Hiroshima NOW

4

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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.

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

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).

Table of Contents

- Cash benefit to help with the rising cost of living
- Portal website for online procedures
- Pre-register notifications of pregnancy with the "Boshimo" app
- Subscription service for diapers at municipal nursery schools
- Illegal drug abuse is always illegal
- Be sure to join National Pension and Health Insurance
- Report or process your light motor vehicle tax
- National Pension Premium changes beginning April 1
- Livelihood Support Centers: Kurashi Sapōto Sentā
- Hiroshima City Consumer Affairs Centre's consultation hours are changing
- Holiday trash collection in April and May
- 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

広島市価格高騰重点支援給付金「ひろしま市民と市政」3月1日号(p2)

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:

Eligibility

Households with a residence record in Hiroshima City in which all members are exempt from the 2024 <u>kintō wari</u> (flat rate) per capita residents tax as of the reference date (December 13, 2024).

Amount to be provided

30,000 yen per household

Application deadline

June 30 (Monday), 2025 (must be postmarked by this date)

How to apply:

▶ Category A

For households that qualified for and received the previous Cash Benefit to Help with the Rising Costs of Electricity, Gas, and Food:

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.

▶ Category B

For households exempt from <u>kintō wari</u> (flat rate) per capita residents tax known to the City of Hiroshima other than Category 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 January 24, 2025.)

Category C

For households exempt from <u>kintō wari</u> (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, 2024) 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/living/fukushi-kaigo/1021239/1032211.html



Where to send applications

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〒730-8712
広島中央郵便局私書箱第 100 号
給付金事務センター
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City of Hiroshima Office for the Cash Benefit to Help with the Rising Costs of Living 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 20,000 yen per child under the age of 18 at the time of the reference date (December 13, 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 or go to the City's official website (Japanese):

https://www.city.hiroshima.lg.jp/living/fukushi-kaigo/1021239/1032211.html



Criteria for children:

- (1) "child" refers to children born on or after April 2, 2006 (eligible until March 31 after the child's 18th birthday)
- (2) Newborn babies born on or after December 14, 2024, but no later than the application deadline which is June 30, 2025.

Note: Application documents must be submitted by the deadline, June 30, 2025.

- (3) Child is in a different household but is a dependent. Notes:
- There are cases in which those living outside of their legal domicile due to domestic abuse can receive the Benefit. For more information, please inquire at the City's office for the cash benefit below.

- The following households are not eligible to receive the benefit:
 - If there is a member(s) who is taxed for residents tax in your household
 - If all members of the household are dependents of a sustainer who is not residents tax exempt
- Those who are exempted from residents tax because your home country is part of the Income Tax Convention with Japan are not eligible for this benefit.

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

Telephone: 082-569-4504

Hours of operation: Monday to Friday 9 am-5:15 pm

Closed: Saturdays, Sundays, and public/national holidays

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

Hiroshima City & Aki County International Resident Consultation Service

Telephone: 082-241-5010

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

Closed: Saturdays, Sundays, public/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.

Please use the portal website for online procedures

オンライン手続きポータルサイトのご利用を「ひろしま市民と市政」3月1日号 (p2)

There are an increasing number of Hiroshima City Hall procedures including various registrations available online. On the "The City of Hiroshima Online Procedures Portal Website" you can search for online procedures that can be performed on smartphones and other internet capable devices.

Examples of procedures you can work through using the "The City of Hiroshima Online Procedure Portal Website"

- Applications to borrow from city libraries or issue a library card
- Receipt of notifications for the setup and cancellation of water utilities, as well as applications for direct debiting of water and/or sewage bills
- Applications for collection of large garbage

 Applications for Certificates of Residence, copies of family registrations, or of personal licences

Et cetera

How to use

- Access the "The City of Hiroshima Online Procedure Portal Website" https://apply.e-tumo.jp/city-hiroshima-u/offer/offerList_initDisplayTop

- 2. Input required information into the search form
- 3. Select the application procedure you would like to perform
- 4. Confirm the contents, and apply

Inquiries: Information Systems Division Tel. 082-504-2019



Pre-register notifications of pregnancy with the "Boshimo" app

妊娠届の事前申請をアプリで簡単に「ひろしま市民と市政」3月15日号(p3)



The Hiroshima child rearing support app, "Boshimo," can be used from April onward to preregister Notifications of Pregnancy.

