

OKINAWA CITY Newsletter

March 2022 Vol. 22 No. 3

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



Announcement

COVID-19 Additional (3rd) Vaccination Will Start

Regardless of occupation or age, people who are six months past their second vaccination can receive a third vaccination. Citizens 18 years and older who are eligible will receive a vaccination ticket.

Regardless of the type of vaccine (Pfizer/Moderna/AstraZeneca) given for the first & second dose, the additional dose will be given either by Pfizer or Moderna.

*Moderna's vaccine is given in half doses.

Individual Vaccination (Available at medical facilities in the city) : **Pfizer**

Group Vaccination (March): **Moderna**

COVID-19 Group Vaccination Schedule

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

March

1 (Tue) - 3 (Thu), 5 (Sat), 6 (Sun),
8 (Tue) - 10 (Thu), 12 (Sat), 13 (Sun),
15 (Tue) - 17 (Thu), 24 (Thu) - 27 (Sun),
29 (Tue), and 30 (Wed)

Hours: 9:30-11:30 / 13:30-15:30

*Bring the vaccination ticket and other documents enclosed in the envelope, your resident card, and your medicine record book if you are under medication.

Online Reservation (Japanese)

https://covid-19.city.okinawa.okinawa.jp/jfe/form/SV_09zulhpyymbNAKG

Okinawa City COVID-19 vaccination Call

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

*English is available at the call center.

Okinawa Prefecture COVID-19 Vaccination Call Center

TEL: 098-943-2993 (8:30-17:00)

Okinawa City Hall will be **Closed** on **March 21 (Mon)**

for a Vernal Equinox Day as Japanese holiday.

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.

Return the required documents by **May 31, 2022**.

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.

Application Deadline: **September 30, 2022**

Temporary Special Benefit Section, 5F Okinawa City Hall.

非課税世帯給付金担当窓口

Call Center for Temporary Special Benefit

TEL: 0120-545200 Hours: 8:30-17:15

*English & Chinese are available only on the number above.

Mon-Fri (Closed on weekends and Japanese holidays)

Contact: Temporary Special Benefit Section

非課税世帯給付金担当 5F, Okinawa City Hall TEL:098-923-0206

Total Population: 143,169

[Japanese Population] Male: 68,547 Female: 72,902
[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. 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/>

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, 2022 and later will be mailed to all households from early March 2022.

*Households that have not yet paid their premiums as of February 17, 2022 will receive a short-term insurance card. The insurance card will be changed to annual one after you complete the payment.

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

For those who will turn 70 years old between April 2, 2022 and March 1, 2023, 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).

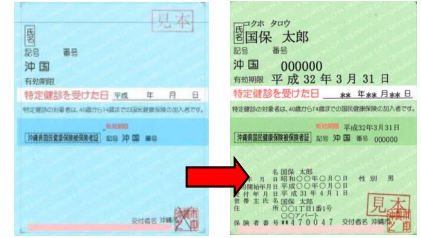
*A new insurance card (valid until March 31, 2023) will be mailed to you again before the expiration date.

◆ 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, 2022 and March 1, 2023 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. 2106,2126



Old<Blue>

NEW<Green>

*Please make sure you discard your expired insurance card on your responsibility.



▶ 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 (1st or 2nd degree).
 2. Intellectual disability certificate (A1 or A2)
 3. Both physical disability (3rd degree) and intellectual disability (B1).

*If the 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 an 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 System For Students Application (National Pension) Will Start on April 1st, 2022

学生納付特例申請

If you are 20 years old or older, even if you are a student, you are obligated to pay the National Pension Insurance premiums. However, if your income for the previous year is below the standard, you can defer the payment of the premiums under the "Special Payment System For Students".

If you are unable to pay the premiums, do not leave it unpaid, but apply for the "Special Payment System For Students".

Benefits of the Special Payment System for Students :

- The period for which you have applied for the "Special Payment System For Students" is counted as the period required to receive the Basic Old-Age Pension (eligibility period).
- If you become disabled due to illness or injury, you can receive a disability basic pension.

Eligibility: Students, etc. enrolled in university, graduate school, junior college, high school, technical college, special support school, special training school, and other various schools (courses with a duration of one year or more) as defined in the School Education Law.

Required Documents: ①Applicant's ID ②Copy of student ID or certificate, etc. to prove that they are attending school. Certificates have to be issued April 1, 2022 or later. *Make sure the student ID is valid.

If a proxy applies on behalf of the student: ② which is listed above, ID (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: Koza Pension Office TEL: 098-933-2267

Shimin Ka, Kokumin Nenkin Tanto (Residents Division, persons in charge) ext. 2133/2134

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!!

