

HIGASHIHIROSHIMA

Monthly City Newsletter

July 2014

2014年7月号 広報東広島・英語版

Free
to take

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For details regarding applying for one-off welfare payments and one-off payments to child-raising households, please see the information included with this newsletter. On Sunday 13th July, there is English, Chinese and Portuguese translation available at the one-off welfare payments counter in the City Office (1F). Please make use of this opportunity.

Summer festivals around Higashihiroshima City

- 東広島近辺で開催される
- 夏祭り

The following are some of the many summer festivals held in Higashihiroshima:

Domannaka Toyosaka Heso Matsuri

15:30-21:30, Saturday August 2nd, in the Toyosaka Fureai Ground, Toyosaka

This festival features a bellybutton dancing competition, musical performances, dancing, and a bazaar, amongst other attractions. There will also be fireworks.

Contact: Domannaka Toyosaka Heso Matsuri Committee (Domannaka Toyosaka Heso Matsuri Unei-iinkai, どんなか豊栄ヘソまつり運営委員会), tel.: 082-432-2538.



Kurose Fureai Natsu-matsuri 2014

16:00-21:00, Saturday July 26th, around Kurose Lifelong Learning Center, Kurose



This festival features live performances, events for children, stalls and a bazaar. The festival will finish with a fireworks display.

Contact: Kurose Fureai Natsu-matsuri Committee (Kurose Fureai Natsu-matsuri Jikko-iinkai, 黒瀬ふれあい夏祭り実行委員会), tel.: 0823-82-3075.

Riverside Festival

17:00-21:00, Saturday July 26th (fireworks)

9:30-15:30, Sunday July 27th (main festival)

At Kochi Citizens' Ground, and by the Mukunashi River, Kochi

On July 27th, this festival features the chance to catch sweetfish (ayu) in the river with your hands. There will also be a bazaar and other attractions. There will be a cost for the sweetfish catching. In addition, those wishing to catch sweetfish should take swimwear.

Contact: Riverside Festival Committee (Riverside Festival Jikko-iinkai, リバーサイドフェスティバル実行委員会), tel.: 082-437-2228.



Summer festivals around Higashihiroshima City

- 東広島近辺で開催される
- 夏祭り



Tanabata Candle Night

19:00-21:00, Sunday July 6th, in Saijo Central Park.

This event features around 2000 candles, representing the Milky Way. The candles are decorated with messages written by children from local nursery schools and kindergarten.

Contact: Hiroshima University Candle Circle
'Tomoshibi' (representative: Ms. Matsumoto).
Email: h.tomoshibi@gmail.com

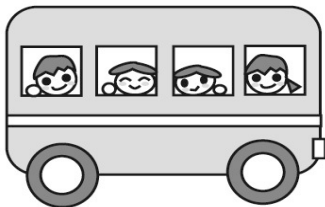
Higashihiroshima City Children and Youth Center Summer Festival

Young people from the Higashihiroshima City 'Youthful Challengers Group' will hold a summer festival at the Children and Youth Center in Sunsquare (Jido Seishonen Center, 児童青少年センター), on Sunday July 27th, from 14:00 to 17:00. The event is aimed at infants and children of elementary school age, and will include hand-made games, stalls, etc.

Contact: Children and Youth Center (Jido Seishonen Center, 児童青少年センター), tel.: 082-493-7625.

Free bus tour of Higashihiroshima for foreign residents

- 外国人のための東広島
- バスツアー実施



A bus tour around Higashihiroshima for foreign residents will be held on Saturday July 26th, from 10:00 to 17:30. Participants will be able to try somen nagashi (noodles in running water) with local Japanese children, to visit a shrine in Akitsu, and to walk across the Oshiba Bridge. There will also be the opportunity to learn about traffic rules. Participation is free, and is limited to 40 foreign residents of Higashihiroshima City, on a first-come-first-served basis (children under junior high school age should be accompanied by a parent or guardian). Please apply by Sunday July 13th, by email to the Hiroshima International Center: hicc26@hiroshima-ic.or.jp (Ms. Kawahara).

When applying, please include in the email the name, nationality, age and sex of the applicant(s), and the place from where you will board the bus (Hiroshima International Plaza, Hiroshima University Central Bus Stop, IDEC, or Saijo Station). Also, please provide a mobile phone contact number for a representative of the group.

