

A. Key Information for your new life

Preparation for some important administrative procedures

Personal seals (inkan)

In Japan, personal seals (inkan or hanko) are used instead of signatures to authenticate bank or other official documents. For Japanese people with common names, ready-made seals are available, but people usually have their personal seal engraved, thus ensuring that they are unique and secure. Seals can be made at specialized shops. Take good care of your seal, since it is as valuable as your signature.

Copies of documents

It is preferable to obtain multiple copies of official documents whenever you receive them, for example certificates of marriage or birth. If you require the documents after returning to your home country, having them reissued may be difficult or impossible.

1. Visas

A visa allows you to stay in Japan for a certain period. Depending on your visa status, you may be able to extend the period of stay. When you leave Japan, the visa expires automatically. If you wish to leave and then re-enter Japan using the same visa before the period of stay has expired, you must apply for a re-entry permit (sai-nyukoku kyoka-sho).

[See ② Re-entry Permits.] Some visas allow you to work full-time or part-time (restricted work hours). It is illegal for a foreigner to stay in Japan after the visa expires, or to engage in activities other than those permitted by the current status of residence. Make sure you understand your status of residence. If you wish to change your visa status, you can apply at the Immigration Bureau (nyukoku kanri kyoku).

【Inquiries】

- **Fukuoka Regional Immigration Bureau** **Tel: 092-623-2400**

No. 3 Terminal Bldg. Fukuoka Domestic Airport, 778-1 Shimo-usui, Hakata-ku, Fukuoka

- **Foreign-resident general information** **Tel: 092-626-5100**

Languages spoken: English (every day, especially Mondays and Wednesdays); Chinese (every day), Korean (Tuesdays), Portuguese (Tuesdays & Fridays), Spanish (every day)

Hours: 9:00 ~ 12:00 / 13:00 ~ 16:00

Application languages: Japanese, English

① Alien registration

It is possible to apply for the following changes in residence status.

Permission to Engage in an Activity other than that permitted under the status of Residence Previously Granted
Residence-status change application (approx. ¥4,000)
Visa renewal (¥4,000)
Permanent residence visa (¥8,000)
Other changes (filling of naturalization papers, transferring stamps from old passports to new passport, etc.)

Visit the immigration bureau in person to apply for the changes above. Payment is accepted in revenue stamps only; these can be purchased in Domestic Terminal 3 of Fukuoka Airport. Take your passport, alien registration card and any other necessary documents.

② Re-entry permits

Foreigners residing in Japan who wish to leave and then re-enter Japan using their current visa before the period of stay expires must apply for a re-entry permit before leaving. A re-entry permit is valid for a single trip only. If you travel overseas frequently, you may apply for a multiple re-entry permit. The validity period of re-entry permits cannot exceed that of your visa, and can last up to three years. Fees for the permit vary according to the type issued. For further details, contact the Immigration Bureau.

※ Free consultations on immigration, residence and nationality are available at Rainbow Plaza and Kokusai Hiroba. [see G consultation Services]

③ Working

Foreign students are allowed to work part-time, but several conditions apply. Other visas for foreigners may have restrictions on pay and the type of work permissible, depending on the visa status. Ask the Immigration Bureau for details. When looking for employment, consult Hello Work, newspaper help-wanted ads or employment magazines. For consultations on employment, contact the labor support organizations below.

【Employment support in Fukuoka】

● Hello Work Fukuoka Chuo/ Foreign Employment Service Center

Tel. 092-712-8609 13:00 ~ 16:00

English: Wednesday; Chinese: Tuesday, Thursday

● Fukuoka Labor Bureau Foreign Workers' Counseling Desk

※ Cannot help find employment

Tel. 092-411-4862 English: Tuesday and Thursday

● Fukuoka Labor and Welfare Office General Help Desk

※ Cannot help find employment

Tel. 092-761-2538 English, Korean, Chinese and Spanish: (appointment required) Monday to Friday

● Japan Association for Working Holiday Makers

※ Can help to find employment for holders of working holiday visa
Tel. 092-713-0854 English: Tuesday to Saturday

At City Hall

2. Alien Registration

● Basic Information

All foreign nationals residing in Japan must register their status of residence and address at a municipal office. Register at the office of the area you live in within 90 days of arriving in Japan (Iizuka). Upon registration, you will receive your alien registration card (gaikokujin toroku shomei-sho). Persons over 16 years of age must carry their alien registration card with them all the time and present it when requested. The cards are also useful as identification, when opening a bank account, buying a phone, or obtaining library membership.

Inquiry:

Citizen's section of Citizen's department of city hall

Tel.:0948-22-5500 (ext.130)

Citizen Environment department of each branch

Honami: Tel.: 0948-22-0380

Chikuho: Tel.: 0948-72-1100

Shonai: Tel.: 0948-82-1200

Kaita: Tel.: 09496-2-2211

Foreigners excluded from registration requirements

- ① Those visiting Japan for less than 90 days
- ② Children of non-Japanese born in Japan who will leave Japan within 60 days of birth
- ③ Diplomats and government officials
- ④ Members and civilian employees of the armed forces of the United States of America or United Nations Forces and their dependents residing in Japan

① Initial registration

Apply for alien registration in person at the Citizen's 2 section of Citizen's department (shimin-ka) of city hall or at National Pension section of Citizen Environment department in Honami, Chikuho, Shonai and Kaita by filling out an application form for alien registration. You will need your passport and two photos (taken within the last 6 months, excluding the children under 16 years of age) to register. Documents are available mostly in Japanese and English. If necessary, it is better to have a Japanese-speaking friend accompany you. If you are employed, you should bring a document displaying the name and address of your employer (business card, envelope, employee ID etc.).

② Notifying changes

If any changes have taken place in the following, you must submit an application to update your registration record within 14 days from the day on which such change occurred. The changes to report include: "name in full", "nationality", "address", "occupation", "status of residence", "period of stay", "name and location of your employment or your office", "birth of children", and "marital status".

③ Re-issuing, exchange and return

If you have lost your registration certificate due to loss, theft, robbery, etc., you must apply for the reissuance of a registration certificate within 14 days of the day on which you have become aware of such loss, theft, robbery, etc. If your card has been badly damaged or soiled, you may apply for an exchange. If you leave Japan without having received a re-entry permit, you will be required to turn over your card to the Immigration official at the airport of departure. Alien registration cards must be returned within 14 days of obtaining Japanese citizenship or death.

3. National Health Insurance

Japan has different types of medical insurance systems, one of them is National Health Insurance. It is a non-private health insurance system providing mutual assistance to members. The objective of National Health Insurance is to use the funds obtained from premium payments to reduce the medical bills associated with visits to doctors, when you or a member of your family get ill or injured. Medical and health insurance purchased abroad cannot be used in Japan. Anyone who

Inquiry:

Healthcare Improvement Department
of city hall

Tel.:0948-22-5500 (ext.140)

Health Welfare department of each
branch

Honami: Tel.: 0948-22-0380

Chikuho: Tel.: 0948-72-1100

Shonai: Tel.: 0948-82-1200

Kaita: Tel.: 09496-2-2211

is deemed likely to stay in Japan for longer than one year should enroll in National Health Insurance. When you enroll in National Health Insurance, you must pay National Health Insurance premiums. The premiums will be determined according to the income of the previous year and The family's situation.

① Application procedure

Applications are processed at Healthcare Improvement Department of city hall or at the related department of each branch.

● Things you need for application to National Health Insurance

1.Registration certificate

2.Those who withdraw from their employer's health insurance: Certificate which proves the date you quit the company

3.Foreign students: A document proving that he/she will be studying in Japan for a year or longer. (such as student ID)

② Insurance Certificate & What is covered

① Present your National Health Insurance Certificate when you require medical attention, National Health Insurance covers 70% of medical costs, while you pay the remaining 30%.

