



OKINAWA CITY

Newsletter

September 2021

Vol. 21 No. 9

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

Announcements

► Beware of Highly Infectious Variants



Keep followings in mind to **avoid 3-Cs** (Close-contact/ Crowded places/ Closed spaces).

When you need to see people:

- Keep a sufficient distance from people.
- Avoid crowded places and times.
- Consider using online or staggered work hours.
- Avoid close, dense proximity even in the open air.

When you eat:

- Try to keep it small, short, and not too loud.
- Eat at restaurants that follow the guidelines.
- Use take-out or delivery!

Wear a mask during conversations.

※Please refrain from going to work or school if you are not feeling well.



► COVID-19 Vaccination

-For Pregnant Women-

The vaccination can be given at any time during pregnancy. Infection with the new coronavirus during pregnancy, especially in the advanced pregnancy, is likely to cause severe illness. Currently, Okinawa Prefecture is experiencing a high number of new infections, so healthcare workers at high risk of infection and pregnant women with underlying medical conditions are encouraged to get vaccinated.

At this time, there are no clear reports of fetal malformations caused by the vaccine, but if you are concerned, we recommend that you avoid vaccination until you are 12 weeks pregnant.

[Please note]

1. Please be sure to read the "Vaccine Information Sheet" enclosed with the vaccination coupon and understand the effects and adverse reactions of the vaccine before deciding whether you wish to be vaccinated.

2. Please consult with your obstetrician regarding vaccination in advance.

※ If you have not consulted with your obstetrician in advance, you may not be able to be vaccinated at the discretion of the examining physician.

3. Since mass vaccination sites are not equipped to respond quickly to sudden changes in pregnant women after vaccination, please make an appointment at a medical institution for vaccination if possible.

[What to Bring]

Vaccination coupon/ medical pre-examination sheet/ ID (resident card, driver's license, health insurance card, etc.)/ Mother & Child Health Record Book (Boshi-techo)/ medicine record book if you are under medication.

Call Center: 098-923-2401 / 8:30-17:00 (weekdays)

*English and Korean is available at the call center.



Okinawa City Hall Will be closed on September 20 (Mon) & 23 (Thu)

for Japanese holiday (Respect for the Aged Day & Autumnal Equinox Day).

Total Population: 142,858

[Japanese Population] Male: 68,380 Female: 72,696
[Foreign Population (57 Countries)] Male: 1,114 Female: 668

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.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

► The Exemption of Pension Premiums Before and After Childbirth

This exemption system has started in April 2019. The exemption period will be recorded as “paid” and will be reflected on your old-age basic pension amount.

Period of Exemption: From one month before up to 4 months after the month of the expected delivery date or the actual delivery day. In case of multiple births, the period of exemption is given from 3 months before to 6 months after the month of the expected delivery date or the actual delivery day.

Eligibility: Category1 insured person of the pension system, and their delivery date was on **February 1, 2019** or later.

*Delivery is defined as a birth that happens after 85 days (or more than 4 months) of pregnancy (includes stillbirth/ miscarriage/early delivery cases).

Exemption Period: 4 months from the month preceding the month in which the expected date of childbirth or the date of childbirth falls./ In the case of multiple pregnancies, 3 to 6 months before the expected date of delivery or the month in which the date of delivery falls.

Notification Period: At the earliest, 6 months before the delivery due date. You can also submit it after the delivery.

Required Documents: Mother and Child Health Record Book or certification issued by the hospital and mother’s ID with face photo.

※ID with face photo and *Inkan* of the proxy will be required when submitted by a proxy.

※A Power of Attorney will be required if the proxy is not of the same household.

Contact: National Pension Section, Okinawa City Hall (ext. 2133/ 2134)

► FY 2021 Public Nursery School & Kindergarten Admission and Childcare

(Simultaneous Registration)

Submission Period: Nursery Schools - October 4 (Mon) -29 (Fri) <Except for weekends and Japanese holidays>
Kindergartens –October 24 (Sun) -29 (Fri)

Hours: 9:30 –11:30/ 13:00 –16:00

※Submission on the weekend is only available on October 24 (Sun) at the Nursery School/Kindergarten Division.

Where to Submit: New Entry -Nursery School/Kindergarten Division Okinawa City Hall (2F)

Children enrolled in nursery school/ kindergarten-Children’s school

You can get the application form either each nursery school/ kindergarten in designated district and the contact below.

Please check our website for more information: <https://www.city.okinawa.okinawa.jp/english/>

Contact: *Hoiku Yochien Ka* (Nursery School/Kindergarten Division) Ext. 3135 (Nursery School)/ 3174 (Kindergarten)

► Current Status Report on Nursery School Tuition Coverage Service

If you are receiving and also wish to continue receiving nursery school tuition coverage, you need to submit the current status report as indicated below.

-If you are certified for nursery school tuition coverage, submit required forms to your school or *Hoiku Yochien Ka* (Nursery/kindergarten Division) in Okinawa City Hall.

