The city where everyone wants to live

広報 ひ こ ね (英歌版) Community Newsletter Koho HIKONE

Date: May 1st, 2018
Multicultural Coexistence
Human Rights Policy Division
Hikone City Hall
0749-30-6113
VOICE Trans. Group
Walter Klinger
Multicultural Coexistence
Human Rights Policy Division



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FEATURES

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(Abridged Edition) http://www.city.hikone.shiga.jp/english/index.html

Name of Division	Telephone Number
Hikone City Hall (Representation)	0749-22-1411 (Main Number)
Hikone City Hall (JINKEN SEISAKU KA) 彦根市役所(人権政策課)	0749-30-6113 (Direct Number) 直通番号

You can ask English Interpreter Service at the reception in Hikone City Hall.

Please say "English Interpreter please" in Japanese, "EIGO TSUUYAKU ONEGAI SHIMASU".

•Koho Hikone "foreign language version" is issued every month.

- 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

Various Services

•Interpreters are available if you request this service at the reception desk.

Please say this Japanese sentence "eigo-tsuuyaku-onegai-shimasu."

(It means "please get me an English interpreter".) えいご つうやく おわがいします。 We might change the interpreter's availability.

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



Japanese Language Classes



Day	Hour	Location, Place	Organization Name 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 (Not available from Dec. to Feb.)	100yen / lesson 100 円 ∕1 □
Saturday どようび	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Naka-chiku Kouminkan 中地区公民館	Hikone Kokusai Kouryu-kai VOICE ひこわ国際交流会 VOICE なえむらさん(NAEMURA) Tel 090-7118-5250	100yen / lesson 100 ₽⁄1 @
Sunday にちようび	10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Nishi-chiku Kouminkan 西地区公民館	Volunteer Nihongo Kyoushitsu SMILE ボランティア日本語教室スマイル よしおかさん (YOSHIOKA) Tel (0749)-24-7241	100yen / lesson 100 円 /1 回
Monday~ Friday (Except for holidays) Ifつようび~	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. ・きんようび	Innovation Office "NAYASHICHI" Shiro-machi1-7-16	"Smile s Satellite"(Weekday Class) NAYASHICHI <u>Tel (0749)-46-5377</u> or みずのさん (MIZUNO) Tel 070-5661-7345	200yen / lesson 200 ₽ ∕ 1 @

[Hikone International Lounge News] Computer use is free in the Hikone International Lounge. We are waiting for your use!!

<u>☆Please Take Great Care When Dealing With Spray Cans</u>

Cases of fires caused by spray cans:

- ▶ Venting gas of a spray can in a poorly ventilated indoor room led to a fire by catching flame of gas cooker.
- ► Spraying insecticide to kill insects in the bathroom while heating a bath caught on fire by catching gas accumulated there.

► A spray can with some remaining gas was mixed and compressed with other garbage in a garbage collecting car and

caught on fire.

How to deal with spray cans:

- ▶ Don't leave it in a place with direct sunlight and high temperature.
- ▶ Don't use it for the purpose other than the original purpose.
- ▶ Read the warmings before use.
- When you dispose of spray cans

①Use all of it

- ②Make a hole through it suing a specialty tool.
- ③Don't hit it with a hammer or knock a nail in it.
- (4)Conduct in airy place with no fire around.

Inquiries: City Fire Station Headquarter Preventive Division



Tel 0749-22-0332. Fax 0749-22-9427

☆Form of Tax Notice for Light Vehicles Will be Changed

Though notice for a light vehicle was issued per sheet so far, it is printed for one and more light vehicles per sheet instead.

▶ Pay with a check

It is printed for up to 6 cars each notice.

Account transfer

It is printed for up to 12 cars each notice.

You can pay by bank transfer as usual.

Inquiries: Tax Division Municipal Tax Section Tel 0749-30-6140 Fax 0749-22-1398

★Do You Know "Livelihood Support System for People in Great Difficulty"?

- 1 Consultation for Persons Having a Financial Difficulty
- We make a plan together to bring a positive change to your lifestyle through a vocational support.
- 2 Housing Support (under various rules)
- 3 Support to Help to Get Back on your feet again through an agricultural/ a vocational experience.
- 4 Temporary Livelihood Support

Lodgings, food and vocational support will be provided (under various rules)

- 5 Consultation relating to Financial Problem
- 6 Support for Study

We will support the children/students, of an elementary school through a high school, whose family has a financial difficulty.

