

広報ひこね (英語版)

Community

Newsletter

KOHO HIKONE

Issue Date: March 1st, 2022

Published by: Hikone Human Rights Policy Div.

March 2022



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(Hikone English Facebook Page)



(Official Hikone Website)

Contact Us	Telephone Number
Hikone City Hall	0749-22-1411 (Switch Board)
Human Rights Policy Division (To Speak to Our English Interpreter; Please Call the Number on the Right.)	0749-30-6113
FACEBOOK	http://www.facebook.com/hikone.eng

You Can Request Our On-Site English Interpreter Services at the Information Desk (1F) of the Hikone City Hall. You Can Also Speak to Our Language Interpreter Via Phone.

Please Say “EIGO TSUYAKU ONEGAI SHIMASU (English Interpreter Please)” at the City or by Phone.

This English Version of *Koho* Hikone Is Issued Monthly.

This Foreign-Language Community Newsletter Is Available At:

- Hikone Fukushi Centre
- Hikone Bunka Plaza
- Hikone City Library
- Hikone City Hall 1F
- AEON TOWN Hikone
- Nakachiku Kominkan
- Shiga Bank (Ohyabu Branch)
- “Gyomuyou Super” (Toga-cho)
- Beisia Hikone
- Hikone City Hospital
- TRAIAL Hikone
- TRAIAL Matsubara
- Inaechiku Kominkan

Interpretation Services

•Our Foreign-Language Interpreter Services Are Available At The Hikone City Hall.

Please say “*eigo-tsuuyaku-onegai-shimasu*” at the information desk of the city hall.

“えいご つうやく おねがいします”

Opening Hours: Weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.

*The availability of our interpreter services is subject to change.



(Facebook) <http://www.facebook.com/hikone.eng>



***Please Contact Each School Before You Attend.**

Japanese Language Classes in Hikone



Day	Time	Location	Organization Name	Cost
Wednesday	7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Being Prepared	Hikoneshi Kokusai Kyoukai Tel: (0749)-22-5931 *Closed until further notice.	100 yen per lesson
Saturday	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Naka-chiku Kouminkan	Hikone Kokusai Kouryu-kai VOICE Katsurada-San Tel: 090-5156-6916	100 yen per lesson
Monday to Friday *closed on holidays	①9:30 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. ②11:00 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. ③1:30 p.m. to 2:50 p.m. ④3:00 p.m. to 4:20 p.m.	Innovation Office NAYASHICHI, Shiro-machi1, 7-16	Smile Mizuno-San Tel: 070-5661-7345	200 yen per lesson
1 st , 3 rd , 4 th Saturday	10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	6F, AL-Plaza Hikone	Hikone UNESCO Association, Japanese Language Class “JUMP” Learning Japanese as a foreign language Educational support for children Tel: 090-2384-9760	Free

☆Updates on Hikone COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign



- Please bring a pair of indoor footwear, such as slippers, when getting a booster shot at Hikone Sun Place, Green Pia Hikone, or Mizuho Bunka Center.
- People over 18 who are double-vaccinated will qualify for a COVID-19 booster shot six months after getting the 2nd shot.
- The following details on the city's COVID-19 vaccination campaign are subject to change, depending on vaccine supplies, etc.
- If you want a booster shot to be administered by your family physician or at a medical institution, please call the COVID-19 vaccine appointment center or access the online vaccine appointment website to obtain more details

[Mass Booster Vaccination]

- Venues: Kusunoki Center (**KC**), Hikone City Hall (**HCH**), Mizuho Bunka Center (**MBC**), Green Pia Hikone (**GPH**), Hikone Sun Palace (**HSP**)
- Time: AM 8:45 – 11:45, PM 1:45 – 4:45

Appointments To Become Open on March 3 (Thu)

Date	Venue, Time, Vaccine Brand
Mar 17 Thu	GPH (PM, Moderna), HSP (AM, PM, Moderna)
Mar 19 Sat	HCH (PM, Moderna), GPH (PM, Moderna)
Mar 20 Sun	HCH (AM, Moderna), GPH (AM, Moderna)
Mar 21 Mon	HCH (AM, Moderna)
Mar 24 Thu	MBC (PM, Moderna),
Mar 26 Sat	HCH (PM, Pfizer), MBC (PM, Moderna)
Mar 27 Sun	MBC (AM, Moderna), GPH (AM, Moderna)
Mar 31 Thu	MBC (AM, Moderna), HSP (AM, Moderna)