How about playing a Bechstein piano in Azalea Hall?

- アザレアホールでベヒシュ
- タインを弾いてみませんか

The Bechstein piano in Azalea Hall (3rd floor, Sunsquare) is available for eight 1-hour sessions each on Saturday July 19th and Sunday July 20th, between 8:30 and 16:30. Places will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. The piano can be played by elementary school students and above, who are living in Higashihiroshima City, or who work or go to school in the city. Elementary school students must be accompanied by an adult.

Please apply to the Communication Corner by 17:00 on Thursday July 10th. You will need to provide the following information: name, age, telephone number, preferred day and time (up to second choice).

Contact: Higashihiroshima Foundation for Affairs of Culture and Education (Higashihiroshima-shi Kyoiku Bunka Shinko Jigyodan, 東広島市教育文化振興事業団総務課), tel.: 082-424-3811.

‘Tanabata Chakai’ tea ceremony for non-Japanese residents

- 外国人のための七夕茶会を
・ 開催します
・

There will be a tea ceremony for non-Japanese residents on Sunday July 6th, from 12:00 to 15:00, in the Japanese-style room in Sunsquare (Citizens' Culture Center, 2F). Participation is free.

Please apply to the Communication Corner, Sunsquare.

Contact: Higashihiroshima Foundation for Affairs of Culture and Education

(Higashihiroshima-shi Kyoiku Bunka Shinko Jigyodan, 東広島市教育文化振興事業団), tel.: 082-424-3811.

Information about the National Health Insurance Premium

- 国民健康保険の納税通知
・ 書・保険証の更新
・

Notification of the amounts to be paid for the National Health Insurance premium for the financial year 2014-2015 will be sent by post to the head of each household around the middle of July.

Please be aware that responsibility for the payment of the premium rests with the head of each household. The National Health Insurance premium is paid on a household basis. Even if the head of the household is not personally enrolled in the National Health Insurance scheme, if there are members of the household who are enrolled, it is the responsibility of the head of the household to ensure that the tax is paid.

National Health Insurance payments are made each month from July to February of the following year. In other words, one year's premium is divided into eight payments. The amount payable is calculated based on the previous year's income of the person/people enrolled. The payments can be made in a range of ways.

If a household's income over the previous year has fallen beneath a certain level, then, based on the level of income, it is possible to receive reductions of the National Health Insurance premium. However, if a member of the household who is enrolled in the National Health Insurance scheme has not declared their income, these reductions will not be applied. It is necessary to declare your income even if you have no income, or if you are a dependent. Also, if you have become unemployed, then you may be able to apply for a separate reduction of the premium. Certain criteria need to be fulfilled in order to be able to apply for this reduction; please contact the National Health Insurance and Pension Division (Kokuho Nenkin-ka, 国保年金課) for details. In addition, if you are having difficulties paying the National Health Insurance premium, because of special circumstances such as having suffered from a natural disaster, having lost your job, etc., then you may be eligible to pay a reduced premium, or be exempted from payment. Please contact the National Health Insurance and Pension Division for details.

Health Insurance Certificates (hoken-sho, 保険証) will be renewed. The new certificates will be sent out towards the end of July (in a light pink envelope), and will be valid from August 1st. The color for this financial year is green.

If (by July 31st) you become ineligible to be enrolled in the National Health Insurance Scheme, because of losing your job, etc., and it is necessary to withdraw from the scheme, you will need to complete formalities for this. Please return your current (blue) health insurance certificate, and the green certificate valid from August 1st, to the National Health Insurance and Pension Division, or to a Branch Office or Sub-branch Office of the City Office. When completing formalities for withdrawing from the scheme, you will need to show an insurance certificate for the insurance scheme you have enrolled into in place of the National Health Insurance Scheme. You will also need to show certificates for any members of your household who are supported by you. Copies of these certificates are acceptable.

Contact: National Health Insurance and Pension Division (Kokuho Nenkin-ka, 国保年金課), tel.: 082-420-0933.

‘Genki Sukoyaka’ Health Checks have now begun

- 「元気すこやか健診」が始
・ まりました！
・

Information about ‘Genki Sukoyaka’ Health Checks is now available in English, Chinese and Portuguese. Please see the Higashihiroshima City homepage (the address below).

