

Multilingual Information Magazine

The Kagoshima City International Exchange Center selects information that is useful for foreign residents from “Kagoshima Shimin no Hiroba” and other local publications and translates the information into English, Chinese and Korean.

Please send any requests and comments (such as things you want to know more about and particular articles that you found to be helpful) to the Kagoshima City International Exchange Center (kokusai@kiex.jp). We will take these requests and comments into account for future issues.

Event information

■ Tenmonkan Illumination 2023 Gourmet Stamp Rally

Dates and times: December 2nd (Friday) to January 15th (Sunday), 18:00-22:00

Location: Main venue: : Tenmonkan Park Surrounding areas : Bunkadoori, Ginzadoori

About: The theme for this year's Tenmonkan illumination is “Champ de fleurs (French for ‘field of flowers’) Tenmonkan.” Gentle colors paint Tenmonkan Park in illuminating light. Food trucks will be at the venue on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays (excluding December 30th to January 1st).

■ Minato Oodoori Park Illumination

Date and times: December 2nd (Friday) to January 31st (Tuesday), 18:00-22:00 (Ending time is 00:15 on December 24th and 31st)

※Lights go on at once at 19:00, 20:00, and 21:00 (and at midnight on December 24th and 31st)

Location: Minato Oodoori Park

■ Local Agriculture PR Year-End Market

Date and time: December 18th (Sunday), 10:00-15:00

Location: Minato Oodoori Park

About: Promotional sale of local agricultural produce and processed goods, etc.

There will also be an Illumination Bazaar held by the Meizandoori Association from 16:00-21:00

Contact information: Sun-sun Call Kagoshima (Tel: 808-3333)

■ Winter Aquarium Yoga

Date and time: January 21st, 2023 (7:30-9:00 in the morning)

Location: Kagoshima Aquarium

Capacity: 30 people Cost: 3,000 yen (including aquarium entrance fee) Deadline: January 15th

For more details, please visit the Kagoshima Sports Promotion Association website at <https://www.kago-spo.or.jp/>

■ Museum of the Meiji Restoration Event

Kagoshima Ori-ori Play Exhibit (Origami experience)

Dates and times: December 18th (Sunday), December 25th (Sunday), 13:00-16:00 (One time lasts approximately 30 minutes)

Capacity: 4 people for each activity (Participants take turns) Fee: 300 yen for adults, 150 yen for elementary and middle school-aged children

Contact information: Museum of the Meiji Restoration Tel: 239-7700

■ Enjoy Kagoshima's winter attractions!

"Matterushi Kagoshima City" Lodging coupon (winter edition)

(20,000 available, first come first serve) Coupon on sale to receive a 5000 yen discount for lodging facilities within the city (2000 yen for one coupon)

※Purchase and use via smartphone (payment on-site)

Time period: December 9th (Friday) to February 28th (Tuesday)

Contact information: "Matterushi Kagoshima City" Lodging Campaign Office Tel :050-3850-8177

Please check <https://www.city.kagoshima.lg.jp/kan-suishin/shisetsu/kanko/kagoshimashi-shukuhaku.html> for more details.

COVID-19 prevention, vaccines and support for surging prices

■ COVID-19 vaccines (available as a special case for a limited time) will be carried out by the Japanese Government until March 31st, 2023. We ask that those who wish to be vaccinated please do so as soon as possible (after confirming the interval of time since your last vaccination).

For details about how to make an appointment and other info, contact the City COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center Tel 833-9567

https://www.city.kagoshima.lg.jp/kenkofukushi/hokenjo/hoyoboyobou/kenko/kenko/sesshu/covid19_vaccine.html

■ Premium reduction business using receipts

A gift certificate or electric money (points) equivalent to 3,000 yen per household will be awarded for

spending money at shops within Kagoshima City between October 1st and December 28th 2022

Application Deadline : Postmarked by December 28th

How to apply : Attach receipts worth 10,000 yen or more to the application form (which has already been sent out) and apply either via mail or online.

For details, please visit

<https://www.city.kagoshima.lg.jp/san-shien/sangyo/shokogyo/shogyo/receipt.html>

■ Special benefits to support households raising children (Just for Kagoshima City)

10,000 yen per child will be sent to households with children who were born between April 2nd, 2004 and March 31st, 2021 and have guardians who live in Kagoshima City as of September 30th of this year.

How to apply: There is no need for those already receiving childcare benefits to apply, as those already receiving childcare benefits are set to receive a direct deposit to their bank account in late December.

Application is required for households with only high school-aged children, households of civil servants or households with an income that exceeds the maximum required to receive childcare benefits. An application form is scheduled to be sent out to households with children registered as residents of Kagoshima City on Friday, December 9th. (Applications will start to be accepted on the same day)

Contact information: Benefits Call Center 805-4685

☒ Special benefits livelihood support for households raising children

50,000 yen per child will be distributed to low-income households that are raising children.

