

広報 ひ こ ね (英訳版)

Community

Newsletter

Koho

HIKONE

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

(Website of Hikone) <https://www.city.hikone.lg.jp/eng/index.html>

Contact Us	Telephone Number
Hikone City Hall	0749-22-1411 (Switch Board)
Human Rights Policy Division (For English Interpretation Services)	0749-30-6113 (Direct Number)
FACEBOOK	http://www.facebook.com/hikone.eng

You Can Ask for English Interpreter Services at the Reception Desk in the Hikone City Hall and Also Via Phone (see the contact number given above.)

Please Say “EIGO TSUYAKU ONEGAI SHIMASU (English Interpreter Please)”

● The Foreign Language Version Of Koho Hikone Is Issued Every Month.



(Digital Version) <http://www.city.hikone.lg.jp/kurashi/jinken/2/index.html>

This newsletter is available at:

- * Shiga University
- * University of Shiga Prefecture
- * Seisen University
- * Hikone City Hall 3F
- * AEON TOWN Hikone
- * Welfare Center
- * Shiga Bank (Oyabu Branch)
- * “Gyomu Super Market” (Toga-cho)
- * Beisia Hikone
- * Hikone City Hospital

Interpretation Services

● Interpreters Are Available at the Information Desk of the City Hall of Hikone.

Please say “*eigo-tsuyaku-onegai-shimasu*” at the information desk.

「えいご つうやく おねがいします」

Hikone City Hall: Weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Please note that the availability of our interpretation services is subject to change.



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



Japanese Language Classes



*Due To The Coronavirus Outbreak, The Schedule Of The Following Schools May Differ.

Please Contact Them If You Wish To Attend One of Their Japanese Classes Especially For The First Time.

Day	Hour	Location, Place	Organization to Contact	Cost
Wednesday すいようび	7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Shimin kaikan 市民会館	Hikoneshi Kokusai Kyoukai 彦根市国際協会 Tel (0749)-22-5931	100yen / lesson 100 円 / 1 回
Saturday 토요일	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Naka-chiku Kouminkan 中地区公民館	Hikone Kokusai Kouryu-kai VOICE ひこね国際交流会 VOICE かつらだ さん(KATSURADA) TEL 090-5156-6916	100yen / lesson 100 円 / 1 回
Sunday にちようび	10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Nishi-chiku Kouminkan 西地区公民館	SMILE Tel (0749)-24-7241	100yen / lesson 100 円 / 1 回
Monday – Friday (Except for 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 Tel 070-5661-7345	200yen / lesson 200 円 / 1 回
げつようび～きんようび				
Tuesday Wednesday Friday	9:00 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.	Asahinomori- Chiku Kouminkan	SMILE MIZUNO Tel: 070-5661-7345	200yen / lesson 200 円 / 1 回
Thursday	5:30 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.			

【Hikone International Lounge News】

Computer use is free in the Hikone International Lounge. We are waiting for you!!

INFORMATION

☆Hikone Multiculturalism Survey: Let Us Hear Your Voice!

2,804 foreign nationals (as of the end of March, 2020) – that is to say, 2.5% of the city’s total population – have been registered as residents in Hikone. Given this uptick in the number of foreign-born residents, the city of Hikone has been making headway with the vision of creating a safe and comfortable city where everyone respects different cultures and looks after each other on an equal footing. (Please see Hikone’s Multicultural Coexistence Promotion Plan for more details.)

This survey has been conducted to gather opinions, thoughts, feelings and awareness both Japanese and foreign residents have towards multiculturalism since early May. All participants’ answers will be reflected and incorporated to revise Hikone’s Multicultural Coexistence Promotion Plan and to implement new ideas in the future.

Time Limit: June 15 Monday *The survey permits one entry person.

Target Participants: Those Older Than 20 Years Old *Non-residents of Hikone can also answer the survey.

How to Participate: Select one of the available languages, and scan the appropriate QR code depending on what language you want to answer this survey in. For those who do not have internet access, the survey is available in physical format at the city hall of Hikone.

The results of the survey will be posted on the official website of Hikone.

If you have any questions about the survey, please do not hesitate to contact the Human Rights Policy Division at 0749-30-6113.

QR Codes



Portuguese



Simple Japanese



English



Chinese

☆City Apartment Houses Are Inviting Residents

Apartment houses for family	<i>Takamiya Takenokoshi</i> apartment house	one apartment
	<i>Serikawa</i> apartment house	one apartment

Move-in date: After the middle of August

Application period: Monday, June 8~Thursday, June 18

Please apply to the Architectural Administration Division by the applicant or a member of the applicant’s family who lives with the applicant (or will live with them).