② If a person gives birth, she shall receive a lump sum payment of ¥350,000.

③ If a person dies, his/her relatives shall receive ¥40,000 for funeral expenses.

- ④ If your medical expenses exceed a specified amount for one month, you are eligible to be reimbursed for the excess amount. The specified amount for one month: ¥80,100(To the tax exempt family: ¥35,400)

③ Other examples of what is and isn't covered under National Health Insurance

- ① Items not covered: Childbirth, physical examinations, vaccinations and work-related injuries covered by worker's compensation.
- ② If you become suddenly ill while traveling without your health insurance certificate and pay 100% of your bill, you may apply for reimbursement by presenting the receipt, certificate of medical remuneration, and others to Healthcare Improvement department of city hall. After these documents have been reviewed, you will be reimbursed for 70% of the expenses.
- ③ If the injury is caused by a third person such as in a traffic accident, report to Healthcare Improvement Department of city hall.

④ Items you should report

- ① When changes arise, such as the householder, the address, your name and the number of members of your family. (Within 14 days)
- ② When you withdraw from National Health Insurance and enroll in health insurance at your place of employment.
- ③ When a baby is born.
- ④ When an insured person dies.
- ⑤ When you turn 75 years old, or when you become a person to whom medical service for the retired applies.
- ⑥ When you have lost your health insurance certificate

※ Medical care assistance program for foreign students

The Japan International Education Association partially reimburses medical expenses incurred by foreign students who receive treatment at a medical institution. It is necessary to register with this program before receiving treatment. When a student is registered with this program in addition to the National Health Insurance, he or she will only be liable for 20% percentage of the actual cost of treatment. Please contact your university for details.

※ Social health insurance

If you are employed at a company, please enroll in health insurance through your place of employment. Please contact your company for details.

4. National Pension

The public pension system (National Pension Insurance and Employees' Welfare Pension Insurance) is a system which offers support by supplying a pension or lump sum payment to individuals who become unable to work due to advanced age or disabled through illness or injury.

Registered foreign residents between the ages of 20 and 59 are supposed to enroll in the National Pension System. You may apply for it at the National Pension section of Citizen's department of city hall or at the related department of each branch. If you are employed in a company or a factory in Japan, you must enroll in your Employer's Pension Insurance System, in which case application for the National Pension System is not required. The application procedure for the Employee's Pension Insurance System is carried out by the company, so check with the person in charge.

Inquiry:

National Pension section of
Citizen's department of city hall

Tel.:0948-22-5500 (ext.135)

Citizen Environment department
of each branch

Honami: Tel.: 0948-22-0380

Chikuho: Tel.: 0948-72-1100

Shonai: Tel.: 0948-82-1200

Kaita: Tel.: 09496-2-2211

① What kinds of Benefits Are there?

- **Aged Basic Pension:** Paid to individuals 65 years or older (anyone who fulfills the 25-year participation requirement by the age of 60)
- **Disability Basic Pension:** Paid to individuals enrolled in the National Pension System who have a certain degree of disability due to illness or injury.
- **Survivor's Basic Pension:** Paid to dependent children or wives with children of deceased contributors. (Wives without children are not eligible for benefits.)

② Lump Sum Withdrawal Payment (dattai ichiji kin)

Foreign residents who have paid into the public pension system can receive a lump sum withdrawal payment by applying for reimbursement after leaving Japan. It is a good idea to obtain the Claim Form and get instructions on the application process before leaving the country. As a general rule, all of the following four conditions must be met in order to receive the lump sum withdrawal payment, and the claim must be filled within 2 years after leaving the country.

- ① Persons who do not possess Japanese citizenship.
- ② Persons who have paid National Pension Insurance or Employees' Welfare Pension Insurance premiums for 6 months or more.
- ③ Persons who do not have a place of residence in Japan.
- ④ Persons who have never received pension payments (including allowances for the handicapped).

③ Exemption from National Pension

Students and those who earn less than a specific sum are exempted from National Pension. For further information, contact the following.

●**Inquiry for Social Security Pension: Nogata Social Insurance Office Tel: 0949-22-0890**

5. Taxes

Any inhabitants in Japan have an obligation to pay taxes regardless of nationality (Except for people who are tax-exempt under the tax treaty). The Japanese system of taxation is composed of national taxes and local taxes. The former is the tax you pay to the national government (such as income tax), and the latter is the tax you pay to your prefecture and your city, town or village (such as inhabitant tax).

① Income Tax

Income taxes are imposed upon all individual incomes as earned over the previous year.

Individuals whose income is from their place of employment:

They do not need to file a final income tax return if the employer performs a year-end adjustment. But if a year-end adjustment is not performed by the employer, the employee should file a final income tax return. For those whose income is over twenty million yen and those who get money in addition to their employment income, filing a final income tax return is required.

Individuals whose income is not from their place of employment:

They must file a final income tax return to the tax office on any day from February the 16th to March the 15th.

Inquiry:

Civic inhabitant tax section of Taxation department of city hall:

Tel.:0948-22-5500 (ext.120)

Tax section of the general affairs department of each branch

Honami: Tel.: 0948-22-0380

Chikuho: Tel.: 0948-72-1100

Shonai: Tel.: 0948-82-1200

Kaita: Tel.: 09496-2-2211

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② Inhabitants Tax

You must file your previous year's (January-December) income with your city, town or village of residence on January 1 by March 15. Inhabitant tax is levied on your previous year's income. Therefore, you must pay your taxes 1 year behind. Please ask Taxation department of city hall and Tax Payment department of city hall when you leave Japan.

	Reporting	Paying Taxes
Employees whose year-end adjustment is made	No need to file because the employer files	By law, companies withhold income tax from employee wages each month and pay this money to the National Treasury on behalf of the individual employees.
Those who file a final tax return	No need to file.	You will receive notification of taxes, so please pay it at the designated banking agencies. You can use account transfer as well.
Those who earn an income but do not match one of the above categories	Need to file inhabitants tax	
Those who had no income the previous year	Contact Taxation department of city hall	Tax payment is not required.

③ National Health Insurance Tax

Those who enroll in National Health Insurance should pay national health insurance tax. As for this tax, there is no tax-exemption. But there are a few cases in which the tax is reduced depending on the income.

Inquiry:

Health Improvement department of city hall

Tel. 0948-22-5500 (ext. 142)

④ Vehicle Taxes

	Type of cars	Sections and further details
Light vehicles tax	Light vehicles with engines smaller than 660cc	Tax system section of Taxation department of city hall Tel. 0948-22-5500 (ext. 118) Administration section of Tax Payment department of city hall Tel. 0948-22-5500 (ext. 123)
Vehicle tax	Ordinary vehicles	Iizuka/Nogata Prefectural Taxation Office Tel. 0948-23-4111

⑤ Fixed Property Tax

This tax is imposed on individuals who own fixed assets (land or buildings) as of January 1st.

Inquiry:

Fixed Property Tax section of Taxation department of city hall
Tel. 0948-22-5500 (ext. 125)

6. Births, deaths and marriage

Report these to the concerned departments, as well as to your home country's embassy or consulate in Japan.

① Births (When you have a baby)

Documents required: Birth certificate, certificate of registration of a parent (householder)

② Deaths

Documents required: death certificate, registration certificate

③ Marriage

Documents required: certificate that there is no impediment to marriage and certificate of marriage, registration certificate and passport.

Inquiry:

Citizen's section of Citizen's department of city hall

Tel.:0948-22-5500 (ext.130)

Citizen Environment department of each branch

Honami: Tel.: 0948-22-0380

Chikuho: Tel.: 0948-72-1100

Shonai: Tel.: 0948-82-1200

Kaita: Tel.: 09496-2-2211

B. Key Information for your happy home

1. Moving into

① Japanese Housing

Japan has both public and private housing. If you want to rent a private housing, visit a real estate agency and they may help if you tell them your budget and the property size you are looking for. Only the person who has signed the contract may live in the residence. Many apartment complexes do not allow pets.