The "Boshimo" app supports women all the way from pregnancy through child rearing. There are systems to track and manage health records during pregnancy, and maturation records of the foetus/child.

In April it is newly adding the ability to pre-register Notifications of Pregnancy using the application. After pre-registration, please collect a Maternal and Child Health Handbook (Boshi Kenkō Techō) from your local ward office.

Introducing convenient functions of "Boshimo"!

- ★ Pre-registering your Notification of Pregnancy will speed up the process at the actual ward office window.
- ★ The app can automatically calculate dates for and schedule vaccinations. When the date draws near, it can alert you by push notifications.
- ★ It can give advice tailored to the age of your child or week of pregnancy, as well as distributing information about child rearing-related events and notifications regarding various welfare benefits related to your child rearing.

To download the app or for more detailed information, please visit the Hiroshima City Hall website:

https://www.city.hiroshima.lg.jp/living/kosodate/1021253/1025911/1003514.html

Inquiries: Children and Adolescents' Support Department Tel. 082-504-2623

Starting Subscription Service for diapers at municipal nursery schools

市立保育園などでおむつのサブスクリプションサービスを開始 「ひろしま市民と市政」3月15日号(p7)

A flat-rate service starting from April offers unlimited diapers at municipal nursery schools and similar institutions. Using this system will mean there is no more need to bring additional diapers to your child's nursery school. For more details, please inquire at the below telephone number.

Target

Guardians of children under the age of 1 attending municipal nursery schools (保育園//Hoikuen) and certified child care centers (認定こども園//Nintei-kodomo-en)

Available from

April 1, 2025

Fee

2,180 yen per month





Applications

Please apply through the BABY JOB website: https://baby-job.co.jp/niko-niko-touen/



Inquiries: BABY JOB Tel. 0120-02-8841 (Toll Free)

Illegal drug abuse is always illegal

薬物乱用は「ダメ。ゼッタイ」「ひろしま市民と市政」3月1日号(p3)

The impetus for drug use often comes from someone close to you. When invited to partake, **firmly refuse**. If it is hard to refuse, **get out of there**.

Cannabis abuse amongst young people is on the rise

70% of those arrested under cannabis charges are under the age of 30. The internet is full of misinformation regarding cannabis – such as that it has no ill effects on the body, or that it does not cause dependence. On the contrary, cannabis has been proven to have various effects on the human brain.

Drug abuse related brain damage

Drug abuse has been connected to brain damage, memory loss, and reduction in emotional regulation, as well as various other ill effects. In particular, brains still in development (as in those of younger people) are more susceptible to these ill effects than fully developed, older brains. As far as addiction goes, just because you think you can stop, does not mean that you actually could.

Be wary of pharmaceuticals! Overdoses are still dangerous drug use!

Overdoses on over-the-counter medications such as cold medicines are becoming more prevalent, particularly amongst young people. Just because the medications are easily accessed, does not mean that overdoses are not dangerous. Please carefully read instructions, and follow dosage amounts and methods closely.

When in doubt, get in touch

- Hiroshima Mental Health and Welfare Center Tel. 082-245-7731
- Public Welfare Centers by ward

Ward	Telephone	Ward	Telephone
Naka	082-504-2109	Asaminami	082-831-4944
Higashi	082-568-7735	Asakita	082-819-0616
Minami	082-250-4133	Aki	082-821-2820
Nishi	082-294-6384	Saeki	082-943-9733



No longer employed? Be sure to join National Pension and Health Insurance

会社などを退職した人へ 国民年金の届け出や医療保険への加入などをお忘れなく 「ひろしま市民と市政」3月1日号(p5)

National Pension (Kokumin Nenkin)

If you are aged 20 to 59 and have withdrawn from Employee Pension Insurance (*Kōsei Nenkin Hoken*), you must enroll in National Pension (*Kokumin Nenkin*). If your spouse is aged 20 to 59 and they are your dependent, they must also be enrolled in National Pension. In order to receive pension, including Pension for the Elderly (*Rōrei Nenkin*) in the future, you must be enrolled.