Inquiries: Social Welfare Division (Shakai-Fukushi-ka) Tel 0749-23-9590, Fax 0749-26-1768

Hikone City is making effort to realize a harmonized society cooperating with Hikone Social Welfare Council, and promoting volunteer activities in personal, community and industry base. If you are interested in these kinds of activities please contact with: Volunteer Center, Hikone Social Welfare Council, Tel 0749-22-2821, Fax 0749-22-2841

<u>☆Treatment Fee to be Partly Paid by the Insurance</u>

Object: Those who meet all the following conditions

- 1 65 years or older and policyholder of Hikone City Nursing-care Insurance
- 2 Those whose nursing-care level is 'yoshien 1'or lower on the first day of treatment or those who are objectives of an assist service.
- 3 Those who have constantly paid the premiums of nursing-care service
- 4 Those who have continuously taken the treatment 9 times, once a week at the treatment institution assigned by Hikone City

Objective Fee

The fee for the treatment and the home-visit care (which are not covered the medical insurance)

Fee to be Paid

The total fee for the three last treatment, the maximum amount is as follows:

Treatment cost:	¥3,000 (per treatment)	¥9,000 (per year)
ricument cost.	+5,000 (per treatment)	+,000 (per year

Home-visit-fee: ¥1.800 (per treatment) ¥5,400 (per year)

Application:

Fill in the application form available at Senior's Welfare Division or at a treatment institution assigned by Hikone city, or the application form taken from Home-Page of Hikone City. Then get certification (on the back of the paper) by your treatment institution, and submit it.

Application and Inquiries: Seniors' Welfare Division Tel 0749-23-9660, Fax 0749-26-1768

☆Greening of the Automobile Tax System

The period of this system was extended two more years. Please confirm with the tax assessment notification sent around middle in May.

Inquiries: Regional Economy Promotion Division Tel 0749-30-6140, Fax 0749-22-1398

*A municipal tax notice will be sent by new method

You will receive municipal tax and fixed asset tax/city planning tax notices which are divided into four installments in a lump. You will be asked to pay them by the due date.

*No change, when you registered account transfer method.

*To apply for transferring funds from your bank, post office, or other financial savings account within Hikone city, show the municipal tax transfer request document to your financial institution.

Inquiries: Fax. 22-1398

Tax Collection Division Tel. 30-6109 Municipal tax section at Tax Division Tel. 30-6140 Asset tax section at Tax Division Tel. 30-6138

☆Are You Interested to Join a Fire Brigade? Help Wanted!

The Hikone Fire Department is looking for people who want to become a fire fighter.

Women as well as students are welcome for the application.

Main activities as a fire fighter are extinguishing fires, promoting fire prevention, organizing fire drills, lifesaving and fire prevention classes.

- · Requirements for the Entry
 - 1, Persons who work or live in Hikone.
 - 2, 18 years or older
 - 3, Person who can follow the policy of the fire department.

Inquiries: General Affairs Division, Hikone Fire Department Tel: 0749-22-0314, Fax: 0749-22-9427

<u> *Lecture for Sign Language Volunteers (The First Half)</u>

Contents: Let's learn sign language of everyday conversation and deepen our understanding of the lives of people with hearing difficulties.

lives and welfare system

- Date & Time: June 28 ~ November 29 in 2018, February 14 ~ March 14 in 2019 Every Thursday, 7:00pm ~ 9:00 pm 30 lectures in all (Including three practical lectures August 16 will be no lecture.)
- Place: City Welfare Center for the Disabled (Hirata-cho), lecture room
- Requirements: A person who have no experience of sign language lecture or who have experience of lecture under one year and fulfills conditions following A and B
 - A: A person who can learn the first half and the second half lectures (the second half lecture will start in 2019)
 - B: A person who is older than 18 years old (except high school students), living or working or studying in the city

Capacity: 20 persons (we will draw names if there are too many applicants)

Application Period: Tuesday, May 1 ~ Thursday, May 31

Fee : ¥3,240 (material fee) The expenses to the events will be charged to the paticipants.

Others: The date and the place will be changed for certain reasons.

Application & Inquiries: City Challenged People's Welfare Division (7522-0041 Hirata-cho 594)

Tel 0749-27-9981 Fax 0749-26-1767

Fill out the application form available at City Challenged People's Welfare Division and General Information at the third floor in the temporary City Hall locating at the west exit of Hikone Station and city branch offices.

Mail it or send it by fax to City Challenged People's Welfare Division.

<u>★Revitalize Local Economy</u> Challenge Shop Hikone Project

We will support those who want to open a shop or start a work in a shopping district.