-If you are using services at a private nursery school out side of Okinawa City, a temporary day care, sick-kids care, or only family support center, submit them at *Hoiku Yochien Ka* (Nursery/ kindergarten Division) in Okinawa City Hall.

Application Period:

September 1 (Wed) - 30 (Thu), 2021

*If you do not complete this process, you will no longer be eligible for this coverage. Please complete the process during the designated period above.

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



► The Change on Medical Care Support for Children After October 2021

The eligible age for hospital visits and for payment exemption at the counter will be raised to “up to the third grade of junior high school” starting from medical treatment in **October 2021**.

The eligibility will continue as before until September.

**Due to the change in the payment method, the pink certificate will be sent to eligible children around mid-September.

English speaking staff available with an appointment in advance.

Contact: *Kodomo Katei Ka* (Children’s Welfare Division),
Ext. 2124/2125/3189)


	Until September	After October
Eligibility	Up to 6th Grader of elementary school	Up to 3rd Grader of junior high school
How to Pay	<p><u>0 y/o to preschooler:</u> payment exempted at the hospital counter 【Certificate:Pink】</p> <p>Elementary schoolers: Payment reimbursed afterwards 【Certificate:Orange】</p>	<p><u>0 y/o to junior high school student:</u> payment exempted at the hospital counter 【Certificate:Pink】</p>

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

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▶ Preventing Your Dog From Escaping

Be careful of your dog's running away.

 There have been cases of dogs running away due to carelessness on the part of their owners, such as dogs running away because the leash came off, or dogs running away because the owner forgot to close the gate. This is very dangerous as it may lead to serious bite accidents or traffic accidents caused by your dog..

To prevent your dog from escaping/accidental bite

- Keep your dog on a leash with proper length while walking.
- The person walking the dog should be able to keep them under control.
- Mind your safety when you get close to any dogs, as even quiet dogs can be aggressive against kids or other dogs.
- Make sure your dog's collar and leash are in good condition so your dog doesn't get loose.
- Contact the Environmental Division in Okinawa City Hall immediately if your dog gets loose.



If you find a loose dog in Okinawa City...

Keep a record of their appearance (color of their hair or collar, dog breed, etc.) and contact the **Environmental Division in the Okinawa City Hall** immediately. If the city hall is closed, call **#110** for Okinawa Police Station.

Register your dogs and get their rabies shot



The owner is obligated by law to have their dogs older than 91 days from birth registered (once) and get rabies shot (yearly). Registered dogs must wear the registration tag and vaccination certificate.

* All residents, including SOFA status residents, who own dogs in Okinawa City (outside U.S. bases) are obligated to follow this requirement.

*The public rabies shot, which is annually scheduled at each community center, has been cancelled due to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Please have them get one at the veterinary clinic.

Contact: Environment Division Ext.2222

English support is available at this division.

▶ The Public Health Check-up in FY2021 Requires **Reservation**

***Capacity is limited** (Reservation accepted at first come first serve bases)

Contact: Shimin Kenko Ka (Residents Health Division)
TEL:098-939-3126

(Closed on weekends and Japanese holidays)



▶ Garbage Collection During Typhoons

Please follow the notes below for garbage collection during typhoons:

- In the event of a typhoon, please obtain typhoon information frequently and take typhoon countermeasures as soon as possible, such as preventing garbage bags from flying away.
 - In case of no collection due to typhoon, there will be no extra collection day. Please put them out on the next collection day.
 - Please be aware that after a typhoon, there will be more oversized garbage and herbaceous waste accepted, and collection may be delayed.
- For more information about garbage collection during typhoons, please check the website below.**



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

Contact: Environment Division Ext.2223-2226

English support is available at this division.



▶ FY 2021 Okinawa City Housing Opening Information

※Drawing will be held without visitors in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Application package is available during:

October 5 (Tue) - 18 (Mon), 2021

at **1F information counter** or

6F Public Housing Agency counter.

※**Please visit our website for the detailed information.**

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

Contact: Okinawa City Hall 6F *Shiei Jutaku Ka*

(City Housing Management Division) TEL: 098-929-3117

▶ Exemption From Basic Water Charges

In order to support the lives of citizens suffering from the Corona disaster, all households and businesses that have a contract with the Okinawa City Waterworks Bureau will be exempted from the basic water rates for September through November (billed in October through December).

No formalities are required.

However, sewerage usage fees will be charged as usual.

For contractors who own apartment buildings :

Please waive the basic water charge for three months for tenants of the apartment complexes applying for the Union. We appreciate your cooperation.

Also, in the case of apartment complexes where a single meter from the Waterworks Bureau supplies water to multiple households, you may be able to get a discount on your water bill if you apply for federation. Please contact us for details.