<http://www.city.higashihiroshima.hiroshima.jp/soshiki/6/genkisukoyaka.html>

Contact: Health Promotion Division (Kenko Zoshin-ka, 健康増進課), tel.: 082-420-0936.

Deadline for payment of taxes: Thursday July 31st

- ・ 7月の納税・納期限は
- ・ 7月31日(木)

Please pay Fixed Asset Tax and City Planning Tax (the second installment), and the National Health Insurance Premium (the first installment) by Thursday July 31st.

A notice of non-payment (Tokusokujo, 督促状) will be sent to residents who have not paid their tax by the deadline. If you receive a Tokusokujo, please pay the tax immediately, using the payment slip enclosed.

※ **Note:** it takes about ten days for the Tax Collection Division to confirm payment of tax, and therefore you may receive a Tokusokujo even after you have completed payment. In this case, please ignore the letter.

Contact: Tax Collection Division (Shuno-ka, 収納課), tel.: 082-420-0912.

Consultation services and orientation services for non-Japanese residents

- ・ 外国人相談窓口・生活オリ
- ・ エンターションサービス

Consultation services for non-Japanese residents are available at the Communication Corner, in Sunsquare Higashihiroshima. English-speaking staff are available daily, at the following times:

Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays: from 9:00 to 17:00, Wednesdays, Sundays: from 9:00 to 13:00,

Mondays, Saturdays: from 13:00 to 17:00.

Communication Corner homepage (English): <http://hhface.org/corner/en.html>

40-minute free legal consultations are available on Wednesday July 9th, at 13:00, 14:00, 15:00 and 16:00. English translation is available. Please make an appointment at least one week in advance.

Contact: Higashihiroshima Foundation for Affairs of Culture and Education (Higashihiroshima-shi Kyoiku Bunka Shinko Jigyodan, Somu-ka, 東広島市教育文化振興事業団総務課), tel.: 082-424-3811.

Orientation services for non-Japanese residents

An orientation, covering life in Higashihiroshima City, is available free of charge throughout the year for non-Japanese residents of the city. Participants receive the Living Guide and other resources in English, Chinese or Portuguese, and there are one-to-one explanations of various official procedures, pensions, child-raising help, school education, etc.

Location: Planning Division, City Office main building (5F)

Times: Monday-Friday, 9:00-12:00, 13:00-16:00 (Wednesdays until 15:00)

Contact: Ms. Takahashi, Planning Division, tel.: 082-420-0917. E-mail: hgh200917@city.higashihiroshima.lg.jp



Night-time and holiday hospitals

- ・ 夜間休日当番医

Full information about night-time and holiday duty hospitals (Primary Emergency Medical Care Hospitals) is published in the Japanese-language version of the monthly city newsletter 'Higashihiroshima'. You can also find this information (in English and Japanese) on the 'Kyukyu Iryo Net Hiroshima' site (<http://www.qq.pref.hiroshima.jp>). You will be able to find information about which medical facility to go to, and what times the facilities are open (Higashihiroshima City is in the 'Hiroshima Chuo' area). Please use the QR Code on the right if you are accessing the site from a mobile phone. The information on the site may be subject to change at short notice, so please contact the medical facility to confirm the information.



About emergency medical treatment

In the case of an injury or a sudden fever or illness, where you cannot decide whether the symptoms are serious or not, first of all go to a 'Primary Emergency Medical Care Hospital'. If the symptoms are serious, and emergency surgery or hospitalization is required, the doctor will provide an introductory letter for a 'Secondary Emergency Medical Care Hospital'. If the symptoms are clearly serious, do not hesitate to go to a Secondary Emergency Medical Care Hospital, or call 119 to summon an ambulance.

For details of Secondary Emergency Medical Care hospitals, where patients with serious symptoms can be treated, contact Higashihiroshima City Fire Department (tel.: 082-422-0119).

Higashihiroshima City Holiday Clinic (Kyujitsu Shinryosho, 休日診療所) is a facility that can provide emergency treatment in the case of a sudden medical problem, for those who cannot get treatment anywhere else.