Eligibility: Those who want to use an empty store in a shopping district in central Hikone

Rent Subsidy: Four-fifth of the monthly rent (Max: 50,000 yen) and for six months

Remodeling Cost: A half of remodeling cost (Max: 500,000yen. But equipment charges without the construction are excluded)

Xou have to submit a prescribed papers and be examined it Application & Inquiries: Hikone Chamber of Commerce & Industry Tel 0749-22-4551, Fax 0749-26-2730

<u> ☆Hikone City Hospital</u>

Electric installations at the hospital will be checked and cannot be used.

In the planned power outage in the hospital (10:30~15:30), we cannot accept emergency case.

In the case of sudden illness (Internal, Children), please go to the Holiday Emergency Hospital (Kusunoki-center

1F).(<u>Tel:0749-22-1119</u>)

Date: May20 (sun) 11:30~14:30

Place: Hikone City Hospital <u>Tel:0749-22-6050</u> fax: 0749-26-0754



☆Information from child center

<u> ☆Baby salon</u>

This is the place where baby's parents have a chance to communicate with each other.
Please come and join us with your babies.
Date: May 17 (Thu) 13:30~14:30
Target: 2~8 months' babies and their parents
Cost: free

☆Star class
We study the Moon and the Venus.

Now is a good season to observe spring stars.
Date: May 18 (Fri) 19:30~21:00
Target: those who are interested in astronomy
Capacity: 30 people
Cost: 300yen
Application date: May5 (sat) ~16(wed)

<u>☆Children class</u>

Try an exciting world of sound! Let's make instruments with daily necessities Listen to music and feel an exciting world of the sound as well. **Date:** May 20 (sun) 13:30~15:00 **Target:** elementary school students, junior high school students **Capacity:** 20 people **Application date:** May 5 (sat) ~16(wed)

☆Child rearing class

Babies and their parents can enjoy music and stories together. **Date:** May 24 (Thu) 10:00~11:30 **Target:** babies who were born between April 2.2015 and April 1, 2017 and their parents **Capacity:** 20 pairs **Cost:** 200yen (for a pair) **Application date:** May 12 (Sat) ~21(Mon)

<u>☆Shogi class</u>

Playing shogi can train the ability to think and concentrate. Please join us!

Date: once a month (the last Saturday) All 10 times 13:30~15:00(it start on May 26)
Target: elementary school students
Capacity: 40 people
Cost: 500yen (including text and insurance fee)
We cannot pay back in case you resign this class.
Application Date: May 3(Thu) ~19(Sat)
Application, Inquiry: Child Center

tel:0749-28-3645 Fax: 0749-28-3645

☆Hikone Eco(Ecological) Market "YUMEBATAKE"

☆Challenged people's sports festival in shiga

Target: those who have a challenged person booklet and are 12 years old over. **Cost:** free

Sports event class is decided on the degree of disability.

Application, Inquiry: Disability Welfare Division

Tel 0749-27-9981, Fax 0749-26-1767				
Event	Date	Place	Application limit	
Archery	May 20 Sun	Shiga Disability Welfare	April 18 Wed	
		Center (kusatsu)		
Frisbee	June 3 Sun	Minakuchi sports forest	April 25 Wed	
Bowling	July 29 Sun	Lapyuta-Bowl Hikone	June 20 Wed	
Swimming	August 26 Sun	Shiga Disability Welfare	July 18 Wed	
		Center (kusatsu)		
Track and field	September 30 Sun	Nunobiki Green Stadium	August 22 Wed	
Table tennis	November 4 Sun	Kusatsu-city Sports	September 19 Wed	
		Gymnasium		

<u>★Yoga exercises in Kojin-yama Park</u>

Anybody can take part in yoga exercises regardless of age. A beginner is OK too.

Date & Time:	May $20 \sim$ July 15 - Every Sunday (9 times) $6:30 \sim 7:30$
	*Canceled due to rain
Place:	Kojin-yama Park (Hinatsu-cho) Outdoor Stage
Participation Fee:	Free
Application:	Application-free
Instructor:	Ms. Kanako Tsuji
Things to bring:	Yoga mat, Plastic sheet, Drink, Face towel
Inquiries:	Takagi, Giken-tokubetsu-Kyodotai Tel. 21-3923



<u> ☆Kojinyama Park Spring Festival</u>

Contents: • Experience area• Play area• Flea Market• Stage Performance – Kids dance, etc.Date & Time: Fri. Holi. May 410:00 a.m. \sim 3:00 p.m.Place: Kojinyama Park (Hinatsu-cho)*In case of rain, the event will be held at the Children's CenterParticipation Fee: Free