Appointments To Become Open on March 15 (Tue)

Date	Venue, Time, Vaccine Brand
Apr 2 (Sat)	HSP (PM, Moderna)
Apr 3 (Sun)	GPH (AM, Moderna)
Apr 7 (Sun)	MBC (PM, Moderna)
Apr 9 (Sat)	HSP (PM, Moderna)
Apr 10 (Sun)	MBC (AM, Moderna)
Apr 14 (Thu)	KC (AM, Pfizer)
Apr 16 (Sat)	HCH (PM, Pfizer), HSP (PM, Moderna)
Apr 17 (Sun)	HSP (AM, PM, Moderna)

Appointments To Become Open on April 5 (Tue)

Date	Venue, Time, Vaccine Brand
Apr 23 (Sat)	HSP (PM, Moderna)
Apr 24 (Sun)	GPH (AM, Moderna), HSP (AM, Moderna)
Apr 29 (Fri)	GPH (PM, Moderna),

FAQs About COVID-19 Booster Shots

Q. Is it okay to get a booster shot at a vaccination site that is different from the one where I got the 1st and 2nd shots?

A. Yes.

Q. Why have I not received my booster vaccination ticket although all my family members did already?

A. A COVID-19 booster shot can be administered only to people who got the 2nd dose more than six months ago. Depending on when you got the 2nd shot, when your booster shot will become available and your vaccination ticket will be mailed out to you may differ from others.

Q. What should I do if all slots of my desired COVID-19 vaccine brand have been filled up on the day that works best for me.

A. Please call the COVID-19 vaccine appointment center. They may be able to help you with your schedule conflict.

Q. What are all the marks shown on the vaccination appointment website?

A. “○” stands for “Available.” “△” stands for “Few Left.” “×” stands for “Unavailable.” In addition to these marks, if you see “—” in gray, this means that a COVID-19 booster shot is not available for you as you received the 2nd dose less than six months ago.

[Mass 1st And 2nd Vaccination]

Appointments To Become Open on May 2 (Wed)				
Date (1 st Dose)	Time	Venue	Vaccine Brand	Date (2 nd Dose)
Mar 26 (Sat)	PM	Hikone City Hall	Pfizer	April 16 (Sat)

Appointments To Become Open on April 7 (Wed)				
Date (1 st Dose)	Time	Venue	Vaccine Brand	Date (2 nd Dose)
Apr 16 (Sat)	PM	Hikone City Hall	Pfizer	May 7 (Sat)

- On January 21, the central government of Japan green-lighted COVID-19 vaccines for children aged 5 to 11 years old. Around early March, vaccine tickets for children of these ages are scheduled to be mailed out. Parents/guardians are reminded that COVID-19 vaccines will be administered on a voluntary, not compulsory, basis. The vaccination brand is Pfizer.

How to Book COVID-19 Initial Doses and Booster Shots

Online Vaccine Appointment	Vaccine Appointment Call Center
 Web	 LINE (Hikone City Account)
TEL 0120-152-811 8 : 30 AM – 5 : 00 PM (no service on weekends or holidays) You will be asked to provide your: ① Ticket Number, ② Date of Birth, ③ Name, ④ Daytime Phone Number, ⑤ Desired Site, ⑥ Desired Date and Time	

Large-Scale Shiga COVID-19 Vaccination Center (Moderna Only)

In addition to Hikone’s COVID-19 vaccination campaign, Shiga also offers COVID-19 booster jabs for Shiga residents with a booster ticket. Please scan the QR code, and see further details on their COVID-19 vaccination campaign.