Contact: Okinawa City Waterworks Bureau

TEL: 098-937-3637

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

▶ Please note:

September is the payment deadline for the following taxes:

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



▶ Address Indication (Ozato & Tobaru Area) Will be Changed After September 21, 2021

Regarding the Ozato and Tobaru area in Okinawa City, the new indication of residence (address) has been implemented in the district shown below:

Old	New
字大里 (St.#)番地 / street #, Ozato Aza-Ozato (St.#) banchi	大里三丁目 (St.#)番 (St.#)号 / 3-#-#, Ozato Ozato 3(san)-chome #-ban #-go
字桃原 (St.#)番地 / street #, Tobaru Aza-Tobaru (St.#) banchi	桃原四丁目 (St.#)番 (St.#)号 / 4-#-#, Tobaru Tobaru 4(yon)-chome #-ban #-go

※ The zip code will remain the same.

■ For prefectural housing complexes, the notation is slightly different. (See the example below)

Indication of **Awase Prefectural Housing Complex (Danchi)** (県営泡瀬団地)

(Japanese) 沖縄市桃原四丁目 28番 (Bld.#)-(Rm.#)号 県営泡瀬団地

(English) Awase Pref. Danchi, (Bld.#)-(Rm.#), Tobaru 4-Chome 28, Okinawa City

Contact: Urban Strategy Division (5F, Okinawa City Hall) (Ext.2518)

▶ Traffic Restrictions Due to Sidewalk Maintenance Work

Due to sidewalk improvement work, traffic will be restricted on the sidewalk section of city streets.

In addition, traffic congestion is expected during the construction period due to traffic restrictions on the roadway as temporary sidewalks are installed. If you are in a hurry, please make a detour. Thank you for your cooperation.

*Please inform your children about the construction around the school and park.

Traffic Control Period:

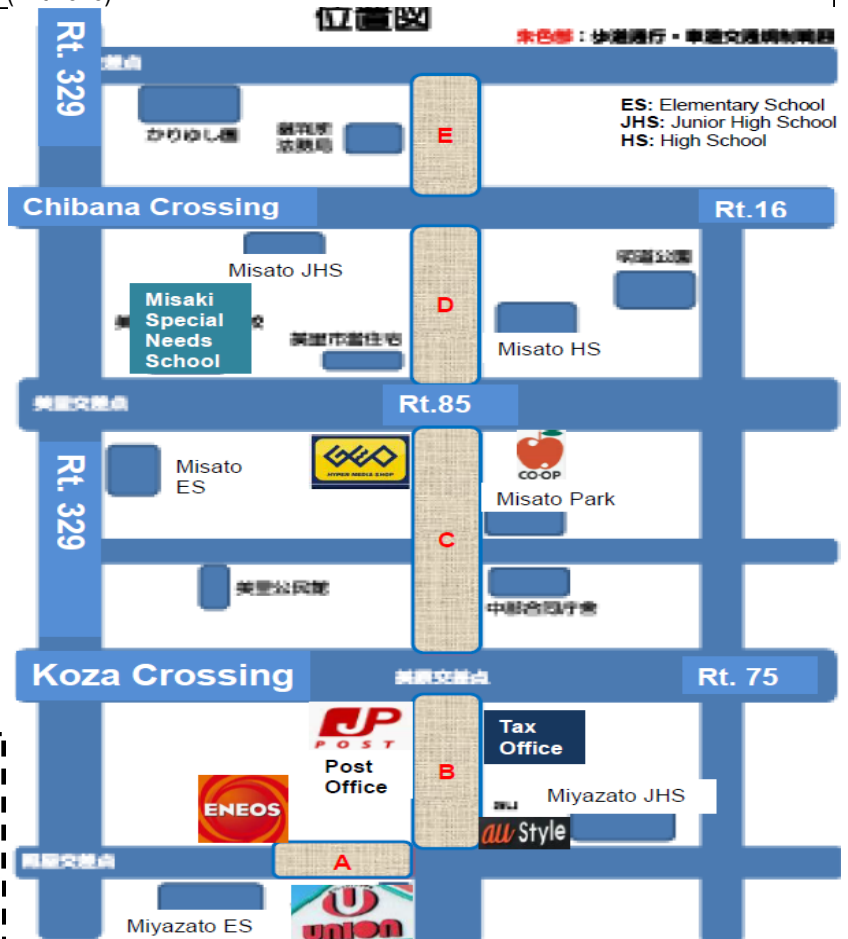
Middle of September, 2021-End of January, 2022 (estimate)

Location & Details of Construction:

A(Miyazato,Rt.34)/B-D/E(Chibana,Rt.52)

Sidewalk maintenance work/Relocation, removal, and new construction of existing street trees

Contact: Public Road Maintenance Division
TEL: 098-989-9138



Okinawa City Library News

Visit our website for library schedule:

<https://www.city.okinawa.okinawa.jp/lib/>

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

check our website for updated schedule.



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

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

Visit our website NOW!



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

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Koza International Plaza
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We are here to support you!
1-7-8 Chuo, Okinawa City (Temporarily closed due to COVID-19 emergency status declaration)
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

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