▶ **Do Not Miss Your Last Chance For The Public Health Checkup FY 2021!**

Your checkup coupon 2021 will be expired on **March 31, 2022.**

The Group Health Check-up in FY2021 Requires **Reservation** at 098-939-1212 (Ext.2246) (Reservation accepted at first come first serve bases)

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

*Except for weekends and Japanese Holidays.

Public Health Checkup for FY 2022 will be available after April, 2022

Please check your mail box for the package which will be sent in the late March.

Individual checkup at hospitals will be available starting on April 1, 2022. Please make a reservation before you visit hospital.

Group health checkup will be scheduled starting in May, 2022 (**Reservation required**). Contact below for more information.

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

Date		Venue	Capacity
Mar.	16 Wed	Okinawa City Budo-kan	150
	17 Thu		150



Blue envelope includes checkup coupon (varies by age) & guidebook

▶ **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 it can take **more than two hours** to complete paperwork when it is crowded.

*In order to prevent the spread of the new coronavirus, please postpone your visits if it is not urgent. Some of the request for a certificate can be done by mail, and the certificate below can be issued at a convenience store:

[Certificate Issuance Using My Number Card Is Available At Convenience Stores]

Certificates that you can get issued:

- Copy of Resident Record
- Inkan Registration Certificate
- Family Registration-Koseki (Transcript/Extract)

- Copy of Family Registration-Address History
- Income Certificate
- Income Taxation Certificate



Service Hours: **6:30 - 23:00(Available on Sat, Sun and Japanese holidays)**

*Except for Dec. 29-Jan.3 of the following year and maintenance day.

Contact: *Shimin Ka* (Residential Division) Ext.3121

▶ **Individual Number Cards Will be Issued on the Weekend & Night Hours Shown Below**

In addition to weekdays, the City Residential Division will be open on the following date to issue individual number cards.

Night Hours

March 9 (Wed), 23 (Wed) & April 13 (Wed)

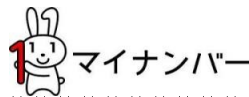
17:15-18:45

Weekends

March 13 (Sun), April 9 (Sat)

9:00-11:30 *Available only in the morning.

Where: City Residential Division My-number counter, Okinawa City Hall 1F
Ext. 3128



▶ **Premium Rate For Employment Insurance Will Change From March, 2022 (Payment in April)**

Health Insurance 9.95% (Now) ⇒ **10.09%**(After March, 2022)

Long-term Care Insurance 1.80% (Now)

⇒ **1.64%**(After March, 2022)

*The premium rate for the voluntarily-continued insured will change from April, 2022 (payment in April).

The rate differs depends on the prefecture. **Contact:** Japan Health Insurance Association

TEL: 098-951-2211(Press #4 after the guidance)

Phrases: 令和4年度 : 令和4年4月 1日 から 令和5年3月31日 まで

Reiwa yo nendo: Reiwa yo nen shi gatsu tsuitachi kara Reiwa go nen san gatsu sanju-ichi nichi made
FY 2022: From April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023

FY2021 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 2021 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, 2021 through March, 2022 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* (persona seal) ⑤ Income & Taxation Certificate in FY2021 or W-2 2020 (only if you were living out side Okinawa City as of January 1, 2021 or are SOFA status holders) ⑥ Documents to prove single-parent household, such as *Koseki Tohon* or Child Rearing Allowance Certificate (*If applicable).

Application Period: From the month you start paying the lunch fee until **March 31 (Thu), 2022.**

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

► FY 2022 Application For Nursery School Tuition Coverage Service

If you are currently using or plan to use the following facility and wish to receiving nursery school tuition coverage, you need to submit the required documents as indicated below.

Eligible Facilities: Private nursery schools which are not eligible for nursery benefit, non-approved nursery schools, temporary day care, sick-kids care, or family support center.

Application Period:

-Those who wish to receive the coverage after **April, 2022** have to apply by no later than **March 25, 2022.**

-Those who wish to receive the coverage after **May, 2022** have to apply a month prior to the month being covered.

*If you have already applied and are within the certified period, you do not need to apply.

Please visit our website for more information (Japanese)

<https://www.city.okinawa.okinawa.jp/kurashi/115/2215622157>

Contact: *Hoiku Yochien Ka*
(Nursery School/Kindergarten Division)
Ext. 3137/3174



► FY2022 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 **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, 2022 (Tue) – Feb 10, 2023 (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 third child's school office

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

Okinawa City Library News

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

Days Closed: 7 (Mon), 14 (Mon), 21 (Mon, Spring Equinox Day), 22 (Tue: Make up Holiday) 24 (Thu: for inspection), and 28 (Mon). ※Up to 10 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

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