

Informational Newsletter for English Speaking Residents

Hiroshima NOW



2024

English No. 24


Articles in **Hiroshima NOW** are excerpts from *Hiroshima Shimin to Shisei*, a free newspaper produced by the City of Hiroshima. This monthly newsletter is published in English, Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Simplified Japanese. They are all available on our website (h-ircd.jp/) or in print at various public facilities.

Hiroshima Shimin to Shisei is available to view on the city's website. It can also be translated via an automatic translation app into several languages (English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Vietnamese, Filipino).

 For those who would like to receive notices via e-mail regarding new issues, etc., please send an e-mail to the following address: internat@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

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 Unless stated otherwise, services and webpages mentioned are likely to be only provided in Japanese. Translations of proper nouns are not necessarily official English translations.

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From the City of Hiroshima

Cash Benefit to Help with the Rising Cost of Living

広島市からのお知らせ：価格高騰重点支援給付金

As a general measure to help with the cost of living, the City of Hiroshima will provide financial aid for low-income households (those exempt from residents tax) that are particularly impacted by the increase in financial burden due to rising cost of living.

For more information about the benefit, including who is eligible to receive it and how to apply, please visit the Hiroshima City's official website:

<https://www.city.hiroshima.lg.jp/site/english/308467.html>

Eligible households:

Category A

Households with a residence record in Hiroshima City in which all members are exempt from the 2023 *kintō wari* (flat rate) per capita residents tax as of the reference date (December 1, 2023).

Category B

Households with a residence record in Hiroshima City in which all members are exempt from the 2023 income-based *shotoku wari* (rate based on your income from the previous year) residents tax as of the reference date (December 1, 2023).

 **Please note it is not possible to receive multiple payments.**

Category A	Households with a residence record in Hiroshima City in which all members are exempt from the 2023 <i>kintō wari</i> (flat rate) per capita residents tax as of the reference date (December 1, 2023).
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Amount to be provided

70,000 yen per household

Application deadline

May 31 (Friday), 2024 (must be postmarked by this date)

Note: the deadline for additional funds for newborns (born on or after December 2, 2023) is August 30, 2024 (Fri) (must be postmarked by this date).

How to apply:

- (a) For households that qualified for and received the previous Cash Benefit to Help with the Rising Costs of Electricity, Gas, and Food (30,000 yen per household):
 - The City of Hiroshima has sent a notice to you with information such as the bank account the money will be deposited into and the date of deposit. Please be sure to read it carefully. If there are no issues with the information, then you do not need to submit any paperwork for this benefit.

- The cash benefits were deposited into the bank accounts of the eligible households on either December 27, 2023, or January 23, 2024.
 - The application period for the Cash Benefit to Help with the Rising Cost of Electricity, Gas, and Food (30,000 yen per household) ended on September 29, 2023.
- (b) For households exempt from *kintō wari* (flat rate) per capita residents tax known to the City of Hiroshima other than (a)
- The City of Hiroshima will mail an application to you. Please fill out the paperwork and return them via the stamped and addressed return envelope included in the packet. (Applications have been sent as of December 22, 2023.)
- (c) For households exempt from *kintō wari* (flat rate) per capita residents tax unknown to the City of Hiroshima

Examples of these households include:

Those without tax information in Hiroshima City (for reasons such as moving to Hiroshima City on or after January 2, 2023) or those who have become exempt from per capita residents tax due to an amended tax return.

- In order to receive the benefit, you must submit an application.
- Please print the application form (located below), fill in the necessary information, and send them along with additional necessary documents to the City of Hiroshima Office for the Cash Benefit to Help with the Rising Cost of Living.
- For more information, please consult with the City of Hiroshima Office for the Cash Benefit to Help with the Rising Costs of Living (Tel: 082-569-4504)

Application form (PDF)

Print the application form (PDF) from the City's official website (Japanese):

<https://www.city.hiroshima.lg.jp/soshiki/54/325599.html>



Application Form (PDF) :

https://www.city.hiroshima.lg.jp/uploaded/life/369390_793529_misc.pdf



Where to send applications

〒730-8712
 広島中央郵便局私書箱第100号
 広島市役所健康福祉局健康福祉企画課
 広島市価格高騰重点支援給付金事務処理センター

City of Hiroshima Office for the Cash Benefit to Help with the Rising Costs of Living
 Health and Welfare Planning Division,
 Health and Welfare Bureau
 City of Hiroshima
 Hiroshima Central Post Office PO Box 100
 730-8712

