

広報ひこね（英語版）

Community Newsletter *KOHO HIKONE*

February 2025



- Tax Return Season (P. 2, 3)
- Temporary Closure of City Library (P. 4)
- Cat Adoption Fair (P. 5)
- Welfare Job Fairs (P. 5)



[Official Hikone Website] [New Facebook Page!]

Contact Info	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 talk to our English interpreter via phone at the given number above or in person at the Hikone city hall.

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
- Inae-chiku Kominkan
- Mega Center TRAIAL Hikone
- Mega Don Quijote Toyosato
- Don Quijote Hikone
- Hikone City Hospital

Interpreting Services (Available in English, Portuguese, Chinese, and Vietnamese)

Onsite Foreign-Language Interpreting 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”

City Hall Opening Schedule: Weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.

*Please note that the availability of our English interpreter is subject to change.



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

Japanese Language Classes in Hikone



Day	Time	Location	Organization Name	Cost
Saturday	2:00 PM to 4:00 PM	Naka-chiku Community Center (Oyabu-cho, 2610)	Hikone Kokusai Kouryu-kai VOICE Katsurada-San Tel: 090-5156-6916	100 yen per lesson
Monday to Friday *Closed on holidays	① 9:30 AM to 10:50 AM ② 11:00 AM to 12:20 PM ③ 1:30 PM to 2:50 PM ④ 3:00 PM to 4:20 PM ⑤ Online Classes	Innovation Office Nayashichi (Shiro-machi 1-7-16)	SMILE Mizuno-San Tel: 070-5661-7345	200 yen per lesson
1 st , 3 rd , 4 th Saturday	10:00 AM to 11:30 AM	Higashi-chiku Community Center (Daito-cho 1-26)	Hikone UNESCO Association, Japanese Language Class “JUMP” Learning Japanese as a foreign language educational support for children Tel: 090-2384-9760	Free

General Information

Tax Return Season for Municipal and Prefectural Inhabitant Taxes

Opening Schedules of Each Tax Return Site

Location	Date	Morning			Afternoon		
		Reception Time	Waiting Number Distribution Ends At	Capacity	Reception Time	Waiting Number Distribution Ends At	Capacity
Hikone City Hall (1F)	Feb 17 to Mar 17	9:00 AM to 12:00 PM	11:30	50	1:00 PM to 3:00 PM	3:00 PM	50
Mizuho Bunka Center	Feb 20 and 21			80			70
Takamiya Bunka Center	Feb 28			50			50
Toriiimoto Community Center	Mar 7	N/A					N/A

*The tax return site in the Hikone City Hall will be closed on Feb 20, 21, and 28 as well as weekends and holidays.

*Capacity above stands for the maximum number of tax returns can be processed each morning and afternoon.

*A pair of slippers or indoor shoes is needed at the Mizuho Bunka Center, Takamiya Bunka Center, and Toriimoto Community Center.

[Important Points about Tax Returns for Municipal and Prefectural Inhabitant Taxes]

- There is no need for those considering doing their taxes for income tax to file their tax returns for inhabitant taxes.
- Tax returns filed by pensioners and simple tax returns are also accepted at each tax return site.

[If any of the following applies to you, please file your tax return through the e-Tax system or at the Hikone Chamber of Commerce and Industries (4th floor)]

- Those who want to claim a special tax deduction for a home mortgage.
- Those who earn income derived from the transfer of property.
- Those who need to file a so-called blue sheet tax return form (a high-income earner through self-employment).
- Those who need to file a tax return for their own businesses for the first time.
- Those who want to claim a special tax deduction for house reinforcement for earthquakes, house modification for accessibility, and house modifications for energy efficiency.
- Those who need to file a tax return on behalf of someone who has recently passed away.
- Those who want to file tax returns for previous years (up to 5 years retrospectively).
- Those who receive pension payments under the inherited pension benefit payment system.
- Those who want to claim a tax deduction for casualty losses due to a disaster, etc.

