Informational Newsletter for English-Speaking Residents

# Hiroshima NOW



English No. 29

2024

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 email to the following address: internat@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

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## From the City of Hiroshima

# Cash Benefit to Help with the Rising Cost of Living

広島市価格高騰重点支援給付金について 「ひろしま市民と市政」8月 I 日号(P3)

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.

# **Eligibility**

#### **Category A**

Households with a residence record in Hiroshima City in which all members are exempt from the 2024 *kintō wari* (flat rate) per capita residents tax as of the reference date (June 3, 2024)

#### Category B

Households with a residence record in Hiroshima City in which all members are exempt from the 2024 income-based <u>shotoku wari</u> (rate based on your income from the previous year) residents tax as of the reference date (June 3, 2024) other than Category A.

- Even if your household meet the above qualifications, you will be ineligible for the benefit if you fall under the following conditions:
  - If you have a household member who is not residents tax exempt
  - If all members of the household are dependents of a sustainer who is not residents tax exempt
  - If you have already received the 2023 fiscal year's benefit under the Cash Benefit to Help with the Rising Costs of Electricity, Gas, and Food (for 70,000 yen; 100,000 yen or additional funds for children (50,000 yen each))

Note: Those who were qualified for the 2023 fiscal year's benefit (for 70,000 yen; 100,000 yen or additional funds for children (50,000 yen each)) but did not receive the benefit are ineligible for the 2024 fiscal year benefit.

For more information about the benefit, including who is eligible to receive it and how to apply, please inquire at the call center (Tel. 082-569-4504) or visit the Hiroshima City's official website (in Japanese): https://www.city.hiroshima.lg.jp/soshiki/54/384015.html

## Amount to be provided

100,000 yen per household

#### Application deadline

October 31 (Thursday), 2024 (must be postmarked by this date)

#### How to apply

■ For households that fall under either Category A or B
The City of Hiroshima has sent a Payment Confirmation Form (確認書// Kakunin-sho) to
households that fall under either Category A or B mentioned above in July. Please be sure to
read it carefully, and apply it according to the instruction.

■ If you belong to an eligible household listed above and have not received any notification from the City of Hiroshima, please inquire at the City of Hiroshima's office for the benefit. In order to receive the benefit, you must submit an application.

#### 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, 2024
- Those who have become exempt from per capita residents tax due to an amended tax return.

## Additional funds for households with children

If the eligible households listed above have a child/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 (June 3, 2024). 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.

#### [Criteria for children]

 Member of the household and 18 years or younger at the time of the reference date (June 3, 2024)

Note: "child" refers to children born on or after April 2, 2006

· Child (new born) born on or sometime between June 4, 2024 and October 31, 2024 Note: You must apply by the deadline (October 31, 2024)

# Support centers

For more information about the benefit, please visit the Hiroshima City's official website: https://www.city.hiroshima.lg.jp/soshiki/54/384015.html (in Japanese)



👺 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

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, Chinese, English, Filipino, Portuguese, Spanish, Vietnamese

Note: Filipino is available on Fridays and the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month.

## Japanese Language for Work:

# **Free Training Course**

# for Promoting Stable Employment for International Residents

定住外国人等向け しごとのための日本語 「ひろしま市民と市政」8月 15 日号 (P7)

These free Japanese language classes are for those studying Japanese for the first time and/or who can speak Japanese, but are not confident in reading or writing hiragana and/or katakana.

# What is the aim of this training?

This course aims to promote stable employment for international residents by providing opportunities to learn Japanese used in the workplace, as well as business customs and employment practices.

#### Who can apply?

Permanent residents, spouses or children of Japanese nationals, spouses or children of permanent residents, or long-term residents, who are seeking employment or are currently employed

#### When and where the classes will be held?

Period: October 11, 2024 to January 14, 2025 Days: Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays

Time: 6 pm-9 pm (33 classes in total)
Place: <u>Hiroshima City International House</u>

(1-1 Nishi-kojin-machi, Minami-ku) <u>Hiroshima City Sōqō Fukushi Center</u>

(BIG FRONT Hiroshima 5F & 6F, 5-1 Matsubara-cho, Minami-ku)



#### How to apply

Apply directly to your local Hello Work (Hello Work Hiroshima or Hello Work Hiroshima-higashi)

Application deadline: Friday, September 27 Maximum number for the course: 20 people

- ▶ Please make sure to bring an ID photo (H4cm x W3cm) and resident card or passport when you apply.
- ▶ If the number of applicants substantially exceeds our expectation, we may close the application before the deadline.

#### ★ Placement Test ★

All participants are required to take the placement test to determine their Japanese level. Please note that if the test results indicate that none of the course levels would be appropriate for your level, you may be asked to participate in upcoming courses instead. Please bring a pencil and an eraser for the placement test.

Date & Time: October 4 (Fri), 6:00 pm

Place: Hiroshima City International House 2F, Seminar Room 2 (Kenshu-shitsu 2)

#### Inquiries:

Please check the following information sources:

■ JICE local coordinator (Sajeda)

Tel: 080-4336-1340 Email: tabunka21@softbank.ne.jp

Please note that this service will be provided in Japanese and English.

■ Websites

JICE: https://www.jice.org/tabunka/course/

JICE Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/jice.tabunka/



- Your local Hello Work
  - ① Hello Work Hiroshima (4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Hiroshima Shimizu Building, 8-2 Kami-hatchobori, Naka-ku) Tel: 082-511-1181
  - ② Hello Work Hiroshima-higashi (13-7 Hikarigaoka, Higashi-ku) Tel: 082-261-0176

# From the City of Hiroshima

# **Tuberculosis awareness**

広島市からのお知らせ:なかなか治らない力ゼは結核かもしれません

Tuberculosis (TB) is an infectious disease. It spreads through the air when infected people cough, sneeze, or spit. There are some people who, despite being infected with TB bacteria, do not present symptoms or develop TB, spending rest of their lives with TB bacteria. However, when their immune systems become weaken with age, for example, they are susceptible to developing TB.

