



OKINAWA CITY 笑顔が奏でる 輝く未来

Newsletter

October 2015 Vol. 15 No. 10

Okinawa-shi Yakusho Bunka Kanko Ka (5F) 26-1 Nakasone-Cho, Okinawa City, Okinawa 904-8501

Events & Announcements

Okinawa Geino Festival – Time to feel and fall for Okinawan traditional performing arts! – FREE ADMISSION!!

主催：沖縄市
沖縄の郷土芸能を体感しよう!

おきなわ 芸能 フェスティバル

2015年 11月3日 火・祝
11:00~18:30 (沖縄こどもの国は9:30開園)

入場無料
11/3は入場無料!

沖繩こどもの国

踊り
文化
器楽
組踊
体験
話芸

チャンふる～沖縄市大使 ガレージセール
まじに 宮城の秋 / エイヤー 大野み / 歌や踊りのおまつり / アストに 阿波踊りも!

Elementary School between 11:00 –19:00 every 10-15 minutes.

► Okinawa Prefecture Earthquake & Tsunami Evacuation Drill (held simultaneously)

In order to improve the disaster management system, an evacuation drill will be held all throughout Okinawa Prefecture to educate citizens on earthquake and tsunami disaster preparedness and verify tsunami evacuation plans.

- When/ November 5 (Thr) 10:00~11:00
 - Districts/ All cities and their districts (All districts of Okinawa Prefecture)
 - Eligible Participants/ All citizens are subject to participate in the drill (schools, voluntary disaster management organizations, companies, all households, etc.)
 - Drill Outline/ 10:00 AM— Assume that an earthquake has hit and conduct earthquake evacuation drill (determine safety, extinguish initial fires, first-aid training, etc.) 10:03 AM— Assume that a tsunami warning has been announced and conduct tsunami evacuation drill (citizens who live in low-lying areas should evacuate to higher ground)
 - Other/ On the day of the drill, an emergency announcement over the community wireless system and an Area Mail will be sent out by the prefecture.
- *Drill Cancellation— The drill will be cancelled if there is a storm (due to a typhoon, etc.)

Contact: 防災課 (Disaster Prevention Division) ext. 2349, 2307



Total Population: 140,090

[Japanese Population] Male: 67,125 Female: 71,748
[Foreign Population (43 Countries)] Male: 715 Female: 502

The Okinawa City Hall's Bunka Kanko Ka (the Culture & Tourism 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 & Tourism Division staff and are provided for reference only. Administrative services are provided in Japanese only (unless otherwise indicated).** For inquiries in English, 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

▶ Kokumin-nenkin Nin-i Kanyu Seido (National Pension Voluntary Enrollment System)

You lose qualification to enroll in the Japanese Pension system when you turn 60. However, if you have not met the required enrollment years (25 years) or the required 40 years of payment and are not able to receive full amount of benefits, you can volunteer to continue paying your premiums even after you turn 60.

<<Those Eligible to Extend Enrollment>>

- Those 60 and over and under 65 whose payment months total less than 480 months. (If your payment months total less than 300 months by the time you turn 65, you can extend your enrollment until you are 70 years old if you were born before April 1, 1965.)

*Japanese nationals between 20 and 65 residing overseas can also enroll.

For more information, visit your nearest pension office.



▶ FY 2016 Hoiku-Sho (Nursery School) Registration

Registration Period (new and returning students)
November 5 (Thr)~ 30 (Mon) (Excluding weekends and national holidays)

*However, as an exception, the division in charge will be open for registration on November 29 (Sun).

Where to register (submit registration papers)

保育・幼稚園課 保育係 (Child Care/ Kindergarten Division, Child Care Section), Okinawa City Hall 2F or the school your child is attending.

Enrollment Criteria:

1. Parent/ guardian is working
2. The mother is pregnant or just gave birth
3. Parent/ guardian is ill/ disabled
4. Parent/ guardian is taking care of a family member or relative who is hospitalized or needs nursing care
5. The family is a victim of a natural disaster
6. Parent/ guardian is looking for employment
7. Parent/ guardian is going to school (includes some sort of training for work)
8. There's doubt of domestic violence.
9. Parent/ guardian is already on childcare leave and using childcare services, and needs continued services.
10. Any other situations approved by the mayor of Okinawa City.

*Please look at the nursery school guide for more information.

One or both parents must be able to speak and understand Japanese.

Distribution of Nursery School Enrollment Information (Application, etc.)