Inquiries: Takagi • Giken Special Community Tel 0749-21-3923

Consultation



	Date & Time	Place	Contents
Human-Rights Counseling	May 2 & 16 (Wed) 13:00 ~ 15:00	Consultation Room (AL PLAZA Hikone 4F)	Counseling about bullying and all acts of discrimination Tel 0749-22-0242
Law Consultation	May 25 (Fri) 13:00 ~ 16:00 (by reservation)	Community Relations Division (AL PLAZA Hikone 3F)	*Consultation fee: 5400 yen per 30 minute session (Please pay on the consultation day) *The first 6 people from 8:30 on May 16 *Only those who live or work in Hikone Tel 0749-30-6117 Fax 0749-22-1398
Human-Rights Counseling by Multiple Language	Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays) 9:00 ~17:00	Otsu Regional Legal Affairs Bureau	Consulting telephone for the trouble of human rights Exclusive telephone for consultation: 0570-090-911
Child · Family Consultation	Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays) 8:30 ~ 17:15	Consultation Room for Children (Welfare center)	Consultation for Child care issues, child abuse, domestic violence etc Tel 0749-23-7838 Fax 0749-26-1768
Developmental Disorder Consultation	Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays)	Development	Consultation for person who has a developmental disorder or feels uneasy about it and its family Tel 0749-26-8282
Language Consultation	$18:30 \sim 12:00$ $213:00 \sim 17:15$ (by reservation)	Support Division	Consultation for child before entering elementary school who has cares of pronunciation or language and its family Tel 0749-26-8282
Consumer Life Consultation	Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays) ①9:00 ~ 12:00 ②13:00 ~ 16:15	City life Environment Division (AL PLAZA Hikone 3F)	Consultation about the trouble of consumer life, contracts, etc Tel 0749-30-6144
Consultation for Bullying/Hot Line	Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays) 9:00 ~ 17:00	School Support/ Bullying Measures Room	The experienced person in the education advices you *You can consult on the municipal government website Exclusive telephone for consultation: 0749-24-7977
Synthetic Consultation for Child & the Young	Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays) ①9:00 ~ 12:00 ②13:00 ~ 17:00	Child & the Young Consultation Center (Welfare center)	Consultation for person 39 years old and younger who has troubles in social life (neet or unsociable person etc). Tel 0749-47-3001 Fax 0749-26-1768
Traffic Accident Consultation	Every Tue. & Thu. ①9:00 ~ 12:00 ②13:00 ~ 16:00	Koto Joint Government Building 2F	Consultation by telephone is also available from Monday to Friday except holiday Tel 0749-27-2230
Worries Counselor's Office	Every Wed. & Fri. (except second Wed. & holidays) 13:00 ~ 16:00 Second Wed. of even month (every the blidger)	Welfare Center (<i>Hirata-cho</i>) Northern Elderly Welfare Center	Consultation about various worries in your life
	(except holidays) $13:00 \sim 16:00$ Second Wed. of odd month (except holidays) $13:00 \sim 16:00$	(Baba-cho) Southern Elderly Welfare Center (Tawara-cho)	Exclusive telephone for consultation: 0749-22-0294

Information from the Health Promotion Division, Kusunoki Center (Hassaka-cho) Tel 0749-24-0816, Fax 0749-24-5870

☆ NYUYOJI KOBETSU SODAN(Individual consultant for infants)

Please bring your Maternal and Child Health Handbook,

●Date & Time : Thursday, May 8 & 24 9:30~11:00

Place: Kusunoki Center 1F (Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital)

*Consultation by a nutritionist is available on Thursday, May 24

Kusunoki Center 1F(Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital)/13:00~14:00

☆ Weaning Period Consultation

* Let's give food twice a day.