Moving into a New House or Apartment

Be sure to introduce yourself to neighbors soon after moving to a new place. Also, joining a community association is a good way to find out a variety of information, including community events and trash collection days and times. Finally, check the location of the local hospital, police station, and fire station.

● Check the necessary procedures for changing schools and kindergartens.

Check that gas, water and electricity are turned on. If not, contact the proper office to arrange for that. Update information on the Certificate of Foreign Registration, driver's license, and registrations for cars and motorcycles.

Leaving Japan or Moving Away

Contact the landlord or real estate agent before moving to discuss the moving date and reimbursement of the deposit according to the contract.

● Check the necessary procedures for changing schools and kindergartens.

Notify the gas, water and electricity companies when to terminate service and arrange for payment. Contact NTT and NHK, and notify them whether the service will be transferred

or stopped. Notify the post office of the change of address. About the collection for oversized garbage and etc, contact **Iizuka Clean Center (Tel. 0948-22-1551)**. Update information on your registration certificate, driver's license, and registrations for cars and motorcycles.

② **Foreign students housing guarantor system**

Fukuoka International Exchange Foundation (Tel. 092-725-9204) can act as guarantor (hoshonin) for international students enrolled in universities and junior colleges in the Fukuoka Prefecture to help them find housing. For more information, contact the foreign students section of your university.

③ **How much is the rent?**

○ **Guarantor (hoshonin):** One of two guarantors will be required.

○ **Gift Money (reikin):** Sometimes called key money, this is paid to the landlord, and usually equals one or two times the monthly rental fee. This money is not returned when the tenant moves out. Presently, this custom is not very common.

In this way, signing a rental agreement requires four to five times the monthly rental fee. Please check the contents of the agreement carefully.

○ **Deposit (shiki kin):** This is money which will be kept by the landlord as security for payment of rent, and usually equals between one and three times the monthly rental fee. This money, minus the cost of any repairs, will be returned to the tenant when they move out.

○ **Mediation Fee (chukai ryo):**

This is a handling fee for the real estate agency and usually equals one month rental fee.

○ **Monthly rent (Yachin):**

Rent is payable one month in advance at the end of each preceding month.

○ You should ask about the payment of management fees or parking charges.

In this way, signing a rental agreement requires four to five times the monthly rental fee. Be sure to read the housing contract carefully before signing.

④ **Cancellation**

You should give your landlord at least one month's notice prior to moving out. If you have to leave without giving notice, one month rent may be deducted from the Deposit(shikikin).

⑤ **Public Housing**

There is some public housing provided by the prefecture and municipality for people who are on a low income. When applying you will be required to submit details of income and your specific needs for housing.

Municipal Housing

You have to be a resident or your work place must be in the city. However you must have family or relatives who will be living with you.

Inquiry:

Housing department of city hall
Tel. 0948-22-5500 (ext. 261)

Municipal Housing for International Students and Researchers

The housing is for international students and researchers of 3 universities in Iizuka-shi.

(Kyushu Institute of Technology, Kinki University School of Humanity-Oriented Science and Engineering and Kinki University Kyushu Junior College)

Application and selection are by your university.

Inquiry:

**General Planning Section
of City Hall**

Tel. 0948-22-5500(ext. 321)

Public Housing

You have to be a resident or your work place must be in Fukuoka prefecture. However your registered address must be in the same city as the apartment applied for, and you must have family or relatives who will be living with you.

●**Inquiry: Chikuho Public Housing Management Office Tel.: 0948-21-3232**

2. Water Supply · Sewage

① Water Service

The municipal water supply is treated with chlorine and you can drink straight from the tap. To start your water service, apply at the Water & Sewage Bureau before you need it. When you wish to terminate service, notify the Water & Sewage Bureau before leaving.

Inquiry

Iizuka Water & Sewage Bureau,
523 Tadakuma Iizuka City
(Honami Branch)

Tel.: 0948-22-0380

Paying your water bill

The water bill is paid once every two months. You can pay by automatic withdrawal from a financial institution or post office located in Iizuka, or in cash at convenience stores or any local financial institution.

※ If you notice a water leak or water pipes bursting, turn off the main supply valve, wrap any water pipes tightly with cloth, and contact the Repair Center to fix it. (For an apartment, contact the apartment administrator.)

●**Repair Center(Shuzen Center) Tel.: 0948-22-4949**

② Sewer Service

The charge for sewage disposal is indicated on your water service bill. Don't throw any solids or oil (kitchen garbage, oil for eating, gasoline, thinner and etc.) into the sewer.

3. Electricity

① Electric Service

▼ Getting connected

○ Power is supplied by simply turning on the main breaker switch.

○ Fill in the details required on the application form attached to the main switchbox (name, address, date moved in, etc.) and mail it in the return envelope to Kyushu Electric Company.

- If you cannot find the application form, contact Kyushu Electric Company.
- ※ Report to Kyushu Electric Company if you cannot get the power supply after turning on the main breaker switch.

② Power failure

If you use too many electrical devices at the same time, or there is a short circuit in some of the electrical devices, a safety breaker may trip, turning off the power.

Try the following.

- Reduce the number of electrical devices in use.
- Disconnect the electrical device that has short-circuited.
- Turn on the breaker again.

③ Increasing your electrical capacity

Changing the breaker is free but the monthly basic charge is subject to change.

④ Paying bills

A power company employee reads your meter once every month. Then you receive a notice slip that is printed with the meter reading, which indicates how much power you have used. You are billed every one month. You can pay your bill in cash at a bank, post office, Kyushu Electric, or at a designated convenience store. You may pay your bill by direct automatic withdrawal from a designated bank or a postal savings account.

⑤ When you want to terminate service

Contact Kyushu Electric a few days in advance of your moving out.

**●Inquiry: Kyushu Electric Power Co.Lnc. Iizuka Service Center:
23-32 Shin-Iizuka, Iizuka City Tel: 0120-986-104**

4. Gas

① Getting connected

When you start using gas, contact the gas company. The service person will also check for gas leaks and advise you of necessary precautions. Please observe these precautions in using your gas appliances.

② If you notice a gas leak

Gas leaks and breaks in the gas line can cause fires and other accidents.

- Open all doors and windows for ventilation. Turn off the gas stopcock.
- Refrain from lighting matches and lighters.
- Do not touch any switches of electric appliances.
- Call the gas company immediately. (If you have a problem with a propane gas tank, please contact the personnel at the telephone number written on the tank.) If an earthquake occurs, extinguish all flames immediately, and turn off the main supply valve.

③ Paying bills

A gas company employee reads your meter once every month. Then you receive a notice slip that is printed with the meter reading, which indicates how much gas you have used. You are billed every one month. You can pay your bill in cash at a bank, post office, Gas Company or a designated convenience store. You may pay your bill by direct automatic withdrawal from a designated bank or postal savings account.

④ When you want to terminate service

Contact the gas company a few days in advance of your moving out.

5. Telephone

① Establishing Telephone Service

Apply in person at the nearest NTT office when you want to establish telephone service. Identification such as the Alien registration or passport is required as identification when applying. When applying, you need to decide a date for installation. On the installation date, you need to stay at home. Installation fees will be included in the first telephone bill. Phones can be rented from NTT and are sold by NTT and electric appliance stores.

※ There are two types of telephone lines: touch tone and pulse.

Some types of services such as airplane or JR train reservations may not be accessible with pulse type telephone lines. For further information, please call 116 with no prefix.