- ・ Medical Departments: Internal medicine, pediatrics and dentistry
- ・ Open: Sundays, holidays, year-end and New Year holidays (Dec. 31 - Jan. 3)
- ・ Hours: 9:00 - 12:00, 13:00 - 16:00

Call Center for Emergency First-aid for Children (Kodomo-kyukyu-denwa-sodan, こどもの救急電話相談), tel.: #8000 (from a normal phone or mobile phone) or 082-505-1399 (from an IP phone or hikari phone). Available 365 days a year, from 19:00 to 8:00 the following morning. Only in Japanese.

This newsletter contains selected information from the Monthly City Newsletter 'Koho Higashihiroshima'. This newsletter is available at the City Office and sub-branch offices, the International Center, Communication Corner (Sunsquare Higashihiroshima, 1F), Hiroshima University, Kinki University, Hiroshima International University, Fuji Grand (Higashihiroshima store), Youme Town (Higashihiroshima, Gakuen, and Kurose stores), Shoji (Route 375 bypass and Toyosaka stores), Gyomu-yo Shokuhin Super (Saijo store), Manso (Hachihonmatsu and Takaya stores), Every (Saijo store), Bankok Store, Higashihiroshima Catholic Church (Takamigaoka), Motonaga Hospital, and Hiroshima Bank (Saijo branch). A version is also available on the homepage of the City Office: <http://www.city.higashihiroshima.hiroshima.jp/site/koho/koho-english.html>

Edited and published by Higashihiroshima City International Exchange
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へんしゅう・はっこう ひがしひろしましこくさいしんきょうざい
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Population of Higashihiroshima City: 183,878

Population of foreign residents: 4,554

As of the end of May, 2014

Applications for One-off Welfare Payments and One-off Payments to Child-Raising Households

- ・臨時福祉給付金、子育て世帯臨時特例給付金の申請受付を開始します

In order to offset any financial difficulties caused by the rise in Consumption Tax from April, there is a temporary system of One-off Welfare Payments and One-off Payments to Child-Raising Households. These payments are made to households with low incomes, and to households with dependent children. In order to receive the payment, it is necessary to apply to the municipality where you were registered as a resident as of January 1st, 2014.

Application forms, etc., were sent towards the end of June to those who might be eligible to receive the payment. If you are eligible, please apply before the application deadline.

How to apply, application deadline, etc.

Application period: Tuesday July 1st, 2014 to Monday January 5th, 2015 (applications will be accepted if postmarked by January 5th).

How to apply: fill in the required information on the application form, stamp it with your seal (or sign it), and submit it with any necessary documents.

Where to submit the application:

Applications by post: Please send the application to the One-off Welfare Payments Office in the City Office

Applications in person: Please submit the completed application as follows:

Office/Counter	Times	Extended opening hours (City Office only)	Weekend opening (City Office only)
・ Temporary counter, 1F, City Office ・ One-off Welfare Payments Office, 4F, City Office	8:30-17:15 (Closed on Saturdays, Sundays and National Holidays)	July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 (all Thursdays): 17:15-19:00	July 12 (Sat), 13 (Sun)※, 26 (Sat), 27 (Sun): 8:30-17:15 ※English, Chinese and Portuguese language interpretation is available on July 13.
Kurose, Fukutomi, Toyosaka, Kochi and Akitsu Branch Offices		No extended opening	No weekend opening
Hachihonmatsu, Shiwa and Takaya Sub-Branch Offices			

As a rule, the payment will be made by bank transfer to the account shown on the application form. Payments will be made around six weeks after the completed application form is received. The scheduled date of payment will be shown on the Notice of Payment you are sent. (Please be aware that some applications may take longer to process because of the eligibility checking process.)

Points to note:

- ・ It is only possible to receive one or the other of the payments. Please check the eligibility requirements, and apply for the payment to which you are entitled.
- ・ Those whose address as of January 1st, 2014 was not registered as being in Higashihiroshima City are not eligible to receive the payment. If you moved to Higashihiroshima City from another municipality in Japan on or after January 2nd, 2014, please apply to the municipality where your address was registered as of January 1st, 2014. If you came to Japan from another country on or after January 2nd, 2014, you are not eligible to receive payments.

Enquiries:

- ・ Higashihiroshima City One-off Welfare Payments Office (8-29 Sakae-machi, Saijo, Higashihiroshima-shi 739-8601)
Tel.: 082-420-0943, fax: 082-420-0944
- ・ Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare One-off Welfare Payments Enquiry Line
Tel.: 0570-037-192 (Mondays to Fridays, 9:00 to 18:00)

One-off Welfare Payments

Who is eligible for the payment?