Category B	Households with a residence record in Hiroshima City in which all members are exempt from the 2023 income-based <u>shotoku wari</u> (rate based on your income from the previous year) residents tax as of the reference date (December 1, 2023).
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Amount to be provided

100,000 yen per household

Application deadline

May 31 (Friday), 2024 (must be postmarked by this date)

Note: the deadline for additional funds for newborns (born on or after December 2, 2023) is August 30, 2024 (Fri) (must be postmarked by this date)

How to apply

- (a) For households exempt from income-based shotoku wari residents tax known to the City of Hiroshima
- The City of Hiroshima will mail an application to you. Please fill out the paperwork and return them via the stamped and addressed return envelope included in the packet. (Applications have been sent as of February 6, 2024)
- (b) For households exempt from income-based shotoku wari residents tax unknown to the City of Hiroshima
- An example of these households includes those without tax information in Hiroshima City (for reasons such as moving to Hiroshima City on or after January 2, 2023) or those who have become exempt from per income-based residents tax due to an amended tax return.
- In order to receive the benefit, you must submit an application.

- Please print the application form (located below), fill in the necessary information, and send them along with additional necessary documents to the City of Hiroshima Office for the Cash Benefit to Help with the Rising Cost of Living.
- For more information, please consult with the City of Hiroshima Office for the Cash Benefit to Help with the Rising Costs of Living (Tel: 082-569-4504).

Application form (PDF)

Print the application form (PDF) from the City's official website (Japanese):

<https://www.city.hiroshima.lg.jp/soshiki/54/366743.html>

Application form (PDF)

https://www.city.hiroshima.lg.jp/uploaded/life/372355_804453_misc.pdf



Where to send applications

〒730-8712

広島中央郵便局私書箱第100号

広島市役所健康福祉局健康福祉企画課

広島市価格高騰重点支援給付金事務処理センター

City of Hiroshima Office for the Cash Benefit to Help with the Rising Costs of Living
Health and Welfare Planning Division,
Health and Welfare Bureau
City of Hiroshima
Hiroshima Central Post Office PO Box 100
730-8712

Additional funds for households with children

If the eligible households listed above have children who meet the criteria, they will be provided with an additional 50,000 yen per child under the age of 18 at the time of the reference date (December 1, 2023). For details including criteria and how to apply, please inquire to the City of Hiroshima Office for the Cash Benefit to Help with the Rising Costs of Living.

Note: "child" refers to children born on or after April 2, 2005 (eligible until March 31 after the child's 18th birthday)

Support centers

- ☀️ If you have any questions or concerns about the benefit (for example, you have not received it even though you are exempt from residents tax, or how to tell if you are qualified, how to apply, etc.), please call the following number:

City of Hiroshima Office for the Cash Benefit to Help with the Rising Cost of Living

Tel: 082-569-4504 // **Fax:** 082-569-4507

Hours: 9 am-5:15 pm

Closed: Saturdays, Sundays, and national holidays

☀ If you are not confident in your Japanese, please contact the office below:

Hiroshima City & Aki County International Resident Consultation Service

Tel: 082-241-5010

Hours of operation: Monday to Friday 9 am-4 pm

Closed: Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays, August 6 and December 29-January 3

Available languages: Japanese, English, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Filipino

Note: Filipino is available on Fridays and the 1st and 3rd Thursdays.

Certification of Family Register Available at Any Municipal Government Offices

戸籍証明書がどこでも請求できるようになりました ひろしま市民と市政 3月1日号 (P3)

Until now you could only obtain your Certification of Family Register at the local government office where your domicile is filed; however, beginning March 1, 2024, the documents can be issued at any local government office. Even if you live or work in a city where your domicile is not filed, you can request the documents at your nearest local office.