② Leaving Japan or Moving Away

○ Relocating

Call 116 one week in advance of your moving out if you plan to relocate and continue the service. Installation charges will be required at the new address when relocating.

○ When Telephone Service Is Not Needed

The following procedures cover situations in which telephone service is not needed.

① Temporary cancellation of service

Subscription rights can be held by NTT for 5 years and there is no basic monthly charge when you want to temporarily cancel service. Installation charges will be necessary when reestablishing service.

② Transference of subscription right

Subscription rights can be transferred to another person. Application for transfer needs to be made at the NTT office where service was originally established.

③ Sale of subscription right

Subscription rights can be sold to private telephone vendors. Contact telephone vendors directly concerning procedures and necessary documents.

④ Cancellation of service

Your contract with NTT will need to be canceled if you don't need the telephone service anymore. The subscription right will be considered abandoned and there is no refund. There are also fees for removal of telephone lines.

③ Public Telephones (kosu denwa) and Telephone Cards

Public telephones in Japan accept 10 yen and 100 yen coins as well as telephone cards. Local calls are 10 yen per minute and charges for out-of-town calls vary according to distance. No change is returned for 100 yen coins.

For emergency calls (Police 110 – Fire 119), pick up the receiver, press the Emergency Call Button and dial the number, Emergency calls are free of charge.

Overseas calls can be made from public telephones with gold-colored panels and the words “for both domestic and overseas calls.”

Telephone Cards

There are both 50 unit (500 yen) and 105 unit (1,000 yen) telephone cards. One unit equals 10 yen worth of telephone time. Telephone cards are available at NTT offices, station kiosks, department stores, vending machines and so on.

④ Using Telephone Directories

There are two telephone directories in Japan, the Townpage (business listed by category) and Hellopage (individuals and businesses listed according to the Japanese syllabary). These local telephone directories are distributed free of charge upon request to NTT telephone users in the City of Iizuka. Old telephone directories are also collected.

●Telephone Directory Customer Center Tel. 0121-506-309

★Information on NTT West services in English 24 hours a day!

Tel. 0120-019-116 (toll free)

⑤ Cellular Phones (keitai denwa)-PHS

Applications for cellular phone or PHS (personal handy phone system) service can be made at telephone companies or their agencies. In many cases, the Alien registration ID is required when applying.

Inquiring should be made directly to the companies since they have different requirements, rates and services. Check the terms and conditions carefully when signing up since cellular or PHS phones sometimes have trouble transmitting or receiving calls inside buildings or underground shopping centers (indicated on the display) or do not allow for ordinary telephone services. Also please use good manners by limiting calls in public places and refraining from making or receiving calls while driving.

⑥ Domestic Telephone Calls

Telephone numbers in Japan consist of three sets of numbers.

【Example】

0948(Area Code)- 22(Exchange No.)- 5500(subscriber's number)

However, area codes are only required when dialing from another area code.

Telephone numbers starting with 0120 are toll-free numbers.

▼ Telephone information services

★ Free services	Pay services
110 Emergency police number	104 Directory assistance
119 Fires, rescue, ambulance	117 Time of Day (10 yen)
106 Collect calls	177 Weather information (10 yen)
113 Inquires concerning telephone trouble	
115 Domestic telegrams (Telegram fees apply)	
116 Inquiries concerning installation or relocation	

⑦ International Telephone Calls

International telephone calls can be made on private telephones as well as public telephones with gold-colored panels and the words “for both domestic and overseas calls.”

International Subscriber Dialing (direct dial)

The caller makes a call by dialing up the other party's number directly. The international telephone companies each offer a selection of services.

International call rates, procedures and coverage areas/countries vary depending on the international telephone company. Please make sure to confirm with the international telephone company before making your call.

⑧ How to Pay Telephone Bills

Telephone bills are sent to the customer from the telephone company by mail. There are two ways of payment.

○ Payment at designated financial institutions such as banks, at convenience stores or directly to the telephone company.

○ Arrange for an automatic transfer from an account at a bank or post office. (automatic transfer)

※ Prepaid cards are accepted by some telephone companies. For further information, please contact your telephone company.

6. Internet

The most popular methods of connecting to the internet are telephone modem dial up, ISDN, CATV, ADSL and optical fiber with broadband. Contact providers for the details.

★ Free internet use at Citizen Exchange Plaza (in i-town)

Free internet access is available at Iizuka Citizen Exchange Plaza(in i-town).

Rainbow Plaza(in Fukuoka city), some Internet cafes and access points in Fukuoka City offer Internet access at a small charge or for free.

●Iizuka Citizen Exchange Plaza. Tel. 0948-21-6711

●Rainbow Plaza Tel. 092-733-2220

7. Collection of Garbage

Keeping Our Town Clean

In order to keep our town clean and comfortable, garbage is to be put out in authorized bags at appointed times and places. Consult the community group or neighbors for the days and places for garbage collection in your community.

Inquiry:

Environment facilities
department

Tel.:0948-22-1551

Authorized garbage bag

(for ten bags)

Sort (color)		Size(capacity)	price
Burnable garbage	For home (yellow)	Large (50ℓ)	¥525
		Medium (30ℓ)	¥315
		Small (15ℓ)	¥157
	For office(white)	¥735	
Cans and glass bottles	For home (blue)	Large (50ℓ)	¥525
		Medium (30ℓ)	¥315
		Small (15ℓ)	¥157
	For office (blue)	¥735	
Non-Burnable garbage	For home (green)	Large (50ℓ)	¥525
		Medium (30ℓ)	¥315
	For office(orange)	¥735	

Oversized garbage

You have to put the authorized sticker on the garbage.

Size	Price
In 1m and in 10kg	¥210
In 1.5m and in 10kg	¥420
In 2m and in 40kg	¥840

※ As for aerosol cans, use up the contents, puncture a hole in the can and empty it completely.

※ Please reduce your garbage.

The price of the garbage bags is well calculated and includes the cost of waste treatment so that the inhabitants contribute partly in it.

Please consider separating and reducing your trash.

C. Daily life

1. Health Care

① Health

Public Health Nurses

Public Health Nurses provide local health service such as pregnancy, infant, maternal and child care, adult and senior citizen care and so on. Public health nurses are always at the Health Center **and each branch. So** please feel free to contact them.

Health Consultations

They give advice individually on physical and mental health. They will check your blood pressure, perform urinalysis and give instructions on nutrition if necessary. Public health nurses are available for regular health Consultations at Health Centers.

Other forms of medical checkup

They offer various kinds of medical checkup to people of 40 and over in order to increase early detection of life-style related diseases such as cancer, cerebral apoplexy, heart disease, diabetes and so on.

They offer medical checkup for uterine cancer to women of 20 and

over and for breast cancer to women of 30 and over. Women from 20 to 39 years old can get medical checkup in order to increase early detection and early treatment of illness such as obesity, high blood pressure, anemia and high cholesterol. Don't hesitate to get medical checkup to try to find these diseases in early stage.

※ Please make an appointment with the appropriate Health Center by phone.

※ The details such as the date, place and cost will appear in Public Information or Health Center Information.

HIV Medical Examination and other Health Consultations

Health, Welfare and Environment Office provides AIDS/HIV testing and consultations on life-style related diseases and tuberculosis.

※ Your privacy will be strictly protected.

- Fukuoka Prefectural Kaho Health, Welfare and Environment Office
Tel. 0948-23-4161

Inquiry:	
Iizuka Health Center	Tel.0948-24-4002
Honami Health Center	Tel.: 0948-22-0380
Chikuho Office	Tel. 0948-72-1104
Shonai Health and Human Services Center Harmony	Tel. 0948-82-5300
Kaita Office	Tel. 09496-2-2211

② Notification of Birth, Maternal and Child Health

After you confirm pregnancy, submit the Notification of Birth to one of the following centers. They grant a consultation card for pregnant woman health examination and a Maternal and Child Health Handbook which you need for infant health consultations and inoculations. Pregnant women of 35 and over on the date of delivery are granted a pregnant woman ultra sound wave examination card.

