings who go to elementary and junior high school.

**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, 2021 (Mon) – Feb 10, 2022 (Thu)**

**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 child's school office

Contact: Okinawa City **Gakko Kyushoku Center** (School Lunch Center) TEL: 098-929-4776

**Phrases:**

令和3年度 : 令和3年4月 1日 から 令和4年3月31日 まで

Reiwa san nendo: Reiwa san nen shi gatsu tsuitachi kara Reiwa yo nen san gatsu sanju-ichi nichi made

FY 2021: From April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022

**FY2020 Okinawa City Additional Meal Support Benefit for Supplemental Meals (Private Kindergartens)**

If you satisfy any of the requirements for eligibility, submit the application form before the closing date.

**Eligibility:** A child who is receiving nursery school tuition benefit and also satisfy either ① or ② given below:

- ① The household with the amount of per income levy of resident tax in FY 2020 shows under 77,101 yen (An annual income of the household is under 3,600,000 yen).
- ② If you have a child that hasn't finished third grade yet and you count them as your first child, then your third child and later are eligible.

**Coverage of the Benefit:** Supplemental meal fees out of the school lunch fees you paid to the kindergarten from April, 2020 through March, 2021 will be covered.

**Benefit Amount:** Up to 4,500 yen per child (Exceptions: staple foods (like bread or rice) and foods provided during extended child care hours.)

**Required Documents:** ① Application Form (available at each Kindergarten) ② Copy of receipt or certificate for the lunch fees (issued by kindergarten) ③ Bank account book or cash card under the name of lunch fee payer ④ Inkan ⑤ Income & Taxation Certificate in FY2020 or W-2 2019 (only if you were living out side Okinawa City as of January 1, 2020 or are SOFA status holders) ⑥ Documents to prove single-parent household, such as *Koseki Tohon* or Child Rearing Allowance Certificate (\*If applicable).

**Application Deadline:** **March 25 (Thu), 2021**

**Where to Submit:** *Hoiku Yochien Ka* (Child Care/ Kindergarten Division) 2F, Okinawa City Hall

**Contact:** *Hoiku Yochien Ka* (Child Care/ Kindergarten Division) Ext. 3174/ 3173

**▶ App Payment Service Will be Available April 2021!**

Starting **April 1, 2021**, you will be able to pay your insurance premiums or taxes by simply scanning a bar code using an app on your smartphone.

What premium/ tax you can pay for:

Resident Tax/ Real Estate Tax/ Light Vehicle Tax/ National Health Insurance Premium/ Medical Care for The Elderly Premium/ Long-term Care Insurance Premium

**Please note:**

- \*You will be responsible for the transaction fee when you make the payment.
- \*Once the payment is made, it cannot be cancelled.
- \*No receipts will be issued. If you need a receipt, please pay at a bank or convenience store. (It takes about two to three weeks or longer to issue a tax receipt at the city hall.)
- \*Payment by **au PAY** is limited to 250,000 yen.
- \*The amount that can be paid may be limited, so please check the website of each app.
- \*This information is subject to change without notice. Please be aware of this.

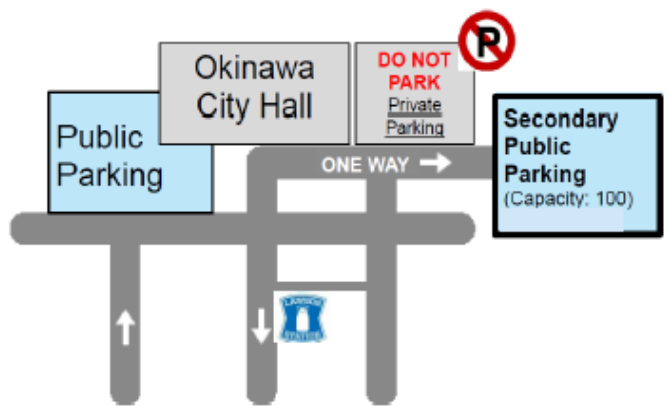


**▶ A Secondary Public Parking Is Available**

Thank you always for your understanding on the usage of our public parking. Please use the secondary public parking when the main 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: Contract Custodianship Division Ext. 2096



**Okinawa City Library News**

**Book readings & hand games:** Saturdays, March 6, 13, & 27 starting at 3:00 pm

**Days Closed:** 1 (Mon), 8 (Mon), 15 (Mon), 20 (Sat, Spring Equinox Day), 22 (Mon), 25 (Thu: for inspection), and 29 (Mon). ※Up to 20 books per person.

\*Library can be closed temporarily depending on the COVID-19 status.

Please check our website for updated schedule.

**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](mailto:kokusai@city.okinawa.lg.jp)

You can also visit, call or fax us at:

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**  
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](mailto:okinawa_kip@yahoo.co.jp)  
<https://ja-jp.facebook.com/ociakip>

**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](mailto:kokusai@city.okinawa.lg.jp)

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