Distribution Period/ Scheduled for mid-October

Distribution Location/ You can pick up information at the service window of the division in charge (or at your child's school if they are already attending one)

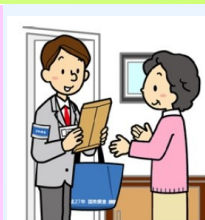
Important

- Applications submitted after the application period will be put on a waiting list.

- Applications are not approved on a first-come-first-serve basis.

□A community child care system for 0~2-year-olds is planned to be available in the fiscal year 2016. You will be further informed when the childcare provider is determined.

保育・幼稚園課 保育係 (Nursery/ Kindergarten Division, Child Care Section) ext. 3135, 3136



▶ A Population Census Will be Conducted for the FY 2015

● All individual persons and households in Japan are subject to this statistical survey.

THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE SOFA PERSONNEL.

● This census is intended to be carried out to obtain data indispensable in helping draw out the future of Japan in an aging society. The results of the census will be used as defined by various laws and regulations and help our lives in areas such as social welfare, employment measures, improving living environments, and disaster prevention measures.

● Please submit the survey you fill out directly to a census worker or mail it in using the return envelope enclosed with the survey form.

Be wary of fake census workers! Official census workers have ID (with their picture) and a certificate showing that they are an official census worker. Please check their certificate when they visit your home.

Population Census Call Center

(Navi Dial) 0570-07-2015 *03-4330-2015 for IP phones

■ Call Center Installment Period/

August 24~ October 31, 2015

■ Call Center Hours/ 8:00~21:00 (Including weekends and national holidays)

*Please make sure you do not dial the wrong number.
*Fees for general landlines phones calling the Navi Dial is a flat rate. Fees may differ for calls made using a cell phone or PHS.

*Fees for calls made using IP phones will be a fixed rate.

*If you have not received a census survey form, please contact the given number below.

Contact/ Population Census Okinawa City Headquarters (Okinawa City Hall Basement Level 1)

*English available only when you visit directly.

政策企画課統計担当 (Urban Policy and Project Division, person in charge of statistics) ext. 2384, 2385

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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▶ FY2015 Okinawa City School Lunch Fee Financial 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.

*Those who have not yet applied for this fiscal year.

Requirements to receive aid: Children must be Okinawa City Citizens. They must not be receiving public assistance or meet the standards to receive public assistance.

Application Deadline: Until February 10, 2016

Application form: You can get it at your children's school or you can also download it from the Okinawa City website.

Where to apply: Your children's school office

Contact: Okinawa City School Lunch Center 929-4776



▶ FY 2016 Internal/ Dental Checkups for New Elementary School Students in Okinawa City

This checkup is essential for children who will enter Okinawa City public elementary schools.

Eligibility: Children born between April 2, 2009 and April 1, 2010

The Okinawa City Board of Education will mail the FY 2016 elementary school admission notification to each eligible resident in Okinawa City around mid-October.

If you wish to have your child enter a public elementary school in Okinawa City, please visit *Gakumu Ka* (Educational Affairs Division) on the 7F of Okinawa City Hall.

This checkup is for children who have already had their eyesight and hearing checked, so these exams will not be conducted.

This checkup will be held along with elementary school admissions and will start at each designated school on the schedule provided. Please make sure you bring the admissions postcard and your mother-child health book. Children have to be accompanied by their guardian.

Contact: *Gakumu Ka*, Board of Education (Educational Affairs Division) ☎937-6602



▶ Kindergarten Admission and Childcare for the FY 2016

Okinawa City Public Kindergarten (5 year-old children) Admissions

Eligible Children/ Children living in Okinawa City, born April 2, 2010~ April 1, 2011.

When to apply/ November 11 (Wed), 12 (Thr) 14:00~16:00

Where to apply/ Each designated kindergarten (based on Okinawa City public elementary school districts)

Recruitment Information/ Distributed at each kindergarten

Okinawa City Public Kindergarten 2 year child care (4 year-old children)

Eligible Children/ Children born between April 2, 2011~April 1, 2012 who live in the school district of any of the kindergarten schools listed below .

Kindergarten Schools/ 安慶田幼稚園, Shimabukuro Yochien 島袋幼稚園, Morimi Yochien 諸見幼稚園, Goeku Yochien 越来幼稚園, Nakanomachi Yochien 中の町幼稚園,

Murokawa Yochien 室川幼稚園, Misato Yochien 美里幼稚園, Koza Yochien コザ幼稚園

Capacity/ 25 students (per class) per kindergarten (8 total)

Application Period/ 2015 November 11 (Wed), 12 (Thr) 14:00~16:00

Application Place/ Each designated kindergarten

Recruitment Information/ Distributed at each kindergarten

*One or both parents/ guardians must be fluent in Japanese to ensure clear communication with the teachers and for the safety of the child.