You need to bring the Notification of Birth with you.(you can get it at the place where they grant examination cards even if you don't have the notification.)

※ You can get them 2 times a month.

※ We have Maternal and Child Health Handbook in English.

To protect the health of pregnant women we commission health examinations in medical facilities in Fukuoka Prefecture: two pregnant-woman health examinations, one in the first half pregnancy period and the other in the second half pregnancy period. Pregnant women of 35 and over on the date of delivery are given an ultrasound wave examination. Please bring your card with you when you go to the medical facility. For further information, contact the following.

Inquiry:

Iizuka Health Center Tel.0948-24-4002

Honami Health Center Tel.: 0948-22-0380

Chikuho Office Tel. 0948-72-1104

Shonai Health and Human Services Center

Harmony Tel. 0948-82-5300

Kaita Office Tel. 09496-2-2211

③ Infant's Health Care

Infant Health Examinations

Health examinations for infants are performed once a month; 4-month checkup, 8-month checkup, 18-month checkup and 3-year checkup. You can get the notification about the checkup by postal mail. And then, have the health examination.

Inquiry:

Iizuka Health Center Tel.0948-24-4002

Honami Health Center Tel.: 0948-22-0380

Chikuho Office Tel. 0948-72-1104

Shonai Health and Human Services Center

Harmony Tel. 0948-82-5300

Kaita Office Tel. 09496-2-2211

Inoculations

Children's vaccination is important to prevent infection. Your city performs vaccinations required by law. Keep in mind that the age of the infant, the method of vaccination etc. are different according to the type of vaccination. The vaccinations required by law are mixtures against whooping cough, diphtheria and lockjaw, polio (poliomyelitis), measles, mixture(MR) against measles and rubella, rubella, encephalitis and BCG.

The age of the patient and the method of vaccination are explained below.

■ There are two ways of vaccination:

Group vaccination and Individual vaccination

○ Group vaccinations are given at public facilities after the details such as the date, place and cost will appear in Public Information or Health Center Information.

○ Individual vaccinations are given at designated medical facilities.

※ Please inquire where the designated medical facility is in advance.

※ Every vaccination free of charge.

Please bring your Maternal and Child Health Handbook with you.

Method of Performing	Name of Vaccination	Age of the infant	Method of Vaccination
Group	Polio	From 3 months to under 7 years and 6 months of age	2 times Oral
Individual	BCG(tuberculosis)	3 months to under 6 months of age	1 time
	mixture against whooping cough, diphtheria and lockjaw	From 3 months to under 7 years and 6 months of age	After 3 times inoculation at 3 to 8 weeks intervals, an additional inoculation will be done within about a year to a year and a half
	mixture(MR) against measles and rubella	I : from 1 year to under 2 years of age II : from 5 years and over of age to under 7 years of age (for 1 year of preschool)	Each one time
	※ for the child who had suffered from measles · · just against rubella ※ for the child who had suffered from rubella · · just against measles		
	Japanese encephalitis	From 3 years to under 7 years and 6 months of age	After 3 times inoculation at 1 to 4 weeks intervals, an additional inoculation Will be done after around a year

※ The information above is constantly updated. Please make sure to check for the latest information by contacting the following centers.

▼Financial Assistance for Children

Type	Eligibility	Income requirement	Window (Tel:0948-22-5500)
Infant benefit, Special benefit, Pre-school special benefit	Parents or guardians of infants under 12 years of age	apply	Birth Encouragement Department (ext. 472)
Dependent allowance	The mother or guardian of a child under 18 years of age	apply	
Special dependent allowance	A parent or guardian of a child under 18 years of age	apply	
Assistance of medical expenses for fatherless families	A single mother of a child under 18 years of age	apply	Healthcare Improvement Department (ext. 140)
Assistance of medical expenses for infants	In case of hospitalization: Available for preschoolers Otherwise: Available for infants under 4 years of age	no	
Disability allowance	Bedridden children under 20 years of age having severe disabilities.	apply	Social Disability Welfare Department (ext. 164)
Child benefit	A single parent or disabled parents of a child under 18 years of age	apply	Fukuoka prefectural welfare office (Tel: 0948-23-4161)

④ **Welfare • Geriatric medicine • Elderly-care-insurance • For fatherless families**

Elderly people welfare

Any citizens have the right to receive social welfare services in Japan.

Medical care for the elderly (When the elderly get sick)

The person of 75 and over (including the person of 65 and over who is recognized to be bedridden) who enrolled in a health insurance system is only to pay 10% of the actual cost. The person whose income is more than a definite standard will be to pay 20% of the actual cost. When the medical treatment expense becomes large amount of money, the amount that exceeds the amount of one month of the individual coverage limit is reimbursed back later.

Inquiry
Health Improving Department
of City Hall
Tel. 0948-22-5500 (ext. 140)

Foreign Elderly Welfare Benefit

A welfare benefit of 7,000 yen a month is applied to foreigners who cannot receive a national pension. The objects are ① those were born before April 1, 1926 and ② those who have registered before January 1, 1982 and have registered for over one year(including the naturalized Japanese).

Inquiry

Senior Citizen's Support
Department of City Hall
Tel. 0948-22-5500 (ext. 163)

Public assistance

You can use the public assistance system when you have no other means of support. It has a definite standard.

Nursing Care Insurance

Members of Nursing Care Insurance can apply to be authorized to benefit from nursing care whenever needed. The authorized person can use the required nursing services. In this case, you have to pay 10% of the actual cost.

Inquiry

Public Insurance of elderly care
Section of City Hall
Tel. 0948-22-5500 (ext. 151~157)

Handicapped support center

This center offers various kinds of information for the disabled confined to home in order to help them use the welfare services provided by the city office.

Center's name	Tel	Fax
Sun Abilities	0948-24-7272	0948-52-7052
Kasamatsu	0948-82-2101	0948-82-1058
BASARA	0948-29-0880	0948-29-0880

Welfare for the disabled

Welfare services for the disabled consist of application of cards, in-home care service and institution social welfare service.

A grade card, a grade therapy card, mental patient health and welfare card are available.

Inquiry

Social Disability Welfare
Department of City Hall
Tel. 0948-22-5500 (ext. 165)

● **Social Welfare Conference: 956-4 Kayanomori Oaza Iizuka City**

Tel. 0948-23-2210 Fax0948-23-2262

Consultation Center for Support Nursing at home

It is a public general consultation center about nursing care at home for the elderly who live at home and need some support and for the family. We have 12 centers. You have to use the nearest center to you.

Home Medical Care Support Center

This is the public consulting facility for the family or the person who is at home and needs any support about home medical care.

There are 12 centers. Each center is available for each residence.

The name of the facility	Tel.	Fax
Cosmos En	0948-21-5511	0948-25-5661
Taiyo no Sato	0948-21-2828	0948-25-2140
Iizuka	0948-29-5853	0948-29-5856
Izumi	0948-21-1777	0948-21-1773
Best Silver Iizuka	0948-22-8888	0948-22-4677
Kunugi En	0948-24-8000	0948-24-7200
Honami	0948-29-3235	0948-26-6762
Tsubaki En	0948-23-8124	0948-23-6565
Chikuho	0948-72-3153	0948-72-5275
Wakatake House	0948-82-3343	0948-82-3486
Tada no sato	0948-20-4033	0948-20-4030
Kaita En	09496-2-5211	09496-2-0075

Inquiry

Senior Citizen's Support Section,
Region inclusive Support Center of City
Hall
Tel. 0948-22-5500 (ext. 158~160)

Health Visitor Service

District nurses can provide some support by visiting the bedridden, the senile dementia-affected or the person who needs support about health to improve their quality of life.

