



# OKINAWA CITY Newsletter

September 2019 Vol. 19 No. 9

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

## Events & Announcements

### Koza International Plaza



### ► Okinawa City Hall Will be closed on October 22(Tue), 2019

Because the law enforces that the day of the Emperor's reign and the ceremonial day becomes a holiday, **October 22(Tue)** will be considered a Japanese holiday, and Okinawa City Hall will be closed. For schedules of other public facilities, please contact them directly. Thank you for your understanding.  
**Contact:** Somu Ka (General Affairs Division) Ext.2342



The Mid-Autumn Festival is a harvest festival celebrated in many East Asian countries. Families have a reunion dinner and worship a beautiful full moon which symbolizes a happy family. Making and lighting lanterns is also one of the essential activities for celebrating the festival. At this event, you can make your own lantern while learning other interesting customs. We will light up all of our lanterns together and pray for good fortune in a relaxing and happy atmosphere.

**Date :** September 15th (Sun) 10:00 am – 12:00 noon

**Venue :** Koza International Plaza (KIP) 1-17-15 Chuo, Okinawa City

**Fee :** 500 per person (This event is for 25 people and the registration will be closed as soon as the event is filled to capacity.)

What activities will we do at this event?

Learning the history of the festival, Quizzes, Making Lanterns and lighting them up, eating a mooncake and drinking Chinese tea while listening to a beautiful live Chinese musical performance!

**Contact :** Koza International Plaza (KIP) TEL: (098) 989-6759

(Mon - Fri) 10 am – 9 pm (Sat) 10 am – 7 pm

Holidays: Closed



Total Population: 142,327

[Japanese Population] Male: 67,965 Female: 72,619  
[Foreign Population (52 Countries)] Male: 1,066 Female: 677



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](mailto: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

### ▶ Please note:

**September** is the payment deadline for the following taxes:

**Long-term care insurance premium** (4<sup>th</sup> term)/ **National health insurance premium** (3<sup>rd</sup> term)/ **Medical care for the elderly insurance premium** (3<sup>rd</sup> term).

If you use automatic bank transfers, payments will be withdrawn on September 30. Make sure you have enough money in your bank account the day before.



### ▶ The “Pensioner Support Benefits System” Will Start On October 1, 2019

If you are living off a pension, additional financial support (“Pensioner Support Benefits”) will be given if you earn less than a certain amount. **You have to apply** to receive this benefit.

You are eligible if:

- ◇ You are receiving “Old-Age Basic Pension” and also satisfy the following:
  - you are age 65 or above.
  - All your household members are non-taxed for resident tax.
  - Your total annual income including pension and other income does not exceed ¥879,300.
- ◇ You are receiving “Disability Basic Pension” or “Basic Pension for the Bereaved”:  
Your income the previous year does not exceed ¥4,621,000. (This amount may be changed depending on if you have dependent family members or not.)

#### How To Apply

- ◇ If you started receiving pension before April 1, 2019:  
The Japan Pension Service (JPS) will send an announcement in the beginning of September to eligible people on how to apply. Fill out the enclosed postcard and submit it to JPS.
- ◇ If you started receiving pension after April 2, 2019:  
Visit the Pension Office or Pension Section in Okinawa City Hall to apply for both pension and additional benefit.  
※NOTE: Beware of suspicious phone calls. The JPS or Health, Labour and Welfare Ministry will never ask for your bank account information.  
Contact: Koza Pension Office TEL: 098-933-2267

### ▶ Announcement For Non-taxed Households With Children Who Go To a Private Nursery School

If you satisfy all the requirements below, you can apply to receive a subsidy for tuition.



#### ① Requirements for Private Nursery School Subsidy

**1.**Your child goes 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. **4.**You have paid the tuition for the month that 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.

#### ② Requirements For Multiple Children In Private Nursery School Subsidy

**1.**You are the parent of multiple children who 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.**This subsidy is provided for the 3rd and younger children. **3.**You are non-taxable household **4.**You are not behind on payment for government approved nursery school. **5.**You have paid the tuition for the month that is eligible for the subsidy to the private nursery school. **6.**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.

<Same for ① & ②>

**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 **April 1, 2019**, 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 the same month.)