[Please Prepare the Following Documents in Advance If Necessary]

- Detailed Statement of Earnings and Expenses
- Detailed Statement of Medical Expenses for a Tax Deduction

[What to Bring with You]

- Proof of the total amount of your 2024 income (pay stubs, withholding tax slips, etc.).
- Documents related to the tax deductions you wish to claim, such as a detailed statement of medical expenses, casualty losses, life insurance, earthquake insurance, national health insurance, national pension, long-term care insurance, donations, etc.
- Documents of your spouse's income if you want to claim a tax deduction for a spouse.
- A disability handbook to claim a tax deduction for a person with disabilities.
- A form of identification.
- A My Number card or a document showing your 12-digit individual numbers.

Tax Return Season for Income Tax

[Date and Time] February 17 (Mon) to March 17 (Mon), 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM on the Weekday

[Location] Hikone Chamber of Commerce and Industry (4th Floor)

[Things to Bring] A Smartphone, A My Number Card

[Important Notes]

- The Hikone Tax Office is not a place for anyone to file tax returns during the tax return season.
- Depending on how crowded the tax return site becomes, the site may be closed earlier than the listed closing time.
- A waiting number slip will be distributed at the entrance of the site.
- The parking lot of the Hikone Chamber of Commerce and Industry is not free.

Contact Info: National Tax Agency, Tel. 0570-005901

Ensure to Change Kei-car and Motorbike Ownership by April 1

Kei-car (light vehicle) Tax is imposed on each registered owner on April 1 every year. If you need to get ownership changed or scrap your car, ensure that you complete all the necessary paperwork by April 1.

Contact Info:

- For motorbikes with a 126cc or bigger engine: Kinki District Transport Bureau Shiga Office, Tel. 050-5540-2064
- For Kei-cars: Kei-car Inspection Association Shiga Office, Tel. 050-3816-1843
- For motorbikes with a 125cc or smaller engine: Hikone Tax Division, Tel. 0749-30-6140

Sunday Opening for My Number Card Procedures

The city hall is scheduled to open as follows for certain My-Number-related services, such as picking up a My Number card, updating a My Number card, resetting passwords, etc.

Date and Time: February 9 (Sun), 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Location: 1F, Hikone City Hall



- Notes:
- You can make a reservation to pick up your My Number card by phone or online (please scan the QR code.)
 - If you want to know what to bring, please inquire with the relevant division at the number below.

Contact Info: Hikone Life Service Division, Tel. 0749-30-6151

Effective April 1: Bus Fares to Rise

Please note that, starting on April 1 (Tue), bus fares across the Koto Area are set to rise by 40 yen.

Contact Info: Hikone Traffic Policy Division, Tel. 0749-30-6134

No Trash Drop-off Services at Hikone Seiso Center on Feb 3 and 10

Due to the scheduled construction work at the Hikone Seiso Center (garbage incineration plant), drop-off services for waste generated from business-related activities will become temporarily unavailable on February 3 (Mon) and 10 (Mon).

A small amount of trash generated by households can be dropped off for a fee; however, bulk waste cannot be dropped off at the center on those days.

Contact Info: Hikone Seiso Center, Tel. 0749-22-2734 or 0749-24-3879

Service of Government-Issued Certificates at Convenience Stores to Go Offline

Due to maintenance work, the issuance services of government-issued certificates at convenience stores, using a My Number card, will become unavailable from 5:30 PM on February 4 (Tue) until 6:30 AM on February 5 (Wed).

Contact Info: Hikone Life Service Division, Tel. 0749-30-6111

Temporary Closure of City Library: Feb 17 to 27

Due to the city library's annual maintenance, the library is scheduled to be closed from February 17 (Mon) to 27 (Thu). For this reason, the maximum number of books you can check out will be increased to 15 from 10 between February 4 (Tue) and 16 (Sun).

During the library's closure period, please drop books you want to return in the book drop bin at the entrance.

Contact Info: Hikone City Library, Tel. 0749-22-0649

Temporary Closure of Water and Sewer Customer Service Center

Please note that the Hikone Water and Sewer Customer Service Center (inside the city hall) will be closed on February 15 (Sat). If you need to pay your water bill, stop or start water services, or take care of other business with the center, please get in touch with them on the day before or after the closing day.