Inquiries: National Insurance and Pension Division (Hoken Nenkin Ka) of your ward office

Ward	Telephone	Ward	Telephone
Naka	082-504-2556	Asaminami	082-831-4931
Higashi	082-568-7712	Asakita	082-819-3910
Minami	082-250-8944	Aki	082-821-4910
Nishi	082-532-0935	Saeki	082-943-9713



Medical Insurance

As a general rule, all Japanese citizens must have medical insurance: National Health Insurance (*Kokumin Kenkō Hoken*), Late-Stage Elderly Medical Care (*Kōki Kōreisha Iryō-seido*), or Health Insurance (*Kenkō Hoken*). International residents who will be in Japan for more than three months should also enroll into one of the three insurance systems.

If you no longer have medical insurance because you have left your job, it is necessary to enroll in a new plan. In general, you have three options:

- 1 Keep your previous insurance
- ② Join a family member's medical insurance as a dependent family member (note that this cannot be done with National Health Insurance (*Kokumin Kenkō Hoken*))
- 3 Enroll in National Health Insurance

How to apply depends on what type of insurance you want to apply for. If you choose ① or ②, talk to your employer before you leave your job. If you choose ③, talk to the National Insurance and Pension Division (*Hoken Nenkin Ka*) at your local ward office (below).

Inquiries: National Insurance and Pension Division (Hoken Nenkin Ka) of your ward office

Ward	Telephone	Ward	Telephone
Naka	082-504-2555	Asaminami	082-831-4929
Higashi	082-568-7711	Asakita	082-819-3909
Minami	082-250-8941	Aki	082-821-4910
Nishi	082-532-0933	Saeki	082-943-9712

Please report or process your light motor vehicle tax

軽自動車税(種別割)などの申告・手続きをお忘れなく「ひろしま市民と市政」3月1日号(P5)

If the following applies to you, please report your light motor vehicle tax before the deadline.

- Those who have a vehicle classified as a light vehicle, or those who have moved their registered parking lot from outside of Hiroshima city to within Hiroshima city, should process or report this within 15 days.
- Those with unregistered vehicles or for vehicles which are currently transferring ownership, those who have stopped owning a light vehicle, or those who have moved their registered parking lot from Hiroshima city to outside of Hiroshima city, should process or report this within 30 days.



Where to submit your documents

For (2), (3) and (4) you will also need to process (within 15 days) a change in statement content such as of the automobile inspection certificate. For more details please inquire.

Vehicle Category		Document Submission	Inquiries	
	Motorized bicycles	For Acquisition <u>Municipal Tax Offices</u>		
1	(Under 125cc or under1.0kw) Small special	Your closest municipal tax office (Shizei Jimusho), or tax room (Zeimu Shitsu)	Chuo: 082-504-2558 Higashi: 082-568-7715 Nishi: 082-532-0937 Kita: 082-831-4932	
	purpose vehicles (agricultural	For Deregistration	<u>Tax Rooms</u> Minami: 082-250-8946	
	tractors, forklifts, etc)	Your closest municipal tax office, tax room, or branch office	Aki: 082-821-4913 Saeki: 082-943-9716 Asakita: 082-819-3913	
2	Two-wheeled vehicles (Over 125cc and under 250cc)	Chugoku Transport & Tourism Bureau, Hiroshima Branch Office		
3	Two-wheeled vehicles (Over 250cc)	(4- 13-13-2 Kanon-shinmachi, Nishi-ku) Tel. 050-5540-2068 *Automatic Voice Guidance		
4	Light motor vehicles	Light Motor Vehicle Inspection Organization Hiroshima Management Office (4-13-13-4 Kanon-shinmachi, Nishi-ku) Tel. 050-3816-3080 *Automatic Voice Guidance		

Please be aware

The light motor vehicle tax is collected every year from those who own a light motor vehicle and mainly park it in Hiroshima city as of April 1. Even if you deregister a vehicle after April 2, you must still pay the full amount for that year.

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 2025 to March 2026, the monthly National Pension premium will be 17,510 yen (increase of 530 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	Telephone
Hiroshima Higashi	082-228-3131
Hiroshima Nishi	082-535-1505
Hiroshima Minami	082-253-7710



Livelihood Support Centers: Kurashi Sapōto Sentā

経済的にお困りの人はご相談を「ひろしま市民と市政」3月15日号(p6)

To help those facing financial difficulties, each of the City's eight wards have devoted help centers (*Kurashi Sapōto Sentā*) where individuals can receive guidance to get them back on track.

