

School Expense Subsidies: Advance-Payment Subsidies for Expenses Related to Starting School



What are Advance-Payment Subsidies?

There is a system under which payments of subsidies for expenses related to your child's starting school are made in advance, before the beginning of the academic year. For parents or guardians of children due to enter elementary or junior high school in April 2026, who are having financial difficulties paying for the items needed by their child when entering school, **the subsidies will be paid in March 2026.** Eligibility is limited to those to whom the conditions shown on the reverse of this sheet apply.

◆ Documents to submit: Application for Subsidies for Expenses Related to Starting School, 2026-27 Academic Year, necessary supporting documents

◆ Deadline for applications: **December 1st 2025 ~ January 16th 2026**

(if sent by post, applications are valid if postmarked by this date)

◆ Send the documents by post, or take them in person to the School Affairs Division, Higashihiroshima City Board of Education
(3F, North Building, Higashihiroshima City Office)

If there is the possibility that you may move out of Higashihiroshima City before the end of March 2026, please refrain from applying for Advance-Payment Subsidies for Expenses Related to Starting School (it is possible to apply after your child has entered school).

1 Eligibility for Advance-Payment Subsidies for Expenses Related to Starting School

You are eligible if the conditions (1) to (3) below all apply to you:

(1) You are living in Higashihiroshima City

(If you will move out of Higashihiroshima City before the end of March 2026, you are not eligible)

(2) Your child is due to enter elementary or junior high school in April 2026.

(Special support schools and international schools are not eligible)

(3) One of the following reasons for application (②-⑧) applies to you



Reason for application	Documents to be submitted
① You are receiving welfare support (seikatsu hogo)	<u>You are not eligible to receive subsidies for expenses relating to your child starting school (you are paid a sum to cover the costs of your child starting school with your welfare support payment for March)</u>
② You are exempt from municipal tax (all members of the household)	No documents are needed (※1)
③ You are receiving a reduction to or exemption from municipal tax (all members of the household)	A copy of the notice of the eligibility judgment (※1)
④ You are receiving a reduction to or exemption from fixed asset tax (all members of the household)	A copy of the notice of the eligibility judgment
⑤ You are receiving a reduction to or exemption from payments for the National Pension Scheme (all members of the household)	A copy of the notice of the eligibility judgment
⑥ You are receiving a reduction to or exemption from payments for the National Health Insurance Scheme (all members of the household)	A copy of the notice of the eligibility judgment
⑦ You are receiving child raising allowance (jido-fuyo teate)	A copy of your certificate of allowance (for the period 2025-26)
⑧ You have other economic/financial reasons (※2)	No documents are needed (※1) (※3)

- ※1 If you have not made a declaration of income, it will not be possible to judge your eligibility, so please ensure that you make a declaration of income. This is necessary even if you have no income.
If you moved into Higashihiroshima City on or after January 2nd, 2025, you will need to submit documents showing the amount of tax you are liable for and the amount of your income, such as a 'Certificate of (Exemption from) Municipal and Prefectural Tax' or a 'Certificate of Income' issued by the municipality where you were living as of January 1st, 2025.
- ※2 If you are applying under the Reason for Application ⑧, your application will be judged based on the income of all members of the same household, using the criteria for judging eligibility for welfare support.
- ※3 Depending on the status of your household, the Board of Education may request other documents to be submitted.

2 Application procedures

- Documents to submit: Application for Subsidies for Expenses Related to Starting School, 2026-27 Academic Year, necessary supporting documents
- Send the documents by post, or take them in person to the School Affairs Division, Higashihiroshima City Board of Education (3F, North Building, Higashihiroshima City Office)
- Deadline for applications: Friday January 16th 2026 (if sent by post, applications are valid if postmarked by this date)
 - ※ If you miss the deadline, you can apply using the Application for School Expense Subsidies, 2026-27 Academic Year. This application form will be distributed by your child's school in or after February. If as a result of this application, you are judged to be eligible for school expense subsidies from April, the payment of subsidies related to your child's starting school will be paid in or after the beginning of July.

3 Period and amount of payment

- Notice of eligibility/non-eligibility for payment: around the end of February 2026
- Payment amounts:
 - 57,060 yen for each child due to enter elementary school
 - 63,000 yen for each child due to enter junior high school
- Period of payment: the middle to the end of March 2026
- Method of payment: direct bank account transfer into the account of the applicant (the parent/guardian)

If there is anything you do not understand, please contact **the School Affairs Division, Higashihiroshima City Board of Education** (3F, City Office North Building)
Tel.: 082-420-0975

4 Points to note

- If you move out of Higashihiroshima City after having received the payment of Advance-Payment Subsidies for Expenses Related to Starting School, you will be required to repay the whole amount of the payment you received.
- If you are already receiving similar subsidies from another municipality, payments will not be made in multiple.
- Even if you apply for, and are judged to be eligible for the payment of Advance-Payment Subsidies for Expenses Related to Starting School, if you wish to receive School Expense Subsidies (subsidies for school meals and expenses related to items needed for school, other than items needed as a new student at the beginning of the school year) for the 2026-27 academic year, **you need to complete the formalities to apply.**
After your child has started school, you will be sent information about School Expense Subsidies via his/her school.