*There are some conditions for applying, so please ask for further details.

Inquiries: Architectural Administration Division Tel. 0749-30-6123 Fax 0749-22-1398

☆Support Office for Citizens' Livelihoods and Economic Revitalization

Hikone has set up a support office to help those affected by the pandemic to get back on their feet again. You can inquire about support services, like the following, provided by the local and central governments.

- The Government's 100,000 JPY Handout Program
- Hikone's Services to Support Citizens' Livelihoods
- Economic Aid for Local Businesses

TEL: 0120-663-792 (Toll Free), 8:30 a.m. – 5:15 p.m.

☆Applications for the 100,000-JPY Handouts Have Started

The application deadline is August 18 Tuesday. Remember the time is of the essence. After the deadline, the city will not accept any applications under any circumstances.

Inquiries: Hikone Cash Handouts Call Centre

TEL:0120-66-3792 (Weekday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. available in Japanese)

Hikone Human Rights Policy Division TEL: 0749-30-6113

*in English, Portuguese and Chinese (Tue and Fri only)

☆Additional Financial Relief for Households with Children

The city of Hikone is set to offer its own financial assistance on top of the Japanese government's additional cash handout for households with children. Those two financial assistance schemes are provided by the city of Hikone and the central government of Japan, respectively. Please note that your household may be eligible for only one of them or maybe both. Therefore, be sure to read through the following details of each financial assistance in order to understand how to apply, the conditions which you need to be met and so on.

• 10,000 JPY Handout Per Child Born After April 2, 2002 (Hikone City)

To ease the financial impact on households with children, Hikone will hand out 10,000 JPY per child to all eligible households registered in Hikone. More details will follow in late June.

Inquiries: Hikone Children and Youths Division TEL: 0749-49-2251

• Additional Cash Handout Added to Child Allowance Benefits (Japanese Government)

10,000 JPY will be added to the Child Allowance (*Kodomo Teate*) for April. There are a couple exceptions; for example, if your household earnings are higher than the threshold that qualifies beneficiaries to receive the full amount of Child Allowance benefits, you will be excluded from this additional Child Allowance payment. If you are eligible, you will receive a notice about this financial assistance through the mail.

***IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO RECEIVE THE MONEY, FILL OUT THE FORM AND MAIL IT BACK TO THE CITY HALL. OTHERWISE, DO NOT DO ANYTHING AFTER RECEIVING A NOTICE. YOU WILL RECEIVE THE MONEY AUTOMATICALLY.**

Inquiries: Hikone Insurance and Pension Division TEL: 0749-30-6136

★You May Be Qualified to Defer Payments on Tax Bills, etc.

If you have been financially affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, you may be able to request the city to put off your payments on tax, water bills, etc. Please see the details in the table below.

Type of Payments	What Payments You Can Pause	Length of the Deferment Period	Contact
Municipal Tax, Property Tax, Corporate Municipal Tax, Kei-Car Tax	You may pause only the tax payments you have previously made a payment plan for with the city.	For max one year after your deferment request is approved.	Tax Collection Div. TEL: 0749-30-6109
National Health Insurance, Nursing Care Insurance, Health Care Insurance for the Elderly	You may pause only the insurance payments you have previously made a payment plan for with the city.	For max one year after your deferment request is approved.	Insurance Premiums Div. TEL: 0749-30-6137
Use of Public Water and Sewers	Bills for April, May and June,	A maximum of two months *The period can be individually negotiated after two months.	Water and Sewerage Div. TEL: 0749-22-2722
Use of Agricultural Wastewater Treatment Facilities	Bill for June	A maximum of two months *The period can be individually negotiated after two months.	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Div. TEL: 0749-30-6118
Night Soil Treatment	Bills after May 2020.	No specific time period has been set. It is solely negotiable between occupants and the city office.	Living Livelihood Div. TEL: 0749-30-6116
Medical Bills of the City Hospital	Bills after May 2020.	No specific time period has been set. It is solely negotiable between occupants and the city office.	<i>Iji Ka</i> (Health Administration Div.), City Hospital TEL: 0749-22-6050
Rent of City-Run Apartments	No specific time period has been set. It is solely negotiable between occupants and the city office.		Architectural Administration Div. TEL: 0749-30-6123
After-School Day-care	No specific time period has been set. It is solely negotiable between occupants and the city office.		Life-long Learning Div. TEL: 0749-24-7974

*If you meet certain conditions, you may become eligible for payment reduction programs. For more info, please contact each relevant division.

*Note that payments for special education fees and day-care centres are calculated per day.