Common symptoms of TB are similar to symptoms of the common cold, such as prolonged low-grade fever, cough (sometimes with sputum), and fatigue. If you fall ill with TB disease and do not undergo any treatment, your condition may get worse, sometimes resulting in death. In addition, you might spread tuberculosis infection to your family, friends and people close to you.

60% of people infected with TB in Japan are aged 70 and over. However, recently young people who were born in foreign countries are increasingly contracting TB, accounting for 70% of infected people in their 20s in Japan.

If you have prolonged cold symptoms, please go to your primary care physician and seek medical attention as soon as possible. For early detection please take advantage of receiving a regular health check-up held at a school or workplace if available. If you are advised to take a follow-up examination at a health check-up, an early examination is recommended.

Inquiries: Health Promotion Division (Kenkō Suishin Ka) Tel: 082-504-2882

# Water and Sewage Bill Exemption

水道料金・下水道使用料の減免制度「ひろしま市民と市政」8月 I 日号 (P5)

Some households can be exempted from up to the cost of 10m<sup>3</sup> of water per month.

## Who are eligible?

- 1 6 below are eligible:
  - 1 Households receiving Public Assistance (Seikatsu Hogo)
  - ② Households with anyone receiving government support for the Japanese remaining in China after the war, etc.
  - ③ Households with family members holding or receiving one of the following certificates and/or allowances:

#### [Certificates]

- Grade 1, 2 or 3 of the Physical Disability Certificate (Shintai Shōgaisha Techō 身体障害者手帳)
- (A), A or (B) of the Special Needs Certificate (Ryōiku Techō 療育手帳)
- Grade 1 or 2 of the Mental Disability Certificate (*Seishin Shōgaisha Hoken Fukushi Techō* せいしんしょうがいしゃほけんふくしてちょう 精神障害者保健福祉手帳)

#### [Allowances]

- Special Childrearing Allowance (*Tokubetsu Jidō Fuyō Teate* 特別児童扶養手当)
- Disability Basic Pension (*Shōgai Kiso Nenkin* 障害基礎年金)
- Disability Pension (*Shōgai Nenkin*, Grade 1 or 2 障害年金(Ⅰ・2級))
- ④ Households with persons aged 65 or older who are certified as needing care (Grade 4 or 5)
- ⑤ Single parent households
- 6 Some private social welfare institutions

Note: For ③ and ④, they must not be staying in a hospital or institution.

For ③, ④ and ⑤, there is an income limit.

For more details, please inquire with the relevant office.



#### **Deduction amount**

Up to the cost of 10m<sup>3</sup> of water per month (For more details, please inquire with the relevant office.)

## How to apply:

Visit either the Waterworks Bureau's service station for your area or the Public Welfare Department of your ward office. Bring proof that you are eligible. For more information, please check the Waterworks Bureau's website.

https://www.water.city.hiroshima.lg.jp/ (in Japanese)

Inquiries: Waterworks Bureau Operation Management Division

(Gyōmu Kanri Ka) Tel: 082-511-6911

# Allowance for People with Disabilities

特別児童扶養手当・障害児福祉手当・特別障害者手当の申請を「ひろしま市民と市政」8月 15 日号 (P6)

The following allowances are income based. If you are eligible for any of the following, you can apply for them at your ward office. For more information, please contact the relevant number in the table below.

#### ① Special Childrearing Allowance (Tokubetsu Jidō Fuyō Teate)

For people who are raising children under the age of 20 who have intellectual or physical disabilities (moderate to severe) and need full-time care in daily life

## 2 Allowance for Disabled Children (Shōgaiji Fukushi Teate)

For children under the age of 20 who have severe intellectual or physical disabilities, who live at home and need full-time care in daily life

#### ③ Allowance for Disabled People Needing Special Care (Tokubetsu Shōgaisha Teate)

For people aged 20 or older who have severe intellectual or physical disabilities, who live at home and need special, full-time care in daily life

Note: If you already received an allowance, do not forget to report your current income situation by September 11 (Wed) to the Welfare Division (Fukushi Ka) of your ward office.



**Inquiries:** Your ward office's Welfare Division (*Fukushi Ka*)

| Ward    | Tel          | Ward      | Tel          |
|---------|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| Naka    | 082-504-2588 | Asaminami | 082-831-4946 |
| Higashi | 082-568-7734 | Asakita   | 082-819-0608 |
| Minami  | 082-250-4132 | Aki       | 082-821-2816 |
| Nishi   | 082-294-6346 | Saeki     | 082-943-9769 |

# Holiday trash collection schedule in August and September

2024年9月と10月の祝・休日のごみの収集について

Trash will be collected as usual on the following holidays:

- September 16 (Monday, Respect for the Aged Day)
- September 23 (Monday, a substitute holiday for Autumnal Equinox Day)
- October 14 (Monday, Sports Day)

For more information about waste disposal guidelines, please visit the City of Hiroshima's official

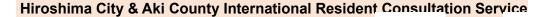
website (English)



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



\$\text{\$\text{\$\gequiv\$} If you are not confident in your Japanese, please contact the office below:



**Tel:** 082-241-5010

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

Website: https://h-ircd.jp/en/guide/consultation-en.html

**Hours:** 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 Wednesday of the month.