※**You will not be eligible for the subsidy the moment your children enter a government approved nursery school.**

**Application Period:** For subsidies from April 2019 through September: **October 7 (Mon)- 29(Tue.)**

**How to Apply:** Contact *Hoiku Yochien Ka* (Nursery/Kindergarten Division) Ext.3133, 3138

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

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



## ► Applications Open for the FY 2020 Developmental Support Nursery School



**Eligibility:** Children who are Okinawa City citizens and have physical or mental delays, and are considered to require support. They must be in a situation where there is a lack of child care because of parents' work hours or sickness, and must be able to adjust in a group setting with other children.

The acceptance of entry will be determined by a psychotherapist then consulted by the Okinawa City Development Support Council.

\*Nursery school applications must be made after the decision of entry.

**School Term:** April 1, 2020– March 31, 2021

**Application Period:** September 2 (Mon) – October 4 (Fri), 2019

Apply at **Hoiku Yochen Ka** (保育幼稚園課 Childcare/ Kindergarten Division)

Please consult the division in charge if you are not able to apply during the designated period.

**Contact:** Hoiku Yochen Ka

(保育幼稚園課 Childcare/ Kindergarten Division) ext. 3173/3174

**Kodomo Sodan Kenko Ka** (こども相談・健康課 Child Consultation-Health Division)

TEL:098-989-1307

## ► COOKING CLASS

**-Free Cooking Class for Child and Parent**

☆Let's try for Halloween dishes

Date & Time: **October 12 (Sat) 10:00-12:00**

Venue: Okinawa City Social welfare Center

Address: 1-14-29 Sumiyoshi, Okinawa City

Eligibility: 6 years old to Elementary

School children and their parent who live in Okinawa City

Capacity: 6 pairs

Application Deadline: October 2 (Wed) 15:00

**Application & Contact:** Shimin Kenko Ka (Residents' Health Division) Ext.2242



## ► FITNESS CLASS

**-Fitness Class for Child and Parent**

Date & Time: **September 28 (Sat) 10:00-11:30**

Venue: Koza Athletic Park (Multipurpose Ground)

Address: 2-1-1 Moromizato, Okinawa City

Eligibility: 4 y/o to Elementary School (3rd grade) Children and their parent who are Okinawa City Citizens

Capacity: 15 pairs (First come-first served bases)

Admission Fee: ¥100 for insurance

September 19 (Wed) 15:00

**Application & Contact:** Sunbiscus Okinawa  
TEL: 098-989-4695

## ► FY 2020 Vision/ Hearing Examination For New 1st Graders Of Elementary School.

This is for children who go to private kindergarten / public nursery schools/ government approved (or non-approved) nursery schools (Including home nursing cases).

**=Schedule for Elementary Schools (ES)=**

**Venue:** Okinawa City Budo-Kan (Koza Athletic Park)

**Fee:** Free

**September 11 (Wed)**

**1:45PM-2:30PM:**

Yamauchi ES, Moromi ES, Murokawa ES, Hiyagon ES

**2:30 PM-3:15PM:**

Mihara ES, Ageda ES, Bito ES, Shimabukuro ES

**September 12 (Thu)**

**1:45PM-2:30PM:**

Goeku ES, Nakanomachi ES, Miyazato ES, Koza ES

**2:30 PM-3:15PM:**

Misato ES, Awase ES, Kitami ES, Takahara ES



This vision/ hearing examination for the public kindergartens will be done at each school. The notification has been mailed to each eligible child by end of August. If you have not received one yet, please contact us below.

Enrollment registration and the internal/ dental examination will be held later starting in October. Please make sure this vision/ hearing examination is done in advance.

\*Contact below if the eligible child moved in to Okinawa City after July. If your children are SOFA and wish to enter Japanese public school in Okinawa City, please contact below in advance.

**Contact:** Shido Ka (指導課 Okinawa City Board of Education, Guidance Division ) TEL: 098-939-7976

## ► Notice Regarding Subsidies for People (Older than 20 Years Old) Who No Longer Apply to the "Medical Expense Grant System for Pediatric Chronic Illness"

This is a subsidy for those who have received grants from the "Medical Expense Grant System for Pediatric Chronic Illness" or were subject to the "Medical Research Project on Pediatric Chronic Illness Treatment" in the past and are still under treatment for a disease caused by a pediatric chronic illness.

**Eligibility:** You must be an Okinawa City citizen older than 20 years old as of September 1, 2019, registered under the basic resident register, and apply to the conditions below:

-You are currently under treatment for a disease which is caused by a pediatric chronic illness, and able to submit a doctor's diagnosis and other documents to certify your eligibility.