- Mass Vaccination Site: Oh! Me Otsu Terrace, 3F
- Date and Time: Fridays and Saturdays – 1:30 PM to 8:00 PM
 Mondays and Sundays – 10:30 AM to 4:30 PM



Information

☆Sunday Bulk Waste Collection at the Hikone Sanitation Center – March 27 (Sun)

The Hikone Sanitation Center is scheduled to be open between 8:00 AM to 11:00 PM on March 27 Sunday to accept bulk waste. Please read the following points and help the centre to collect bulky waste smoothly on that day.

- Please show your identification, such as a driver’s license or residence card to show your address at the entrance.
- Bulk waste, including small household appliances, only is accepted.
- Unbroken light bulbs and florescent tubes are accepted.
- TVs and other products subject to the Home Appliance Recycling Act are not accepted.

Inquiries: Hikone Sanitation Center Tel: 0749-22-2734, Fax: 0749-24-7787

☆Traffic Control in The Hikone Castle Area, Saturday, March 26 - Thursday, April 14

[Traffic Restrictions]

During the Sakura festival period, Hikone Castle and its neighbouring areas are expected to bustle with a great number of visitors. To prevent potential traffic accidents from occurring, please be informed that traffic control will come into force as follows around the area of Hikone Castle.

[Traffic Regulation Area & Time]

*The north intersection of the stable - Kuromon gate:

During the festival between 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. (Pedestrians only)

*Irohama avenue - Hikone Higashi High School

When the cherry blossoms are in full bloom: between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p. m. (Pedestrians only)



Tourism Association
Website

- The time of traffic restrictions is subject to change depending on the traffic condition.
- Be advised to use public transportation rather than drive to Hikone Castle during the festival season.
- Do not park on the roadside lest you disturb the local residents.
- Please mask up, and avoid the “ three C’s “ (closed spaces, crowded places and close-contact settings) to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.
- For more information of traffic restrictions, the cherry blossom forecast, etc., please visit the website of Hikone Tourism Association (<https://www.hikoneshi.com>).

Inquiries: Hikone Tourism Association, Tel: 0749-23-0001, Fax: 0749-26-1919

Hikone Tourism Planning Division, Tel: 0749-30-6120, Fax: 0749-24-9676

☆March is a Suicide Prevention Month

In Hikone City alone, 21 people on average take their own lives annually, which suggests that suicide is not a joke. Many factors combine to lead a person to the decision to commit suicide after suffering alone. If you see anyone who seems to have been unusually in low spirits, has been frequently out sick, and so on, try to casually say hello and ask how he/she is doing.

The following numbers are telephone counseling numbers to help people suffering from depression to find solutions.

- Kokorono Denwa – Tel: 077-567-5560, Mon – Fri, 10:00 to 12:00 and 13:00 to 21:00
- Shiga Inochino Denwa – Tel: 077-553-7387, Fri – Sun, 10:00 to 22:00
- Jisatu Yobou Inochino Denwa – Tel: 0120-783-556, the 10th of each month, 8:00 to 8:00 in the next morning
- Hikone Welfare Division for People with Disabilities – Tel: 0749-27-9981, Mon – Fri, 8:30 – 17:15

Inquiries: Hikone Welfare Division for People with Disabilities, Tel: 0749-27-9981

Notice Regarding The One-Time Special Cash Handout Program For Tax-Exempt Households, etc. (100,000 yen per eligible household)

- This one-time special cash handout program is intended to provide a stimulus check (100,000 yen per eligible household) to households that are exempt from resident tax and households financially impacted hard by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In order to receive a cash handout payment, all qualifying households need to complete necessary procedures.

Cash Handout Amount

100,000 yen per eligible household
*This is an one-time cash handout.

Distribution Period

It takes roughly a month to receive a cash handout after an application is filed.
*A notice will be mailed regarding when you will receive your cash handout.

Eligibility Criteria *Double payments of ① and ② are not accepted.

To Qualify For This Special Cash Handout Program;

① All Members Of Your Household Must Be **“Exempt From FY 2021 Resident Tax.”**

② Households Must Have Been Financially Hit By COVID-19 In 2021 And Total Household Income Dropped To The Same Level As **“Households That Are Exempt From Resident Tax”**

If the whole household is a dependent of someone who is subject to resident tax, this cash handout program will not be provided.

A confirmation form or application form will be mailed out by Hikone.