Independence Allowance for Fatherless families

◆ Allowance for Education

This is an allowance for the mother who learns in an industrial school to promote herself (It depends on her income)

◆ Allowance for Profession

This is an allowance for the mother who trains to obtain a qualification (It depends on her income)

Inquiry:

Iizuka Health Center Tel.0948-24-4002
Honami Health Center Tel.: 0948-22-0380
Chikuho Office Tel. 0948-72-1104
Shonai Health and Human Services Center
Harmony Tel. 0948-82-5300
Kaita Office Tel. 09496-2-2211

⑤ Hospitals

Municipal Emergency Clinic for night and holidays

● (Iizuka Yakan Kyukan Center) : 7-8 Nishimachi Iizuka

Tel: 0948-24-3399

【Day】 on Saturday, Sunday, holidays, from the 13th to the 15th of Aug. and from 31st of December to the 3rd of January

【Hours】 from 17:00 to 23:00

【Department】 internal medicine, pediatrics

Clinic on holidays

You can get the information by the following means:

- The daily newspaper
- Iizuka Ishi kai home page <http://www15.ocn.ne.jp/~maiizuka/>

2. Banking・Post office

① Banks (ginko)

Banks offer a number of services including savings accounts, loans, bank drafts, foreign exchange (overseas remittance, currency exchange, and traveler's checks), the use of cash cards, the payment of utility bills through automatic transfers and so on.

Although hours vary from bank to bank and from branch to branch, banks are usually open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. from Monday through Friday. Automatic teller machines (ATM) are usually open until 7:00 p.m. on weekdays and many of them also operate on weekends.

Since cash is usually used for the everyday purchase of goods and services in Japan, it is advisable to confirm banking hours.

Opening a New Account (koza)

Accounts can be opened at banks or credit associations (Shinyo kinko). Post offices and agricultural cooperatives (Nokyo) also have savings accounts. The following items are required when opening an account at a bank or post office.

Documents and other items required

- Certificate of Foreign Registration, passport or driver's license for identification
- Personal seal

Application for an account can be made using forms provided by bank tellers. After you open a bank account, you can obtain a bank cash card. By entering the registered PIN number of your cash card, you can withdraw, deposit, and transfer funds, and check your balance on ATMs.

Types of Accounts

There are two main kinds of accounts at banks and post offices.

- Ordinary Savings (futsu yokin)

Although interest rates are low for this type of account, deposits and withdrawals can be made as you like, and automatic transfer and cash card services are available.

● Time Deposit (teiki yokin)

Money over a certain limit can be deposited for a fixed period of time. Withdrawals cannot be made during this period. Interest rates are higher than those for ordinary savings.

Automatic Transfers(koza furikae) for Utility Bills and Other Payments

Automatic transfers from an account can be used to pay utility bills for water, gas, electricity, and telephone, as well as taxes, the NHK Receiving Fee and other monthly payments. A prescribed form needs to be filled out and submitted at the bank or post office to apply for automatic transfer service., This service is very convenient in that you are not required to visit the bank regularly for payments and do not have to worry about missing payment deadlines.

If you use this service, the following ones are needed.

○ each bill or receipt ○ bankbook ○ your seal that you used in opening a bank account

Depositing (azukeire) and Withdrawing (haraimodoshi) Money

A prescribed form needs to be filled out and submitted to a teller for deposits or withdrawals. In case of withdrawals, the seal used when opening the account is required. Cash cards can be used for deposits and withdrawals in some places.

Leaving Japan or Moving Away

Make sure to report to the bank when you leave Japan or move away and would like to close your account. You are also required to report to your bank when any changes have been made concerning automatic bank transfers.

② Post office

Please ask the details at your nearest post office when you'd like to get any information.

The following webpage is available in English.

<http://www.post.yusei.go.jp/english/>

Major post offices (Just Iizuka Yubin kyoku in Iizuka-city) open from 9:00 to 19:00 except on Saturdays, on Sundays and national holidays. They also have an after-hours counter to deal with overseas mail and parcels during closing.

The other post offices in Iizuka open from 9:00 to 17:00 except on Saturdays, on Sundays and national holidays. They are marked with a red 「〒」 symbol.

●Iizuka Post Office (Iizuka Yubin kyoku)

Tel: 0948-22-1100 (Postal service) 、 0948-22-0700 (savings and Insurance)

Delivery

Mail is delivered to residences once daily from Monday to Saturday. Parcels, express mail, and registered mail are delivered separately.

Any parcels or registered mail delivered in your absence will be taken back to the post office and held for 10 days. A notice of delivery (fuzai haitatsu tsuchi-sho) will be left in your mailbox. You can fill in the card with the requested date and location for re-delivery, and mail it back to the specified post office (no postage required, you may also contact the post office by internet or telephone; take a note your reception number (uketsuke bango) on hand). If you cannot be at home, you may have the package delivered to your place of work or have your neighbor accept the item by filling in the appropriate address on the card. You can also pick up the item in person. In either case, you will be asked for your signature or stamp (inkan). Personal identification is required, when you pick up the item at post office. Post offices will return the item to the sender if it cannot be delivered.

Forwarding

When moving, be sure to submit a change of address notice (tenkyo todoke) and the mail addressed to your old address will be forwarded to your new address for one year. Forwarding to overseas addresses is available only under certain conditions (ask at the Post Office).

Courier service

Courier service is offered by the post office, as well as a number of private companies. You can send parcels from almost any convenience store or other locations bearing the logos of courier companies.

3. Driver' s License

① Switching an Overseas Driver' s License to a Japanese License

A driver's license issued by a foreign administrative can be switched to a Japanese license, provided it was obtained at least three months prior to departure from the nation of issue , and is still valid. However the holder must take an eyesight, color-blindness, and written and practical test. Holders of licenses from certain countries (Some European countries, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and Korea) are exempt from the practical test, so make sure to check the status of the country where your license was issued.

The written test can be conducted in English, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese, Korean and Persian.

※ An international driving permit cannot be switched to a Japanese driver's license.

●Inquiry: Chikuho Jidosha Unten Menkyo Shikenjo (Chikuho Driver' s License Test Center)

23-21 Niho Iizuka-city

Tel: 0948-82-0160

Application time: 13:00 ~ 13:30. Monday to Friday

Documents required

- ① Authentic overseas driver's license
 - ② Copy of the license
 - ③ Overseas driver's license translation (that must be translated by your embassy, Consulate or JAF)
 - ④ Passport (if you have a new passport, bring your old passport with the first entry visa stamp to Japan on it as well)
 - ⑤ Alien registration card
 - ⑥ Certificate of original alien registration document (Gaikokujin Toroku Genpyo Kisai Jiko Shomeisho), available at citizen's section of city hall
 - ⑦ Photo: 3 cm x 2.4cm: taken within the last six months (color or black-and-white). If taking the practical test, bring two copies.
- ※ It is preferable to be accompanied with a Japanese-speaking person

You can make sure of the detail of requirements on the following (JAF homepage).

<http://www.jaf.or.jp/e/switch.htm>

② International driving permits

International driving permits can only be issued in your home country, and are valid for one year from the date of issue. Once expired, you need Japanese driver's license to drive in Japan. Lost international driving permits cannot be re-issued in Japan.

4. Consumer Related Problems

Damage to consumers due to unscrupulous merchandising such as catch-sales and multilevel marketing programs is on the rise lately. If you are deceived by a stranger and sign a contract without careful consideration, you may end up in big trouble. It's a good idea to consult with someone you know well before signing contracts involving large sums of money.