Date & Time: Friday, May 11 10:00~11:30 (Acceptance 9:45~10:00)

Place: Kusunoki Center 2F (Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital)

Eligibility: $7 \sim 8$ months old infant & their guardians

Things to bring: your Maternal and Child Health Handbook

☆ Health Check-ups for Infants

May

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4 March Old Dalar	15(Tue)	Born between Jan 1 and 15, 2018		
4-Month-Old Babies	22 (Tue)	Born between Jan 1 and 31, 2018		
	9(Wed)	Born between July 1 and 15, 2017		
10-Month-Old Babies	16(Wed)	Born between July 16 and 31, 2017		
Kusunoki Center 1F(Next to Hikone	Kusunoki Center 1F(Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital) / 13:00~14:00			
	11 (Fri)	Born between Oct 1 and 15, 2016		
18-Month-Old Babies	18 (Fri)	Born between Oct 16 and 31, 2016		
	10(Thu)	Born between Oct1 and 15, 2015		
2-Year & 6-Month-Old Children	17 (Thu)	Born between Oct 16 and 31, 2015		
3-Year & 6-Month-Old Children	14(Mon)	Born between Oct 1 and 15, 2014		
	21(Mon)	Born between Oct 16 and 31, 2014		

*As individual notification of Health Check-ups is for 4 month-old babies only, please check the Suku-Suku book for what contents and items to bring.

*For Health Check-ups for18- month-old-babies, a toothbrush is necessary and for 2- year & 6-month-old-children, a toothbrush and cup are necessary. There will be a class on the correct way of brushing your child's teeth.

*For Health Check-ups for 3-years& 6 –month-old children, there is an urinalysis. Please bring a first morning urine sample in a clean bottle.

* If you are unable to come on the date specified or if you have any questions about the Health check for infants, contact The Health Promotion Division Tel:24-0816、Fax:24-5870

<u>☆Rakuraku Kin-en (Quit Smoking Easily) Consultation</u>

A smoking habit is nicotine dependence. If you try to quit smoking, we support your challenge.

Date & Time: Wednesday, May 9 $9:00 \sim 10:00 \sim 11:00 \sim$

Place: Kusunoki Center 2F (Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital)

Capacity: 1 person / each time slot (Reserved)

Contents: • Check for your lung's contamination (Measure the carbon monoxide density in your exhalation.)

- Check for your addiction to cigarettes (Measure nicotine density in your urine)
- Consultation on how to quit smoking

Inquiry: The Health Promotion Division Tel: 0749-24-0816 Fax: 0749-24-5870

☆Vaccination about Pneumococcal Disease for the Elderly

 \therefore Elderly People (over 65 years old) who have a Hikone city resident registration and who have not received 23-valent pneumococcal vaccine be able to have the vaccination one time at the following age.

Qualification for the fiscal year 2018

①People aged 65,70,75,80,85,90,95,100 years old (From April 2, 2018 to April 1, 2019)

O People aged 60 \sim 64 who have defect on heart, kidney or respiratory, or who have defect on a function of immunity by human immunodeficiency virus.

Please make a reservation for receive the vaccination to medical institution.

Copayment : 2350 yen

* Welfare recipients are free. (Please bring a ticket which is already sent.)

This vaccination will be finish on Sunday March 31, 2019.

* Hikone City already sent the questionnaire sheets to receive the vaccination to the eligible people on April 2018.

Those who lost the questionnaire or become residents of Hikone City after last April, please ask the City Health Promotion Division.

Inquiries: The City Health Promotion Division Tel: 0749-24-0816 Fax: 0749-24-5870

☆ Dental check-up for pregnant women

Let's check your teeth and receive the guidance for the proper way to use toothbrush.

Exchanging experiences about pregnant and making friends.

Date & Time : Thursday , May 24 13:30~15:30 (Acceptance 13:15~13:30)

Place : Kusunoki Center 1F (Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital)

Eligibility : Pregnant women, over 16 weeks pregnant having a resident registration in Hikone City Application: Tuesday, May 1~Monday, May 14

Things to bring : Your maternal and Child Health Handbook, Mirror, toothbrush, cup and towel

Inquiries: The Health Promotion Division Tel.0749-24-0816 /Fax 24-5870

X There is no nursery.

★ Eating Habit Consultation

*Advice about your eating habits by a dietitian

Prevent from poor appetite because of the summer heat.

Date & Time : Monday, June 25 ① 9 : 00 ② 10 : 30

Capacity : 1 person each time slot (Reserved)

Place : Kusuniki Center 2F (Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital)

XAny consultations concerning your meals are also available at anytime.

Inquiry: Health Promotion Division Tel: 24-0816 Fax: 24-5870

★Information of fixed vaccination "Teiki Yobo Sesshu"

Vaccination type are very important in order to have resistance to illness and to prevent from becoming ill. Before receiving a vaccination, please check a maternity passbook and read the description well. If you are not sure about the vaccination conditions, please consult with City Health Promotion division. **Eligibility:** Children who have resident registration.

Date and Time: Reservation system

Fee: Free

If your child does not receive the vaccination at the recommended age, you will be charged.