• For single-parent households

- ① Those who did not receive childcare benefits due to receiving pension, etc.
- ② Those whose income decreased to the same level as those receiving childcare benefits due to the impact of COVID-19

• For other households

- ③ Those exempt from resident taxes who are raising children born in April 2022 or later (the child's first resident registration must be in Kagoshima City)
- ④ Of those raising children who are not in situation 3, those who are exempt for resident taxes this year and those whose income has decreased to the same level as resident tax-exempt people due to the impact of COVID-19.

◇ There is no need for those in situation 3 to apply. For those in situations 1, 2 and 4, applications are due on February 28th, 2022.

Contact information: Benefit call center 805-4685

Childcare guide

■ 2023 Applications for nurseries and certified centers for early childhood education and care (that function

as nurseries)

Eligible : Guardians who cannot watch over their children due to work, pregnancy/giving birth, illness, searching for employment

※Those who were on the waiting list for 2022 still need to reapply

Application period : Period 1 by December 23rd

Period 2 from December 26th to February 8th

Period 3 from February 9th to March 8th (After that, applications will be accepted at any time)

For more details, contact the Childcare Division at 216-1258 or the Welfare Division or Health Welfare Division at any City Hall branch office

※For kindergartens and certified centers for early childhood education and care (that function as kindergartens), please contact the kindergarten facilities directly

■ Newborn visits

Childcare consultations conducted by midwives and nurses via home visits

Eligible : As a rule, mothers of children 28 days old or younger and their child. For more details, contact the Mother and Child Public Health Division at 216-1485.

■ Assistance with children's medical costs

For children in their 3rd year of middle school or younger (or children 18 or younger for households exempt from resident taxes)

◇ Amount granted

For the cost of appointments partially covered by insurance, the full cost will be covered for children ages 2 and younger, and 2000 yen will be reduced from the total cost per month for children ages 3-third year of middle school (Households exempt from resident taxes receive support for the full cost)

◇ Partial payment of health care services provided through health insurance for children of households exempt from resident taxes is not required at medical institutions within Kagoshima Prefecture

◇ Procedures are required if you do not have a card saying that you receive assistance or there has been a change to your situation

For details, contact the Child Welfare Division at 216-1261 or the Welfare Division or Health Welfare Division at any City Hall branch office

■ Internet appointment reservations for children who are ill/recently recovered are now available

Health care for when children who go to health clinics regularly are suddenly ill.

You can now check online for availability and make reservations for such times.

Please check

<https://www.city.kagoshima.lg.jp/kosodate/hoiku/kosodate/kosodate/azuketaitoki/byoji.html>

New Year's trash collection days

Trash and recyclables taken out after the last collection day of the year are a nuisance to those who live near trash collection points. Please be sure to take out trash and recyclables by 8 AM on the collection day.

Type of trash	Areas where burnable trash collection days are Mondays and Thursdays		Areas where burnable trash collection days are Mondays and Fridays	
	December	January	December	January
Burnable trash	29 (Thurs)	5 (Thurs)	30 (Fri)	6 (Fri)
Non-burnable trash	28 (Wed)	25 (Wed)	21 (Wed)	18 (Wed)
Plastic Containers	30 (Fri)	6 (Fri)	29 (Thurs)	5 (Thurs)
Cans, Jars, and plastic bottles	21 (Wed)	4 (Wed)	28 (Wed)	11 (Wed)
Papers (Newspapers, fliers, cardboard/paper boxes, wrapping paper, magazines, cartons etc.)	27 (Tues)	10 (Tues)	26 (Mon)	9 (Holiday)
Clothing	20 (Tues)	17 (Tues)	19 (Mon)	16 (Wed)
Lightbulbs, fluorescent lights, used batteries, spray cans	13 (Tues)	10 (Tues)	12 (Mon)	9 (Holiday)
Metals	14 (Wed)	11 (Wed)	7 (Wed)	4 (Wed)

※Please note that the final collection days of lightbulbs, fluorescent lights, batteries, spray cans, and metals are during the first half of December.

Employment

■ Joint Interview Session for Businesses in Kagoshima City, Hioki City, Ichikikushikino City, and Aira City

Eligibility : Those seeking employment in either of the four cities

Date and time : January 9th (Holiday) 13:00-17:00 (Check-in 12:30~15:30)

Location: Kagoshima Kenmin Kouryuu Center Cost : Free

Contact information: Minami-Nihon Living Shimbun Activities Promotion Department Tel: 222-7290

Applications open for English Conversation Activities Assistants (AEA)

Team teaching with elementary school English classes and foreign language departments.

Eligibility: Those who live in or near Kagoshima City who are fluent in English and Japanese (Nationality is not taken into account)

Term: One year, starting from April 1st 2023

Spots open: Around 80 (selection based on a written report and interview) Deadline: January 11th, 2023 (postmarked)

Contact information: School Education Division 227-1941

Necessary documents for exemption from social insurance premiums

Receipts or other documents showing the amount paid are required in order to receive a deduction for social insurance premiums when making year-end adjustments, filing final tax returns, or filing city or prefectural tax returns.

■ National Health Insurance Tax: National Health Insurance Division (Tel:216-1230)

- Those who paid National Health Insurance Taxes this year

Notice of annual payment amount to be sent by the city in late January 2023.