① Avoiding Consumer-Related Trouble

The following are some examples of consumer-related troubles:

Catch-Sales

You are approached by a stranger on the street and are asked to fill in a questionnaire and then taken to a nearby store. At the store, you are pressured into buying some expensive goods such as cosmetics.

Multilevel Marketing Programs

The usual sales pitch for multilevel marketing includes discounts and rebates on purchases made by friends you introduce to the scheme. This can often result in the loss of friends and demands for refunds.

Subscription to More than One Newspaper

Attracted by the offer of free gifts when signing new contracts, customers end up subscribing to several newspapers.

Lending Credit Cards or Name

You realize that debts have been incurred in your name after an acquaintance asks to borrow your credit card or use your name.

Credit Card Debt

Using several credit cards carelessly often lands consumers deep in debt before they know it and paying off the loans becomes quite difficult. There are many other kinds of troubles.

② **Credit Cards**

Credit is the lending of money based on trust. Under this system, credit companies pay for purchase made by the customer and collect money from the customer at a later date. Individuals need to consider their ability to repay these loans, plan well when using credit cards, and make sure to make payments on time. If you fall behind in payments, you risk not only added late charges and compounded interest, but also the loss of credibility and the right to use your credit cards.

Important Points of Consideration

Sign your name in the space provided on the credit card.

Carefully read the terms and conditions in the credit card contract. Lending credit cards to others is prohibited. Write down telephone numbers for the credit company and information services and keep them in a safe place.

③ **What is the Cooling-off System?**

The cooling-off system allows consumers to unilaterally withdraw from or cancel contracts made with traveling salespersons or by installment plans, provided they do so within a given period of time. For further information, contact the nearest Consumer Information Center.

Making Use of the Cooling-off System

It is not possible to unilaterally cancel a normal contract after entering into it. However, contracts related to specified products or services sold through traveling sales persons, catch sales, or appointment sales can be canceled unconditionally if done so within eight days of signing the contract (20 days for multilevel merchandising).

Claims for cooling-off should be made in a written form and submitted to both the dealer and the credit firm within eight days, including the day the contract was signed.

④ **Consumer Information Center**

The aim of Consumer Information Centers is to improve the conditions of consumers by assisting in contact trouble, holding lectures, surveying prices for everyday items, and so on.

※ If you get involved in any kind of consumer-related trouble, please ask for advice at your nearest Consumer Information Center.

● **Inquiry:** Tateiwa Public Hall (near Iizuka City Hall) Tel: 0948-22-0857
From 8:30 to 17:00 on Monday to Friday (excluding national holidays)

5. Preparation for Disaster

① Preparing for Fires

If a fire breaks out, notify the fire department right away and try to extinguish the source of the fire with a bucket of water, fire extinguisher or wet blanket. Shout “kaji da (fire)” to inform your neighbors and get their assistance. Do not try to extinguish the fire by yourself. Evacuate immediately if you sense there is any danger. When evacuating buildings, keep your posture low and put a wet handkerchief or towel over your mouth to avoid breathing poisonous gas.

Fire Extinguishers(shokaki)

Check where fire extinguishers are installed and learn how to use them.

● fire station Tel. 119

② Earthquakes

Preparing for Earthquakes

Japan frequently experiences earthquakes. Fukuoka has been hit by a really big tremor. Still, it is always necessary to be prepared and to take some basic precautions since we never know when a big earthquake might hit.

- ① Secure with brackets any furniture that may be knocked over.
- ② Prepare a bag to take in emergencies with personal effects and a first-aid kit.
- ③ Confirm the location of evacuation sites.
- ④ Decide a place for the family to gather.

In the Event of an Earthquake

- ① First, extinguish any open flames to prevent the spread of fire and open the front door to secure an escape route.
- ② Get under a desk or table for protection.
- ③ To avoid the danger of falling objects, do not rush outside right away during an earthquake.
- ④ When outside, stay away from concrete block walls, vending machines, etc. which may get knocked over.

Evacuate to the nearest “emergency evacuation shelter” if necessary. There is a danger of aftershocks or tidal waves. Keep informed via the news on TV or radio.

Tidal Waves (tsunami)

Tidal waves do sometimes occur in waters around Japan after earthquakes strike. Use special caution around coastal areas as the threat of tidal waves always exists after earthquakes strike.

③ Flood

The “Iizuka Flood Hazard Map” as it is herein referred to is a map that graphically provides information in the event of floods (such as predicted inundation areas, the location of evacuation refuges, etc.) in order to quickly evacuate in a safe and proper manner. In preparing against disasters, prepare emergency supplies and determine the location and access to the nearest place of refuge.

④ Typhoons

Many typhoons develop in this part of the world between June and September. Keep informed by weather reports on TV or radio when typhoons approach Japan.

- Close storm doors and windows since objects blown around by the wind may break windows.
- Bring in any laundry poles and potted plants from verandas or porches.
- Electricity, gas or telephone service are sometimes disrupted. Prepare a bag with personal effects and a first aid kit.

■ Emergency Evacuation Shelters ■

Confirm on a regular basis the location of emergency shelters in your area.(Refer to Iizuka Hazard Map.)

Inquiry

General Affairs Department
of City Hall

Tel: 0948-22-5500 (ext. 222)

6. Pets

keep your dogs

When you keep dogs, you need to register your dog. Register it at your public office (registration fees required). The dog's owner has a duty to give an annual rabies vaccine. Iizuka City has such injection events annually in April at each community center. You can also have it at any private veterinary clinic anytime. (Paying service) If your registered dog dies, please report it to the public office.

Inquiry

Environment Maintenance
Department of City Hall

Tel: 0948-22-5500 (ext. 257)

Letting a dog run free or throwing it away is prohibited by law !

The others Ask about animal quarantine if you want to bring your dog or cat from a foreign country, because there are different systems in each country.

●**Inquiry: Quarantine station Moji branch Fukuoka airport agency**

Tel: 092-477-0080

D. Education

1. School Education System

Japanese education consists basically of six years of elementary school, three years of junior high school, three years of high school and four years of university.

Elementary school and junior high school are compulsory for everyone. High school and universities usually accept students wishing to enter based on their performance on entrance examinations. There are also nursery schools and kindergartens for infants and children under elementary school age and technical training schools and other kinds of schools which teach special skills and give work training aimed mainly at junior high school and high school graduates. Schools which offer special education to handicapped students are also available. Schools are divided into three types: national schools, public schools and private schools. The school year starts in April and ends in March. However, some technical schools or other schools accept students throughout the year.

2. Nursery School (hoikujo, hoikuen)

Nursery schools are facilities which take care of small children (below elementary school age) by application when both parents are unable to for employment or health reasons. Some nursery schools provide nursery services to meet a wide variety of needs. There are 15 public nursery schools and 16 private nursery schools in the city.

Inquiry

Child Care Department of City Hall

Tel: 0948-22-5500 (ext. 474,

① Temporary child care system

It is available when parents are unable to care for their children during the daytime due to pregnancy, child-birth, sickness, etc.

② Parenting Support Center

It offers advice of how to raise children, support for parenting group, information about parenting and such support for parenting.

3. Kindergarten(yochien)

Kindergarten provides education for children three to five years of age before they enter elementary school. There are both public and private facilities.

Inquiry:

Public kindergartens :

School Education Section of the Board of Education Tel: 0948-22-0380

Kobukuro Kindergarten Tel: 0948-22-6422

Shonai Kindergarten Tel: 0948-82-2061

Kaita Kindergarten Tel. 09496-2-4681

Private kindergartens: Each Kindergarten

Kindergarten Subsidy (yochien shuen shoreihi)

This is offered to the parents (tutors) whose infant attends a kindergarten according to their income.

Formality: You have to submit a document called “hoikuryo genmen sochi ni kansuru chosho” which is a kind of investigation on your income.