Consultation services are available to residents who live within city limits and are experiencing financial difficulties (For individuals who are currently receiving public welfare, known as *seikatsu hogo*, please seek advice from your local ward office Family & Health Services Division (*Seikatsu Ka*)).

Support is offered to both individuals or family members and is conducted on a personal level to fit the needs of each person.

For further information, please check their website (Japanese): https://shakyo-hiroshima.jp/kurashi/kurasap.html



Livelihood Support Centers (Kurashi Sapōto Sentā)

Ward	Address	Telephone
Naka	Ote-machi Heiwa Building 5F (1-1 Ote-machi 4-chome, Naka-ku)	082-545-8388
Higashi	Higashi-ku Sōgō Fukushi Sentā 4F (9-34 Higashi-kaniya-cho, Higashi-ku)	082-568-6887
Minami	Minami Ward Office's annex 3F (4-46 Minami-machi 1-chome, Minami-ku)	082-250-5677
Nishi	<i>Nishi-ku Chiiki Fukushi Sentā</i> 4F (24-1 Fukushima-cho 2-chome, Nishi-ku)	082-235-3566
Asaminami	Asaminami-ku Sōgō Fukushi Sentā 5F (38-13 Nakasu 1-chome, Asaminami-ku)	082-831-1209
Asakita	Asakita-ku Sōgō Fukushi Sentā 4F (19-22 Kabe 3-chome, Asakita-ku)	082-815-1124
Aki	Aki-ku Sōgō Fukushi Sentā 3F (2-16 Funakoshi-minami 3-chome, Aki-ku)	082-821-5662
Saeki	Saeki Ward office's annex 5F (4-5 Kairoen 1-chome, Saeki-ku)	082-943-8797

The Hiroshima City Consumer Affairs Center's consultation hours are changing

消費生活センターの相談受け付け日時が変わります「ひろしま市民と市政」3月 15 日号 (P7)

From April 1, 2025, the Hiroshima City Consumer Affairs Center will be open different days and times.

Hiroshima City Consumer Affairs Center

(6-27 Moto-machi, Naka-ku, AQ'A Hiroshima Center 8th Floor)

Opening hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 10 am – 6 pm Closed: Tuesdays, Sundays, national/public holidays, December 29 – January 3

Please use "Consumer Affairs Agency Hotline" Tel. 188

If you want to consult with the consumer affairs center on a day they are closed or otherwise unavailable, calling the "Consumer Affairs Agency Hotline" will connect you to either the National Consumer Affairs Center, or the nearby local consumer affairs consultation service. Please do utilize this service. Additionally, you can consult via email by using the City of Hiroshima's official website (Japanese).

https://www.city.hiroshima.lg.jp/living/shouhi/1021181/1006685.html

Inquiries: Hiroshima City Consumer Affairs Center Tel. 082-225-3329



Holiday trash collection in April and May

2025年4月と5月の祝休日 ごみの収集スケジュール

○ · · · Garbage collected × · · · Garbage is <u>NOT</u> 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 (Tuesday) Showa Day	0	×
May 5 (Monday) Children's Day	×	0
May 6 (Tuesday) Substitute holiday for Greenery Day	×	0

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



Hiroshima City & Aki County International Resident Consultation Service

❖ Closed on national holidays, August 6, and December 29 through January 3.

Venue	Supported Languages	When	Hours
	Spanish		
	Chinese		
International Conference Center Hiroshima 3F	Vietnamese	Monday to Friday	
	Portuguese		9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Located in Peace Memorial Park	English		
	Filipino	Fridays 1 st and 3 rd Wednesday of the month	
Aki Ward Office 2F	Portuguese	2 nd Wednesday of the month	
	Spanish	3 rd Thursday of the month	10:15 am – 12:30 pm 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm
Motomachi <i>Kanri Jimusho</i>	Chinese	2 nd Tuesday of the month	

Guidance from the Regional Immigration Bureau

On the 2nd Friday of every month from 13:30 to 16:00, a Regional Immigration Bureau staff member comes to the consultation service office to offer guidance residency status-related issues (reservation required).

- For languages other than those listed above, consultation services are provided using a multilingual translation device.
- 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 Email: soudan@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

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