Certificates you can obtain at the office where your domicile is not filed:

- ・ 戸籍全部事項証明書 (Certificate of whole family register (certificate of all registered matters on family register // *Koseki Zenbu Jikō Shōmeisho*)
- ・ 除籍全部事項証明書 (謄本) (Certified Copy of Removed Family Register // *Joseki Zenbu Jikō Shōmeisho*)

Certificates you can only obtain at the office where your domicile is filed:

- ・ The above certificates that have not been computerized yet are only issued by the office where your domicile is filed.
- ・ 一部事項証明書 (Certificate of Partial Matters (family register, removals) // *Ichibu Jikō Shōmeisho*), 個人事項証明書等 (Certificate of Family Register Individual Matters (family register abstract // *Kojin Jikō Shōmeisho*) and others

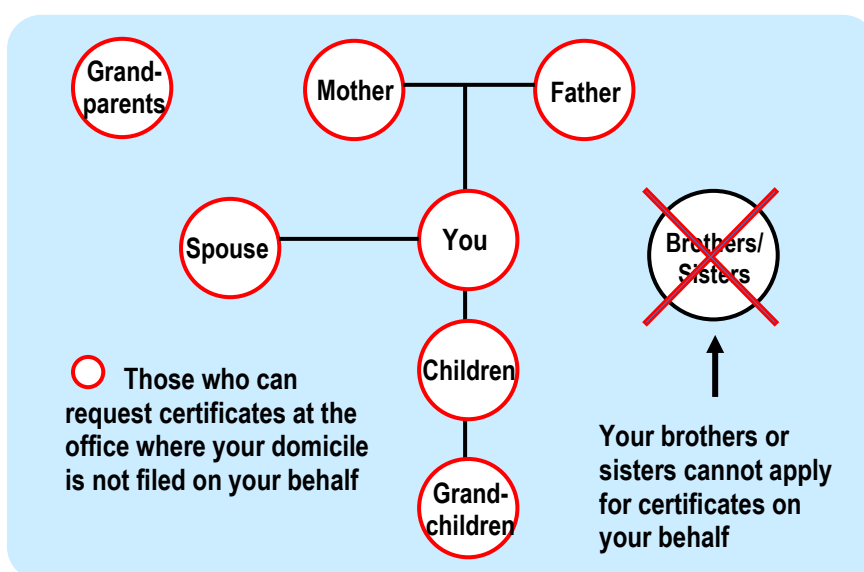
Who can request for the certificates at the office where your domicile is not filed:

Beside yourself, your family members listed below are able to request for the certificates on your behalf:

- Spouse
- Parents
- Grandparents
- Children
- Grandchildren

Note:

- Your brothers or sisters are not able to request for the certificates on your behalf at the office where your domicile is not field.
- Application for the certificates by post cannot be accepted at the office where your domicile is not field.



Things you need to submit at the office with your application:

A photo identification issued by governmental institutions such as:

- My Number Card (hard plastic card)
- Residence Card (*Zairyū Card*)
- Driver's license
- Passport

Reception desk information

Citizens Affairs Division (*Shimin Ka*) of your local ward office or branch office

Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 am-5:15 pm

Closed: National holidays

Note: The Hiroshima City Citizens Services Office and your local liaison offices are not able to issue family register certificates.

🍀 Notes

If you have several registered domiciles, it will take more time to issue your documents. Please keep this in mind if you are on a deadline.

Inquiries:

Citizens Affairs Division (*Shimin Ka*) of your local ward office or branch office

Ward	Tel	Ward	Tel
Naka Ward Office	082-504-2551	Asakita Ward Office	082-819-3907
Higashi Ward Office	082-568-7708	Shiraki Branch Office	082-828-1211
Nukushina Branch Office	082-289-2000	Koyo Branch Office	082-842-1121
Minami Ward Office	082-250-8938	Asa Branch Office	082-835-1111
Ninoshima Branch Office	082-259-2511	Aki Ward Office	082-821-4908
Nishi Ward Office	082-532-0930	Nakano Branch Office	082-893-2121
Asaminami Ward Office	082-831-4928	Ato Branch Office	082-856-0211
Satō Branch Office	082-877-1311	Yano Branch Office	082-888-1112
Gion Branch Office	082-874-3311	Saeki Ward Office	082-943-9709
Numata Branch Office	082-848-1111	Yuki Branch Office	0829-83-0111

Remember to Register Land/Homes with the Legal Affairs Bureau

令和6年(2024年)4月1日から相続登記の申請が義務になります
ひろしま市民と市政 3月15日号(P2)

Beginning April 1, 2024, if you inherit real estate (land or homes) from family members who have passed away, you will be required to register them at the Legal Affairs Bureau. This registration process is known as *Sōzoku Tōki* or “registering your inheritance.” Those who have inherited real estate before April 1, 2024, must also register them. Please note that failure to do so may lead to heavy fines. For more information, please consult with the Legal Affairs Bureau (*Hōmu Kyoku*) *Shihō-shoshi* (solicitor) lawyers.