Vaccination	Rec	Interval, Times	
BCG		Commended Age (Age Limit for No Fee Vaccination) Until 1day before 1 st birthday	1shot
Hib Vaccine		2 months old before 5 th birthday	1-4shots
			Depending on age
Pediatric			At 1 st shot
Pneumococcal			
Vaccine			
Hepatitis B Vaccine		Until 1 day before 1 st birthday	3 shots
			(2 nd shots) More
			than 27days after
			1 st shot
			(3 rd shots) More
			than
			139 days after 1 st
			shot
DPT-IPV	1 st phase	The age of 3 months up to 7 years and 6 months	3 shots with 20-
Diphtheria, Pertussis,			56 days intervals
tetanus and		_	
Inactivated polio	1 st phase		1year-1year
	booster		6months after
			completion 1 st
			phase
DT	2 nd phase	6 th grade of elementary school-aged children	1 shot
Diphtheria, Tetanus		(Over age 11, under age 13)	
MR	1 st phase	The age of 1 year up to the day before becoming 2 years old	1 shot
Measles and German	2nd mbaga	For one year before entering school	
measles	2 nd phase	For one year before entering school	
Chicken pox	1 st phase	Over 1 year old, under 3 years old	-
vaccination	Additional		From 6 months to
			12months interval
			after the initial
-			vaccination.
Japanese	1 st phase	Over age 3, under age 7 years and 6 months	2 shots at 6-28
encephalitis	Additional		days
			intervals
			1 shot, about 1
			year after the 1 st
	Ond 1		phase
	2 nd phase	Over age 9, under age 13	1 shot
Human Papilloma	This vaccine is	3 shots	
virus vaccine	year high schoo		
_			

 \star If you wish your baby to get vaccinated earlier for going abroad, it will be able to receive vaccination from 6 months old when you consult with City Health Promotion Division.

★In case of getting a vaccination outside of Hikone City

If you wish your child to get vaccinated outside of Hikone City, you need to apply to City Health Promotion Division before.

The City Health Promotion Division Tel: 24-0816, Fax:24-5870

Job Hunting in Brazil



At this time of the year, a great many university and high-school students are set to look for post-graduation employment. A short while ago, I was asked how job hunting goes in Brazil by a Japanese friend of mine. The fact is that there is no "*Shukatsu Katsudo* (Job-hunting activity)" in Brazil. Some Japanese might not be aware that this Shukatsu Katsudo is exclusive for Japan and is seen as one of a kind by other countries.

Some of you are perhaps wondering now how university undergraduates in Brazil engage in their own job search. Normally, after university graduation, we start to look for employment information advertised in newspapers and online in order to land a job interview, and if we successfully get hired, we begin working for that company.

While studying in university, some Brazilians undergo training related to their courses or internships and wind up working at the same places where they finish the training or internships even after graduation. In Japan, the period of training and internships for undergraduates is a lot shorter and, in most cases, the students will not be remunerated. In Brazil, on the other hand, each training and internship lasts usually several months, and almost anyone under training or internship receives small pay checks. This Brazilian social custom could apply to postgraduates in Japan since some of them remain at university as a researcher, assistant, etc. after the completion of their master's or PhD study.

One additional difference between Japan and Brail, in terms of job searching, is the number of unemployed graduates. In Brazil, there is no reoccurring job-hunting season, and the timing of recruitment varies from company to company. Plus, big events for job seekers, such as career expos, do not really take place in Brazil, either. So it is natural for the students of Brazil to get prepared for job hunting unaided. In Japan, however, students who are searching a post-graduation job can ask their universities for help, which is a great system from my point of view since this can lead to the low unemployment rates among Japanese university graduates.

With that being said, there are some good things about job-hunting in Brazil, too. Unlike Japan, companies tend not to set the age restriction or not to ask in what year you graduated from college for recruitment. They more value hands-on experiences and skills - to put it another way, what applicants learnt at university and how they are going to put their skills to the best use for the company. What is more, undergraduates do not have to shoulder unnecessary pressure induced by job hunting and can stay focused on their studies until their graduation.

I hope that both Japan and Brazil can learn something new from each other and make a positive change in the way we look for a job in the not so distant future.

"Natalia's Room" is a monthly column published in the Japanese version of Koho Hikone Newsletter since June 2014. Natalia is from Brazil and has been working as Coordinator of International Relations of Hikone since coming to Japan in 2014. This column features topics related to multicultural coexistence, such as differences in cultures and living in Japan as a foreigner.