For this, please contact the Hikone Early Childhood Division at 0749-23-9597 to inquire about a deferment request.

★Four-Month Exemption from Basic Water Fees (only in Hikone)

As part of Hikone's emergency financial help for those impacted by Covid-19, all "base" charges of drinking water and waste water from July to October will be waived. This special waiver applies to all households listed on Hikone's resident register. No application is needed. Please keep it in mind that only "base" charges will be waived

Inquiries: Hikone Water and Sewerage Division, TEL: 0749-30-9601

★Support for Small and Medium Companies and the Self-Employed

Hikone's Financial Relief Program

Additional financial relief will be provided on top of the Shiga's financial relief for businesses impacted by the coronavirus.

Amount of Financial Relief: 200,000 JPY for Small and Medium Companies, 100,000 JPY for the Self-Employed

Hikone's Emergency Subsidies for Eateries and Retailers in Hikone

Subsidies are now available for eateries and retailers that are considering purchasing air purifiers, partitions, new ventilation systems, etc. for the purpose of the coronavirus prevention.

Amount of Subsidies: Max 100,000 JPY *Terms and conditions apply.

Inquiries: Regional Economy Promotion Division, TEL:0749-30-6119

☆Financial Aid for Single-Parent Households

A one-off 10,000 JPY handout will be provided for single-parent households in Hikone. 10,000 JPY will be added to the *Kodomo Teate* (Child Allowance). More details will follow at a later date.

Inquiries: Childrearing Support Division TEL:0749-26-0994

☆Partial Exemptions of “National Health Insurance” Premiums (*Tentative Plan)

The city of Hikone is now paving the way for the July and August “NHI” premiums to be exempted. Note that this is a tentative plan. More info will follow at a later date.

Inquiries: Insurance Premiums Division, TEL 0749-30-6145

☆Future Measures Taken by the City

① Protect Citizens from the Spread of Infection

The city is taking appropriate measures with the cooperation of the National and Prefectural Government to prevent the infection from spreading.

- Setting up a consultation window for citizens’ livelihoods support.
- Installing more hands-free faucets in public facilities.

② Protect Life, Employment and Businesses

The city is taking measures to give every eligible individual their Special Cash Payment swiftly and implement the original measures for individuals and employers.

- Waiver of base charges of drinking and waste water.
- Support for households with children.
- Support for small and medium businesses and the self-employed in Hikone.
- Distributing bookstore gift cards to elementary and junior-high schoolers.

③ Recover the Local Economy

The city is providing active support to help the local economy recover and remove anxiety about the future.

- Putting Hikone’s catalog buying program into action.
- Issue of coupons for tourists to beef up tourism industries in Hikone.

☆Welfare Medical Support System (*Marufuku*)

The Current Welfare Medical Support Certificate (*Marufuku*) etc. (except for babies and preschool children) are renewed on Tuesday, June 30. If you would like to continue receiving the medical support, you need to complete the procedure for renewal after receiving the application form. If you think you are eligible, please inquire at City National Health Insurance and Pension Division. Please check Hikone City Home Page for further details.

Classification of System * There are requirements for each system.

Babies and infant *Those aged 0 to 6.

Children healthcare (hospital visit, hospitalization) *Elementary School first grade children~ third grade children

Children healthcare (only hospitalization) * Elementary School fourth grade children ~ Junior High School third grade Children

The following systems have to be renewed each year.

Severely mentally or physically challenged people, single parents, women who have lived by themselves (under 65 years old), old women who have lived by themselves (above 65 years old), mentally challenged people and low income people (74 years old)

Inquiries: National Health and Pension Division Tel: 0749-30-6136, Fax: 0749-22-1398

☆Japanese National Pension System

What is the Japanese Pension System?

The Japanese Pension System is applied to every individual aged between 20 and 60. The amount of your future pension payments will be adjusted for inflation and wage rises.

If you fail to join the pension system or to pay into the Japanese Pension System, you may not be able to receive the full amount of your pension payments when you reach the eligible age.

If You Have Trouble Paying Your Monthly Payment:

For students and low-income individuals, there are some programs that fully/partially exempt them from their monthly payments for the Japanese Pension System. For more information, please contact the Insurance of Pension Division and Pension Division or each branch office of the Hikone city hall.

To become eligible for a special exemption program as a student, you have to provide a copy of your student ID (must contain its validity date, grade and certificate of enrollment) or a school enrolment certificate.