For details on which Legal Affairs Bureau to register with, please check their website (Japanese):

<https://houmukyoku.moj.go.jp/hiroshima/table/shikyokutou/all.html>



Inquiries: Hiroshima Legal Affairs Bureau (*Hiroshima Hōmu Kyoku*) Tel: 082-228-5741

National Pension Premium Changes Beginning April 1

国民年金保険料が4月から変わります ひろしま市民と市政 3月15日号 (P6)

From April 2024 to March 2025, the monthly National Pension premium will be 16,980 yen (increase of 460 yen from the previous year). To pay via bank transfer or card, you must apply in advance.

Inquiries: Your nearest Japanese Pension Service Branch Office (*Nenkin Jimusho*)

Pension Service Branch Office	Tel
Hiroshima Higashi	082-228-3131
Hiroshima Nishi	082-535-1505
Hiroshima Minami	082-253-7710



COVID-19 Vaccinations Beginning April 2024

新型コロナワクチン 令和6年(2024年)4月からの接種について

ひろしま市民と市政 3月15日号 (P3)

The free COVID-19 vaccination program ended on March 31, 2024, and from April 2024, you will be charged a fee for COVID-19 vaccines as a rule. Municipalities will offer fee-based COVID-19 vaccines routinely to those aged 65 years and older, as well as those aged 60-64 with underlying conditions, to prevent severe cases of COVID-19. For details, please refer to the official Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare website (Japanese): <https://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/001182016.pdf>



Fee-based COVID-19 Routine Vaccination Program

Who is eligible?

Those aged 65 years and older, as well as those aged 60-64 with underlying conditions

How many shots can they receive and when?

One shot per person, the City is planning to offer vaccines to eligible people in fall or winter.

Do they have to pay for the vaccine?

Yes, this is fee-based vaccination program.

Notes:

- If you are younger than 65, you may still receive COVID-19 vaccines as an optional vaccine for which you will be charged a fee. You can receive vaccines at medical facilities offering

individual vaccinations. Please confirm with the medical facility where you want to receive your vaccine for details.

- You can no longer use vaccine coupons that you received from municipalities.
- The Hiroshima City COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center (*Hiroshima-shi Shingata Korona-uirusu Wakuchin Sesshu Kōru Sentā*) closed on March 31, 2024. Municipalities have also shut down their online reservation system as well.

COVID-19: Consultation Centers Beginning April 2024

令和6年(2024年)4月から 新型コロナウイルス感染症の相談窓口を変更します
ひろしま市民と市政 3月15日号(P3)

Inquiries: Health Promotion Division (*Kenkō Suishin Ka*) Tel: 082-504-2622

General Consultation

Consult with your own primary care physicians or public health centers of your local ward office.

Public Health Center (*Hoken Sentā*)

Ward	Telephone	Fax	Hours
Naka	082-504-2528	082-504-2175	Monday to Friday 8:30 am-5:15 pm Closed: National holidays, August 6, Dec. 29-1/3
Higashi	082-568-7729	082-568-7790	
Minami	082-250-4108	082-254-4030	
Nishi	082-294-6235	082-294-6113	
Asaminami	082-831-4942	082-870-2255	
Asakita	082-819-0586	082-819-0602	
Aki	082-821-2809	082-821-2832	
Saeki	082-943-9731	082-923-1611	



Consultation available on weekends and holidays

Please refer to the following website for Information about clinics available on weekends and holidays:

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare website

医療情報ネット (*Iryō Jōhō Net, Medical Information Network*)

<https://www.iryō.teikyouseido.mhlw.go.jp/znk-web/juminkanja/S2300/initialize>

Note: Machine translation system is available.

If you are not sure whether you should see a doctor

Consult with the *Kyūkyū Sōdan Sentā* (Medical Services Consultation Center). An operator and consultant (nurse) are available to take individuals calls and give advice based on their situation (advice is given in Japanese only).

☒ Emergency Consultation Center (Hiroshima Regional Urban Area) (*Kyūkyū Sōdan Sentā Hiroshima Kōiki Toshi Ken*)

Tel: #7119 or 082-246-2000

- ❖ Please note these services are in Japanese.
- ❖ Telephone lines open 24 hours/day.
- ❖ Consultation is free, but you will be charged for the call.