-You are not receiving benefits for a "Medical Expense Subsidy for Severe Physical Disability" or "Special Disability" from Okinawa City.

-You are not receiving benefits for medical expenses (designated intractable diseases) .

\*If you are not sure if you apply for this grant system, please come to the service window for confirmation.

**Application period:** Sep. 2 (Mon), 2019 – Mar. 31 (Tue), 2020

Amount of payment: ¥10,000/ year

Shogai Fukushi Ka (Disabilities Welfare Division ) ext. 3157

**English speaking staff is available.**

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### ▶ An Announcement From Government

The Consumption Tax (National & Local Tax) will raise to **10%** after **October 1, 2019**.

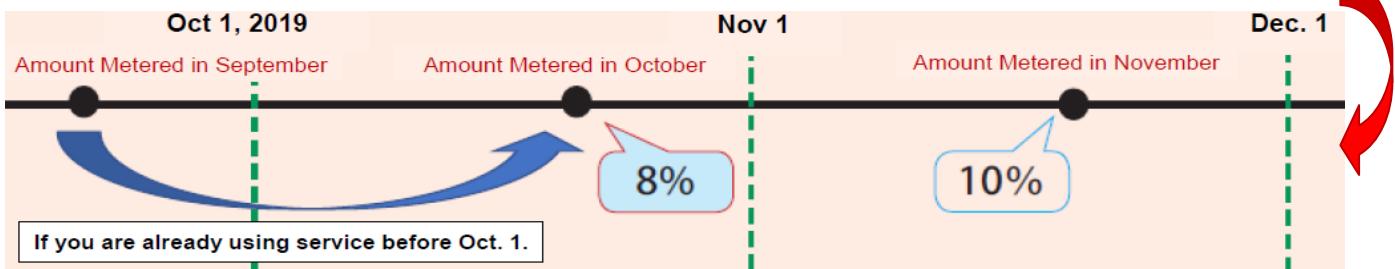
### ▶ Water & Sewer Rate Will Change Due To The Consumption Tax (National & Local Tax) Raise

The water & sewer rate will change as follows along with the consumption tax raise (national & local tax) from 8% to 10% after October 1, 2019.

※ Example: When household uses 20m<sup>3</sup>/month with meter for 13mm diameter.

<p>&lt;Current Tax Rate 8%&gt; Water Rate ¥2,275 Sewer Rate ¥1,252</p>	<p>&lt;New Tax Rate 10%&gt; Water Rate ¥2,827 Sewer Rate ¥1,276</p>
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**Q:** Will the bill for October be taxed at 10% since the tax is raised to 10% after October?  
**A:** If you are already using services before October 1, the amount metered in October will be taxed at 8%. If you start using services after October 1, the amount will be taxed at 10%.



## Free Admission to the Okinawa Zoo for Okinawa City Citizens!

Free Admission Period: **Sep.1(Sun) – Oct. 31 (Thu)** **\*\*After 16:00 until closing**

※Other than the entrance fee, normal charges will apply.

※Please show your ID (like driver's license) at the entrance.

(This free service will not apply on the following dates)

-Every Tuesday (Facility is closed)

-October 5 (Sat) Event:“Koza Music Festival”

(The zoo will only accept regular visitors until 12:00 and close at 13:00)

-October 14 (Mon) Event:“Moashibi Concert”

Regular Closing Hour: **During September 18:00** **During October 17:30**

Contact: Okinawa Zoo & Museum TEL: 098-933-4190



沖縄こどもの国 **ズーリアム**  
**ZOO & MUSEUM**

### Okinawa City Library News

**Book readings & hand games:**

Saturdays, Sep, 14 starting at 3:00 pm.

**Days Closed:** 2 (Mon), 9 (Mon), 16 (Mon: Respect-for-the-Aged day), 17 (Tue) - 30 (Mon) Closed for inspection.

**To return your books to the return post at the entrance of library.**

Hours: 8:00-22:00 (CD/DVD/Big picture book are no allowed to put into the post.) Address: 2-28-1 Chuo, Okinawa City TEL: 098-929-4919



Would you like our newsletters emailed or mailed to you? Let us know!

Email: [kokusai@city.okinawa.okinawa.jp](mailto:kokusai@city.okinawa.okinawa.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) 939-7341

Visit our website NOW!



https://www.city.okinawa.okinawa.jp/english/

### 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>



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