Contact Info: Hikone Water and Sewer Business Division, Tel. 0749-22-2722

Students Needed! – Techno College Maibara

Techno College is now accepting applications for its vocational training programs that are set to start in April. For more information, visit their official website by scanning the QR code or contact The application due date is May 9 Thursday.

Contact Info: Techno College Maibara, Tel. 0749-52-5300



Events and Activities

Cat Adoption Fair

A cat adoption fair is scheduled to be hosted in Hikone as follows. A photo gallery, cat adoption consultation services, and more will be also available at the fair.

Date and Time: February 22 (Sat), 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Location: Hikone Gender Equality Center “WITH” (Hikone, Hirata-cho, 670)

Contact Info: Cat Rescue 29Q (Non-Profit Organization), Tel: 090-3894-9513

Children’s Class: Let’s Make Your Own Koma (Spinning Toy)!

Date and Time: February 15 (Sat), 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Target Age Group: Children in Elementary School *They must be accompanied by their parent.

Capacity: 15

Application Period: February 1 (Sat) to 10 (Sun) *First come, first served basis.

Contact Info: Hikone Kodomo Center, Tel. 0749-28-3645

Welfare Job Fairs

[Hosted by Kora-cho Health and Welfare Division]

Date and Time: February 20 (Thu), 1:30 PM until 4:00 PM

Location: Proceed Arena Hikone

Contact Info: 0749-38-5161

[Hosted by Shiga Caregiving and Welfare Center]

Date and Time: February 15 (Sat), 1:30 PM until 4:00 PM

Location: Kita Biwako Hotel GRAZIE (Nagahama City, Minatocho, 4-17)

Contact Info: 0749-21-6300



Hikone Morning Market

February 16 (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 the Hikone Morning Market!

Consultation Services

Consultation Service	Schedule	Location	Telephone Number
Legal Consultation	February 28 (Fri) 13:00 – 16:00 *5500 yen per consultation *Reservations available from Feb 19.	Hikone Community Development Promotion Division	0749-30-6117
Akiya Bank (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 who have an appointment.	Municipal Hospital Cancer Support Center	0749-22-6050
Consultation for Working During Cancer Treatment	Support for Finding a Job Feb 5 (Web), 13:30 – 15:30 *Offered by reservation only. Support for Continuing to Work Feb 19 (Wed), 13:30 – 15:30 *Offered by reservation only.		
Child Development (Disability) Consultation	Mon – Fri 8:30 – 17:15 *Offered by reservation only.	Development Support Division (Hirata-cho)	0749-26-8282
Language Development Consultation	Mon – Fri 8:30 – 17:15 *Offered by reservation only.		
Human Rights Consultation in Foreign Languages	Mon – Fri 9:00 – 17:00		0570-090-911
Consumer Affairs Consultation	Mon – Fri ① 9:00 – 12:00 ② 13:00 – 16:15	Consumer Affairs Center	0749-30-6144
Road Accident Consultation	Tue, Thu ① 9:00 – 12:00 ② 13:00 – 16:00	Traffic Accident Consultation Center, Hikone Office	0749-27-2230

Health and Wellness Information

Hikone Health Promotion Div. Tel: 0749-24-0816, Fax: 0749-24-5870

March Health Check-ups for Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers

Location: Kusunoki Center (Hassaka-cho)

Starting with the health check-ups for infants and young children in April 2024, you are required to make an appointment in advance via a mobile app “母子モ (Boshi Mo)”. If you come to the Kusunoki Center for your child’s check-up without an appointment, you may be told to return with an appointment.



March

Target Age Group	Date	Eligibility
10 months olds	12 (Wed)	Children born between 2024 April 16 and 30
	25 (Tue)	Children born between 2024 May 1 and 15
1 and ½ years olds	14 (Fri)	Children born in 2023 August.
	21 (Fri)	
2 and ½ years olds	6 (Thu)	Children born in 2022 August.
	13 (Thu)	
3 and ½ years olds	10 (Mon)	Children born in 2021 August.
	24 (Mon)	

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