- ※ Please fill out a confirmation/application form and mail it back to us by the due date.
- ※ Households registered on Hikone City’s resident record as of December 10, 2021 will receive a confirmation/application form, etc. from Hikone.

For more details, please see [I] on the back

Application Is A Must

Application Period:

March 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022

This applies only to households registered on Hikone City’s resident record at the time of application.

[Where to Submit] Hikone Social Welfare Division

※ An application form is downloadable on the website of Hikone.

For more details, please see [II] on the back

Information regarding this cash handout program can also be found on the official website of Hikone City.



Application Procedures for the Cash Handout Program

I. Households Exempt from the FY 2021 Resident Tax

If you received a confirmation form (*Kakuninsho*):

- Please find other relevant documents related to the cash handout program inside the envelope.
- Be sure to complete the confirmation form and mail it back to us together with other requirements by using a return envelope.

[Important Points]

- ① Double-check a pre-printed bank account information on the confirmation form as your cash handout payment will be paid into the pre-printed bank account. If no bank account information or a bank account you do not want to use to receive your payment is printed on the confirmation form, ensure to fill in new bank account information on the back of the confirmation form.
- ② Complete the form by ticking appropriate boxes, and do not forget to sign or stamp your name seal.

If you received an application form (*Shinseisho*):

- It means that your application needs to be screened to determine if your household meets all eligibility criteria. Therefore, **you are required to apply** to receive your cash handout payment.
- Complete the application form by filling in all required information, and mail it together with other requirements back to us by the due date.

II. Households Financially Hit by the COVID-19 Pandemic and Total Household Income Dropped to the Same Level as Tax-Exempt Households

※ The same level as tax-exempt households indicates the total amount of income does not exceed the threshold that qualifies a taxable individual for being exempt from resident tax.

(e.g.) Tax-Free Threshold in Hikone – Single Household: under ¥930,000 in total annually, Single-Parent Household with One Child: under ¥1,680,000 in total annually

- If you received an application form, it means **your application must be filed**.
- Please complete your application form and mail it with other requirements to the Hikone Social Welfare Division (522-0042, Hikone Hirata-cho, 670) by the due date.



Despite the fact that your household's total income declined due to reasons other than the COVID-19 pandemic, if you attempt to receive a cash handout payment under this COVID-19 financial assistance program, you could be charged with fraud.



Beware of Scammers!



If you receive a suspicious phone call or letter from someone disguising as a public servant, please get in touch with your local government office or nearest police station in person or by phone at # 9110.

Inquiries: Hikone Call Center for the One-Time Special
Cash Handout Program for Tax-Exempt Households, etc.
Tel: 0120-021-398 (Weekdays, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Japanese Only)

Event

☆Hikone Morning Market

March 20 (Sun) 8:00 AM – Noon

Location: Osue-Cho, Gokoku Shrine

With the three key elements of “Food Safety”, “Local Production Local Consumption” and “Handmade”, you can find and buy locally grown produce, tofu, fish dishes, handmade accessories, and more at Hikone Morning Market!

☆Ceramics Classes for Children

Participating children will be making their own money box out of clay!

- Qualifying Children: 4th to 9th Graders
- Date: April 9 (Sat)
- Time: 9:30 – 11:30 (AM Class), 13:30 – 15:30 (PM Class)
- Capacity: Up to 10 people for each class time
- Fee: 1,500 Yen per person (no charge for an accompanying parent/guardian)
- Application: Call the Mt. Kojin Recreation Center between March 11 and 18
- Note: Parent/guardians are required to accompany their children.

Inquiries: Mt. Kojin Recreation Center, Tel: 0749-28-1871

☆Ceramics Classes for Young Children

Participating children will enjoy making a plate out of clay!

- Qualifying Children: 4 years olds to 3rd graders
- Date: April 16 (Sat)
- Time: 9:30 – 11:30 (AM Class), 13:30 – 15:30 (PM Class)
- Capacity: Up to 8 people for each class time
- Fee: 2,000 Yen per person (no charge for an accompanying parent/guardian)
- Application: Call the Mt. Kojin Recreation Center between March 18 and 25
- Note: Parent/guardians are required to accompany their children.