Inquiries: Insurance of Pension Division Tel: 0749-30-6136 Fax: 0749-22-1398

☆Disaster Prevention Information “Take Appropriate Action According to Warning Levels”

A five-level warning system (警戒レベル *Keikai Reberu*) was introduced last year with a view to helping Japanese citizens understand the risk of disasters and take appropriate measures to take shelter.

Warning Level	What Action You Should Take
5	Take utmost measures to save as many lives as possible.
4	Take swift action to evacuate.
3	Be prepared to evacuate the elderly and persons who need assistance.
2	Check evacuation routes.
1	Raise a sense of alertness toward a disaster.

Inquiries: Hikone Emergency Management Division TEL: 0749-30-6150

☆Coronavirus Prevention Measures in Hikone’s Evacuation Shelters

Hunkering down in an evacuation shelter during an emergency will increase the risk of cluster infections. To avoid the three Cs (closed spaces, crowded places and close-contact settings), the city of Hikone will ask all residents to take the following measures in the event of a natural disaster.

- Please take your temperature before going to an evacuation shelter.
- If you feel feverish or have other cold-like symptoms, please contact the Shiga Foreign Residents Information Center (077-523-5646) in English. You can also call your local public health office (*Hokenjo*) in Japanese.
- If you start to feel under the weather in an evacuation shelter, please tell a nearby city employee about your health condition.
- Each evacuation shelter has stockpiles of masks, alcohol-based rubs, soap, etc.; however, we ask you to also prepare your own items to prevent the coronavirus infection.
- When possible, it is advisable to take shelter at your relative’s or friend’s house, given that an evacuation shelter may get crowded.
- Please follow good hygiene practices and good cough and sneeze etiquette.
- Please keep the room well-ventilated and practice social distancing.

EVENTS

☆The 34th Hikone City Marathon to be Cancelled

In order to stop the spread of the new Coronavirus infection, the 34th Hikone City Marathon, planned to be held on Sunday, November 8, will be cancelled.

Inquiries: The Sport Division, City Hall Tel: 0749-22-5955, Fax: 0749-23-9190.

☆Prescriptions Can Be Filled Via Phone! (Hikone Municipal Hospital)

If the following conditions are applicable to you, certain prescriptions can be filled via phone.

- Those who come and see their physicians at the Hikone Municipal Hospital to get prescriptions filled for chronic illnesses.
- Only regular prescriptions for chronic illnesses can be filled.

Please call the number at 0749-22-6411 or 0749-22-6413 (available only in Japanese from noon to 4:00 p.m. on the weekday) within one week before the appointment with your doctor – do not call the number to use this service on the same day of your appointment. Then tell the reception staff, “Denwa Shinryo Kibou Desu (telemedicine please).”

For more info, please go to the official website of Hikone Municipal Hospital or scan the QR code.

If deemed difficult for a physician to check your conditions by phone, you may be asked to come to the hospital.

☆Hikone Municipal Hospital Is Banning Visits

Hikone Municipal Hospital is now restricting visits from families and friends. There are, however, a few exceptions specified below for this measure to mitigate the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic.

- Bringing a change of clothes (up to five minutes)
- Visiting the hospital at the request of the hospital to receive explanations of an operation, health conditions, and so forth.
- Accompanying a family member on the day of being hospitalized or being discharged.
- Visiting the hospital to see a young family member.

Please note that the hospital bans all visits comprising multiple persons without exceptions. Only one person who meets one of the above conditions is allowed to visit the hospital to see his/her family member or friend at a time. Further, the hospital prohibits those who have a fever or other cold-like symptoms or those under the age of 15.

Please be reminded that all visitors, regardless of seeing someone or having an appointment with a physician, will have their body temperatures taken and be asked a few health-related questions at the main gate.

☆Support of German Measles Vaccination Expenses

The person who has already received a German measles antibody test by Shiga prefecture can get support.

Time limit: March 31 (Wednesday)

Eligibility (Those who meet all of the following)

1. Those who have had a German measles antibody test
2. Those who have had a German measles vaccination after the antibody test

The amount of support:

Half of the amount of the charge is supported (maximum 5,000 yen)

Those who belong to a welfare household are full supported. (Maximum 10,000yen)

The support is limited to once per person.

The decision will be made after reviewing the application.

We will send you a letter and transfer the money to a designated bank account.

Time limit: March 31 (Wednesday)

※Please apply to **the Health Promotion Division**

Tel: 0749-24-0816 Fax: 0749-24-5870

If you are pregnant, you are not able to receive the vaccination.

A female person needs birth control for 2 months after the vaccination.

For more information about a German measles antibody test

Please ask **Shiga prefecture pharmaceutical and infectious disease prevention office**

Tel: 077-528-3632