◇ If needed early, we will issue a health insurance tax contact form (free of charge) for filing.

◇ A tax payment certificate (300 yen) is required when filing a tax return to a tax office outside the city.

◇ Please send an application to receive a proposed payment amount for each household member (excluding the special levy).

■ Nursing-care Insurance fees Nursing-care Insurance Division (Tel:216-1279)

- Those who pay by special collection (payment from pension)

Certificate of Withholding Tax for Public Pension and Other Benefits to be sent by the pension insurer in late January 2023

- Those who pay by ordinary tax collection (payment slip or bank account transfer)

Notice of annual payment amount to be sent by the city in late January next year.

◇ Starting this year, we will also send notifications of the annual payment amount to those who have paid with a payment slip.

◇If you need to pay early, the Nursing-care Insurance Division or the counter in charge at each branch office will issue a confirmation of payment.

■Late-stage medical insurance premiums for the elderly: Longevity Support Section (Tel:216-1268)

- Those who pay by special collection (payment from pension)

Certificate of Withholding Tax for Public Pension and Other Benefits to be sent by the pension insurer in late January 2023

- Those who pay by bank account transfer

Notice of account transfer and automatic payment of late-stage medical insurance premiums for the elderly to be sent by the city in late January 2023

※If the premiums are transferred from an account in a name other than your own, the deduction for social insurance premiums will be applied to that name.

- Those who pay by payment slip

Receipt of late-stage medical insurance premiums for the elderly (with receipt stamped)

◇If you have lost it, the Longevity Support Division or the counter in charge at each branch office will issue a confirmation of payment.

■National Pension Insurance Premiums Japan Pension Service (Pension Plan Member Dial)

Tel:0570-003-004

Deduction certificate or receipt sent by Japan Pension Service

※Deduction certificates for those who made their first payment this year after October will be sent in early February next year

Consultation centers

■Kagoshima City Consultation Desk for Foreign Residents 090-9407-2266

This consultation service is available for foreign residents of Kagoshima City to receive help with residency status, work, illness, childbirth, child rearing, child education and other problems in daily life. Consultations are available in 16 languages and easy Japanese. Consultations are free.

■Sun-sun Call Kagoshima 099-808-3333

Service providing simple guidance for queries involving procedures at City Hall, event information, and facilities. In the event that language assistance is needed, a third party member from a multilingual interpreting center will join the call. They can provide interpreting services in seven languages (English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Thai, and Vietnamese) Please feel free to call.

■Interpretation support from Coordinators of International Relations (CIRs) for procedures at City Hall

counters 099-216-1131

Available Languages : English, Chinese, Korean

Available times : Monday to Friday, generally from 9:00 to 17:00 (Not including the hour of 12:00-13:00)

※There are occasions when the CIRs are unavailable.

Location : International Affairs Division (2nd Floor of the City Hall West Annex Building)

Coordinator of International Relations (CIR) report



[Rebecca]

I went to see the illumination display at Minami Oodoori Park, located conveniently across the street from the Shiyakushomae tram stop by City Hall! The streets in the downtown area of my hometown and near my university in the U.S. would always be decorated with pretty lights come December, so seeing the white and blue lights brought back many fond memories. Many people were gathered to take pictures and walk together while admiring the lights, and the lights really brought a romantic and magical mood to the park. The moon also decided to grace us with her presence on this day...if only I could get a better photo...

The illumination display in Minato Oodoori Park will last until the end of January, so be sure to check it out!

[Soyeon]

I went with the other CIRs to see the Minato Oodoori Park Illumination, which is right in front of City Hall. Kagoshima isn't as cold as my hometown in Korea, so it hasn't really felt like winter, but when I see the illumination displays all over town I think, "Ah, it really is winter..." The illumination gives the park romantic vibes, so why don't you try spending time there with someone special?

[Kairei]

I went to see the illumination at Minato Oodoori Park, in front of City Hall. The “family of three” (the statues in the photo) and the trees decorated in sparkling lights are awaiting you! Sakurajima at sunset and the fountain beneath the lights are also beautiful, so check it out!

Introducing Kagoshima City’s CIRs

Hey there! My name is Rebecca LeVeque, and I’m from Seattle, Washington in the USA. I started working in Kagoshima as a CIR in July this year. I’m fresh out of university and this is my first time living in Japan, so I’m learning a lot every day. I hope to do my very best to contribute to international friendship in the city! Yoroshiku!

Hello! I’m Noh Soyeon, the Korean CIR. This is my first time being back in Kagoshima after six years. The people and city are warm and friendly as always, so I’m glad I came back. I’m excited to be working here.

Hello, everyone! I’m Liu Kai Li, from Anhui in China. I have many hobbies, but I especially love travelling, taking photos, music, and cooking. I came to Kagoshima in March of this year, and living here for the past nine months has been a blast so far. I think that Kagoshima has lovely scenery, delicious food, and kind people. I’m looking forward to sharing more of Kagoshima’s beauty and interacting with more people here. Thank you!



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