Inquiries: Mt. Kojin Recreation Center, Tel: 0749-28-1871

Consultation

※All offices closed on holidays.

Legal Consultation	Mar 25 (Fri) 13:00 – 16:00 ※5500 yen per consultation (reservations available from Mar 16)	Hikone Community Development Division	0749-30-6117
<i>Akiya Bank</i> (Vacant House) Telephone Consultation	Mon – Fri 10:00 – 18:00	<i>Akiya Bank</i> Office	0749-23-2123
Consultation for Recovery from Cancer	Mon – Fri 9:00 – 16:00 (priority given to people with reservations)	Municipal Hospital Cancer Support Center	0749-22-6050
Consultation for Working During Cancer Treatment	Support for Continuing to Work Mar 16 (Wed) 13:30 – 15:30 (offered by reservation only)		
Child and Family Consultation	Mon – Fri 8:30 – 17:15	Consultation Room for Children (Welfare Centre)	0749-23-7838
Child Development (Disability) Consultation	Mon – Fri ①8:30 – 12:00 ②13:00 – 17:15 (offered by reservation only)	Development Support Division (<i>Hirata-cho</i>)	0749-26-8282
Language Development Consultation	Mon – Fri ①8:30 – 12:00 ②13:00 – 17:15 (offered by reservation only)		
Human Rights Consultation In Foreign Languages	Mon – Fri 9:00 – 17:00		0570-090-911
Bullying Consultation Hotline	Mon – Fri 9:00 – 17:00	School Support • Human Rights • Anti-Bullying Measures Division	0749-24-7977
General Consultation for Children and Youths (social withdrawal, etc.)	Mon – Fri ①10:00 – 12:00 ②13:00 – 17:00	Child and Youth Consultation Center (Hikone Welfare Centre)	0749-47-3001
Childrearing Support Consultation	Mon – Fri ①10:00 – 12:00 ②13:00 – 17:00		
Consumer Affairs Consultation	Mon – Fri ①9:00 – 12:00 ②13:00 – 16:15	Consumer Affairs Center	0749-30-6144
Road Accident Consultation	Tue & Thu ①9:00 – 12:00 ②13:00 – 16:00	Traffic Accident Consultation Center, Hikone Branch	0749-27-2230

Information from the Hikone Health Promotion Division
Tel: 0749-24-0816, Fax: 0749-24-5870

☆Infant Check-ups

Given daily COVID-19 cases have remained high, the concrete schedule for infant check-ups in April has not been decided at the time of publishing the March issue of Hikone's community newsletter. Once details of the April infant check-ups are set in stone, we will let you know through Hikone's English Facebook page and official website.

Inquiries: Hikone Health Promotion Division, Tel: 0749-24-0816

☆Individual Consultation for Parents/Guardians of Infants, Toddlers and Pre-K Children

Day and Time: March 23 (Wed) 9:30 - 11:00

Location: *Kusunoki* Center

Contents: Concerns about childrearing, weaning, etc.

Contact: Hikone Health Promotion Division, 0749-24-0816

*Please make a reservation via phone from March 1 (Tue).

☆Childhood Immunization Week: March 1 to 7

[A List of Childhood Vaccinations]

Hib Vaccine, Pediatric Pneumococcal Vaccine, Hepatitis B Vaccine, DPT-IPV, BCG, MR, Chicken Pox, Japanese Encephalitis, DT, Rota Virus Vaccine.

[Cost of Each Vaccine]

Free (However, if a child did not get a shot on time, his/her parent has to bear the cost.)

[Important Notes]

- If you want your child to get vaccinated outside Hikone, do contact the Hikone Health Promotion Division in advance.
- Missed doses of the Japanese Encephalitis vaccination are available for some under certain conditions, such as qualifying age, etc.
- Details on the HPV vaccination can be found on the website of the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare.
- A 2nd dose of the MR vaccination for children born between April 2, 2015 and April 1, 2016 is available until March 31.
- A 2nd dose of the DT vaccination for child children aged 11 to 13 is available until March 31.

Inquiries: Hikone Health Promotion Division, Tel: 0749-24-0816