Okinawa City Public Kindergarten Extended Child Care

Eligible Children/ Older children (born April 2, 2010~ April 1, 2011) who have enrolled at a public kindergarten and need afternoon care due to parent/guradian working.

Kindergartens offering after school child care/ All public kindergartens

Application period/ November 13 (Fri) ~ December 11 (Fri)

Application Hours/ 9:00~ 17:00

Application Place/ Each designated kindergarten (based on Okinawa City public elementary school districts)

*Please take a look at Okinawa City's official HP for more information

***Foreign nationals/ SOFA status residents**

If you are a foreign national (including SOFA status personnel) living in Okinawa City, you have to get a "ninteisho" (認定書-certificate) issued by *Hoiku Yochien Ka* (Childcare & Kindergarten Division) if you wish to enter your child to a private/ public kindergarten, or an approved *Kodomo En* under the new registration system. If you are not registered in Okinawa City as a foreign resident, you have to submit your "apartment contract to confirm your residence", the child care application form and your W2 (2014, 2015) to the *Hoiku Yochien Ka* (Childcare & Kindergarten Division).

Hoiku Yochien Ka Yochien Gakari

Contact: 保育・幼稚園課 幼稚園係 (Childcare & Kindergarten Division, Kindergarten Section) ext. 3173, 3174



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More announcements..

▶ Flu Vaccination for Those Who Are 65 Years Old and Over



If you are a resident of Okinawa City and at least 65 years old, you can receive the flu vaccination for free (fees will be covered by the government). You will receive a notification (“インフルエンザ予防接種のお知らせ”) in the mail from the division in charge if you are eligible.

Vaccination Period/

October 1, 2015~ February 29, 2016

Where you can get vaccinated/ Any designated medical facility. (There is a list of designated medical facilities within Okinawa City included in the mailed notification. Please contact the division in charge for questions about designated medical facilities outside of Okinawa City.)

Vaccination Fee/ Free (covered by the government)

*Vaccinations received at non-designated medical facilities will not be subsidized.

[Important] You can only receive the subsidized vaccination once during this period. You will have to pay the full fee for any other additional vaccination.

*You can also receive the vaccination if you are at least 60 and under 65 years old and have a serious heart, kidney, respiratory disease, or a heavy immune system disease due to HIV (a Degree 1 Physical Disability Certificate holder). For more details, please contact the division in charge.

*Vaccination types and schedules in foreign countries (including military bases) may differ. Please come to the service window with your residence card to confirm your vaccination history.

Contact: こども相談・健康課 予防係 (Child Consultation/ Health Division Vaccination Section)
ext. 2232, 2233

▶ Mailing of “My Number” (Individual Numbers) Will Begin in October!



How will the individual number be used in administrative procedures?

You will use the My Number at the city hall for the current status notice for child benefits; the Japan Pension Service Office to acquire qualifications and confirmations or to receive pension benefits; the health insurance union to apply for health insurance benefits; the tax office for income tax filing; your workplace for tax withholding certificates, and etc.

*Your individual number will be used only for processes designated by law.

How will the notice and individual card be processed?

The notice will be mailed to your residence in October 2015. Then the individual number card, which can be used as an ID card, will be issued after January 2016 by application. You will receive the application form enclosed with the notice.

*The notice will be mailed to the address on your resident certificate. Please make sure the address registered is the address where you actually live.

*Foreign nationals with a resident certificate will be subject to this system.

Schedule for the future process

October 2015: The My Number will be mailed to the head of household.

January 2016: The My Number will start being used for social security and tax procedures.

The My Number card will start being mailed to residents who applied.

January 2017: Government organizations will start interacting in dealing with information.

July 2017: Municipal government organizations will start interacting in dealing with information.

Call center regarding social security and the tax number system

0570-20-0178(Japanese)

0570-20-0291

(English / Chinese / Korean / Spanish / Portuguese)

Operation Hour Monday – Friday 9:30 – 17:30

*Not available on weekends/holidays/ New Year’s holiday

*Call charges will apply because these are Navi-Dial services.

If you have any questions regarding the notice card and individual number card, contact

Contact Shimin Ka (Residential Division) (ext. 3116)

Okinawa City Library News

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

Days Closed: October 5 (Mon), 12 (Mon), 13 (Tue: substitute holiday), 19 (Mon) and 22 (Thu: for inspection).

Place: Okinawa City Library 2F meeting room

※Up to 20 books per person.

Address:

2-19-6 Uechi, Okinawa City
098-932-6881



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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