Those who were registered as residents of Higashihiroshima City as of January 1st, 2014, and who are exempt from Municipal Tax (the non-income-related proportion) for the 2014-15 financial year.

However, those in the following categories are not eligible:

- Those who are dependent relatives of someone who is subject to Municipal Tax (the non-income-related proportion) for the 2014-15 financial year. (See note 1 below)
- Those who are receiving welfare payments (Seikatsu hogo, 生活保護).

How much will be paid?

10000 yen per eligible person (The payment will only be made once.)

Those who are receiving one of the following will receive an extra 5000 yen:

Basic (old-age) pension, Basic disability pension, Basic pension for surviving family, Child Rearing Allowance, Special Child Rearing Allowance, Disabled Child Welfare Allowance, Special Disability Allowance, Payments made to atomic bombing survivors

Even if you receive more than one of the pensions or allowances listed above, the extra payment is limited to 5000 yen per person.

Necessary documents for applying

1. The application form
2. Proof of identity of the applicant/claimant (a copy of your Residence Card, etc.)
3. A document showing details of the bank account into which the payment is to be made (a copy of your bank book, cash card, etc.)
4. Documents showing the residence (visa) status of all members of your household who are eligible to receive payment (copies of Residence Cards, etc.)
5. Other documents as deemed necessary

Those without a medium- to long-term residence (visa) status as of the date when eligibility is decided will not be eligible to receive payment. Therefore, if it is likely that a period of residence will expire between the date of application and the date when eligibility is decided, please renew that person's visa (period of residence) before applying for the payment.

Note 1: 'dependent relative' refers to persons who are shown on income tax returns, municipal tax returns, tax certificate slips, etc., as dependent relatives, or to dependents or family employees of blue return taxpayers, and family employees of white return taxpayers, as detailed in tax law.

Q: I receive Child Allowance, and I am exempt from Municipal Tax (the non-income-related proportion). Can I receive both the One-off Welfare Payment and the One-off Payment to Child-Raising Households?

A: It is not possible to receive both payments. Children who qualify for One-off Welfare Payments do not qualify for the One-off Payment to Child-Raising Households. As such, the One-off Welfare Payment will be paid for children who are dependents of adults exempt from Municipal Tax (the non-income-related proportion) for the 2014-2015 financial year, but the One-off Payment to Child-Raising Households will not be paid to the parents/guardians of those children.

One-off Payments to Child-Raising Households

Who is eligible for the payment?

Those who were registered as residents of Higashihiroshima City as of January 1st, 2014, and who fall into both of the following categories:

- Those who received Child Allowance or a limited allowance (the amount for January 2014)
- Those whose income for 2013 was not over the income limit for eligibility for Child Allowance.

‘Limited allowance’ refers to the payment of 5000 yen per child per month made to those parents or guardians whose income is over the income limit for eligibility for Child Allowance.

Eligible children

Children for whom Child Allowance or a limited allowance (the amount for January 2014) was paid.

However, those in the following categories are not eligible:

- Those who qualify for the One-off Welfare Payment.
- Those who are receiving welfare payments (Seikatsu hogo, 生活保護).

How much will be paid?

10000 yen per eligible child (The payment will only be made once.)

Necessary documents for applying

1. The application form
2. If the bank account into which the payment is to be made is different from that into which Child Allowance payments are made:
 - Proof of identity of the applicant/claimant (a copy of your Residence Card, etc.)
 - A document showing details of the bank account into which the payment is to be made (a copy of your bank book, cash card, etc.)
3. Documents showing the residence (visa) status of eligible children (copies of Residence Cards, etc.)
4. Other documents as deemed necessary

Children without a medium- to long-term residence (visa) status as of the date when eligibility is decided will not be eligible to receive payment. Therefore, if it is likely that a child’s period of residence will expire between the date of application and the date when eligibility is decided, please renew that child’s visa (period of residence) before applying for the payment.

Eligibility Check Chart

対象者診断チャート
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・
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You are not eligible to receive payments if your registered address as of January 1st, 2014 was not Higashihiroshima City. This chart only shows standard situations.