★ Both the Hiroshima City COVID-19 Call Center (Tel: 082-241-4566) and telephone consultation service for COVID-19 patients recovering at home (Tel: 0570-00-510) were closed on March 31, 2024.

Holiday Trash Collection Schedule in April & May 2024

2024年4月と5月の祝・休日のごみの収集スケジュール

○ . . . Garbage collected × . . . Garbage is NOT collected

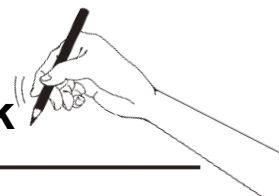
National Holiday	Burnable Trash/Plastic Bottles/Recyclable Plastics in your local ward	Recyclable & Harmful Waste/ Non-combustible/Other in your local ward
April 29 (Monday)	○	×
May 3 (Friday)	×	○
May 6 (Monday)	×	○

For more information, please refer to the official The City of Hiroshima's website (Japanese).

Inquiries: City Office Environmental Bureau, Operation Division I
(*Kankyō Kyoku Gyōmu Dai-ichi Ka*) Tel: 082-504-2220

Useful Japanese daily
rules and customs

Help Mark and Maternity Mark



Featured words: Help Mark & Maternity Mark

Help Mark

The **Help Mark** is to identify people who may need assistance, even if their conditions are not visible on the outside. Help Marks make it easier for people to understand that someone may need assistance, even though they may look like they do not.

Who are Help Marks for?

- Those who have prosthetic limb or joints
- Those who have internal health issues or serious illnesses
- Those in the early stages of pregnancy



Help Mark

Where can I get a Help Mark?

Help Marks are distributed to those who need it at Hiroshima City Hall (Disabled Citizens Welfare Division // *Shōgai Fukushi Ka*), your local ward office (Welfare Division // *Fukushi Ka*), branch office, or the Physically Disabled Citizens Development Consultation Office (*Shintai Shōgai-sha Kōsei Sōdansho*).

Note: The Physically Disabled Citizens Development Consultation Office is located in the Hiroshima City General Rehabilitation Center (Address: 39-1 Tomo-minami 1-chome, Asaminami-ku).

What to do if you see someone with a Help Mark

- Offer them your seat on buses or trains.
- Offer assistance to them if they appear to need help.

Maternity Mark

The **Maternity Mark** is worn by a pregnant woman. During the early stages pregnancy, it's sometimes difficult to discern if someone is pregnant. The Maternity Mark helps people understand the expectant mother may require assistance and consideration.



Maternity Mark

Where can I get a Maternity Mark?

The Maternity Mark can be obtained at your local ward office when you receive your Maternal and Child Health Handbook (*Boshi Kenkō Techō*).

What to do if you see someone wearing the Maternity Mark

- Offer them your seat on buses or trains.
 - If they seem unwell, reach out and offer assistance.
 - Refrain from smoking around them.
- ★ Wearing Help Mark and Maternity Mark is up to individual choice and not required.

Hiroshima City & Aki County International Resident Consultation Service

Where	Supported Languages	Days	Time
International Conference Center Hiroshima	English	Monday to Friday	9:00 am – 4:00 pm
	Chinese		
	Portuguese		
	Spanish		
	Vietnamese		
	Filipino	Fridays 1 st and 3 rd Thursdays	
Aki Ward Office	Portuguese	2 nd Wednesday	10:15 am – 12:30 pm 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm
	Spanish	3 rd Thursday	
Motomachi Kanri Jimusho	Chinese	2 nd Tuesday	

- ★ Closed on national holidays, August 6, and December 29 through January 3.
- Consultations for Filipino is available on Fridays, and it will have other available openings outside of Friday. Please check our Japanese, English or Filipino website.
- If you need someone who can speak in languages other than those listed above, please contact us to arrange a consultation.
- On the 2nd Friday of every month, from 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm, Regional Immigration Bureau staff come to the Service to offer guidance on problems regarding residency status. (Reservation required)
- Our consultation staff can provide a simple orientation on life in Hiroshima City for new arrivals. (Reservation required)

Hiroshima City & Aki County International Resident Consultation Service

International Conference Center Hiroshima (*Hiroshima Kokusai Kaigi-jō*), in Peace Memorial Park
Hiroshima-shi Naka-ku Nakajima-cho 1-5

Tel: 082-241-5010 // Fax: 082-242-7452

E-mail: soudan@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

URL: <https://h-ircd.jp/en/guide/consultation-en.html>