4. Elementary School, Junior High School

Elementary School

Six years of elementary education are compulsory for children aged from six to twelve (1st grade to 6th grade). Normally, students attend the elementary school in the area in which they live.

Classes are made up of students of the same age.

Junior High School

Three years of Junior high school are compulsory for students who graduate from elementary school. For public schools, the school is determined by the area in which the student lives and there is no entrance examination. Private junior high schools administer entrance examinations and those who pass the examination for a specific school can enter that school regardless of the area in which they live.

Entering Elementary School · Junior High School

Enrollment notification for elementary school and Junior High School is mailed to parents or tutors by the end of January. If you do not receive this notification by the middle of February, contact School Education Department in the Board of Education.

Entering Elementary School in the Middle of the Academic Year

Children who attend elementary or junior high school in their home country and want to enter school in Japan need to go through the proper enrollment procedures at Citizen's Department of city hall (each branch). The Certificate of Foreign Registration and passport are necessary at this time. Please go to School Education Department of Board of Education after the procedure is completed. The enrollment notification will be handed over after that and students can then go to the designated school of the assigned starting day.

Help such as school supplies(Aid for entering school)

The country and the city bear responsibility and partly contribute to the expenses for parents or tutors having economical difficulties in order to help them with the difficult load of compulsory education expenses (school lunch expense, school excursion expense, medical treatment expense, etc.). Consult Board of Education about the hope for help.

Inquiry

School Education Department
of Board of Education
Tel: 0948-22-0380

Inquiry

School Education Department
Tel: 0948-22-0380

◎after school care of schoolchildren system

We have after-school care of schoolchildren system. The system is for the children that nobody is in the children's house after school.

For further information, contact the following.

Inquiry

Birth Encouragement Department
0948-22-5500 (ext. 471)

5. High School, University

High School

Usually students who pass the entrance examination can enter public high schools. However, there is a "Recommendation System" in which certain students can enter high school upon the recommendation of their principal without taking an entrance examination. This is for students who have exhibited good behavior and scholastic ability.

Entrance examinations for all public high schools in Fukuoka Prefecture are carried out at the beginning of March. The five examination subjects are English, mathematics, Japanese, social studies and science. Examination dates and subjects for private high schools differ depending on the school. Usually, they are carried out from the beginning of February before public high school entrance examinations.

University

Usually students who pass the entrance examination can enter university, technical college or junior college after graduation from high school..

E. Pleasure

1. Sports and recreational Facilities

You can enjoy the following facilities.

Name	Time	Facilities	Tel
Iizuka Dai 1 Taiikukan (gymnasium)	From 9:00 to 22:00	space for sports, training machines ,conference room	0948 -22-6799
Iizuka Dai 2 Taiikukan (gymnasium)	From 9:00 to 22:00	space for sports	
Iizuka baseball ground	From 6:00 to 22:00	baseball ground (with lighting at night)	
Kenko no mori Koen (park)			0948
municipal pool(inside)	From 10:00 to 21:30	25m pool, pool for infants ,Jacuzzi, sauna bath	-21-7811

Municipal pool (outside)	From 10:00 to 18:00 (Jul.1 to Aug. 31)	running water pool pool for infants pool with water slide	
Tamokuteki Hiroba (place)	From 10:00 to 18:00	Park for any purposes	
Shimin Undo Koen (Citizen's Athletic Park)			0948 -22-6799
Tennis court	From 7:00 to 22:00	8 clay courts (including 4 clay courts with lighting at night)	
Rikujo kyogi jo (track and field place)	From 7:00 to 19:00	400m running track	
Undo Hiroba (playing field)	From 6:00 to 19:30	park with lighting at night	
Kyudo jo	From 7:00 to 21:00	place for Kyudo	
Honami Taiikukan (gymnasium)	From 9:00 to 22:00	space for sports ping-pong place	0948 -24-2204
Akimatsu shimin hiroba (citizen's place)	From 6:00 to 20:00	ground on the bank	
Honami budokan (martial arts place)	From 9:00 to 22:00	place for martial arts, Kendo	
Honami Sogo Undo jo (place for sports)	※ jogging course, (circumference 1km)		0948 -29-3266
Honami Baseball place	from 6:00 to 21:30	baseball ground with 4 lights at night	
Honami Rikujo kyogi jo (track and field place)	from 9:00 to 21:30	park with 4 lights at night	
Honami tennis court	(Dec.1 to the end of Feb.)	2 hard courts with lighting at night 2 clay courts with lighting at night	
Honami B&G Kaiyo Center	from 9:00 to 22:00	space for sports conference room	
Honami municipal pool	from 10:00 to 21:00 (June 1 to Sep. 10)	25m pool pool for infants	
Honami Tei ko	from 9:00 to 17:00	Keeping place for boats	

	(May 1 to Oct. 31)		
Chikuho Taiikukan (gymnasium)	from 9:00 to 22:00	space for sports	0948-72-3977 Close on Mondays
Chikuho Daibu Taiikukan (gymnasium)	Mondays-Fridays from 18:00 to 21:30 Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from 8:30 to 21:00	space for sports	
Chikuho ground	from 5:30 to 22:00 from 8:00 to 18:00 (Nov. 1 to Mar.31)	baseball ground with lighting at night ※ not available for hardball baseball	
Chikuho tennis court	from 8:30 to 19:30 from 8:30 to 18:00 (Nov. 1 to Mar.31)	3 hard courts 1 court for practicing	
Chikuho municipal pool	from 10:00 to 18:00 (Jul.1 to Aug. 31)	25m pool (outside)	
Chikuho Sogo Undo Koen			
Chikuho baseball ground	from 8:00 to 22:00 form 8:00 to 18:00 (Nov. 1 to Mar. 31)	baseball ground with lighting at night	
Chikuho Tamokuteki ground	from 5:30 to 19:30 from 8:00 to 18:00	park for any purposes	

	(Nov. 1 to Mar.31)		
Shonai baseball ground	from 6:00 to 19:00 (until sunset)	baseball ground	0948-82-3344
Shonai Taiikukan (gymnasium)	from 9:00 to 22:00	space for sports ping-pong place	
Shonai tennis court	from 9:00 to 19:00 (until sunset)	6 hard courts	
Shonai ground	from 6:00 to 19:00 (until sunset)	ground for any purposes	
Shonai Kogyo Danchi ground	from 6:00 to 19:00 (until sunset)	park for any purposes	
Kaita Chuo Koen (park) Kaita Taiikukan (gymnasium)	from 9:00 to 22:00	space for sports	09496-2-1034
Kaita baseball ground	from 9:00 to 22:00	baseball ground with lighting at night	
Kaita Undo jo (place for sports)		Ground for any purposes with lighting at night	
Kaita tennis court		2 clay courts with lighting at night	
Kaita Budojo (martial arts place)		place for judo and kendo	

2. Cultural Facilities

Many groups do some events actively in the following facilities.

Name	Time and closed day	Facilities	Tel.
Hall for modern living (Cosmos Common)	<u>from 9:00 to 22:00</u> Mondays, the New Year, the end of the year	Large hall, Medium hall, exhibition, hall, Japanese-style room	0948-21-0505
Community Center	<u>from 9:00 to 22:00</u> The 1 st and the 3 rd	room for learning, room for industrial arts,	

Chuo Kominkan	Sundays, the New Year, the end of the year	room for cooking, music hall, conference room	0948-22-3274
Danjo Kyodo Sankaku Suishin Center (promotion center of gender equality)		conference room room for exercise consulting room temporally nursery	
Shonai Shogai Gakushu Koryukan (municipal hall)	<u>from 10:00 to 18:00</u> Mondays, national holidays, the New Year, the end of the year	mini-theater working room volunteer room	0948-31-1333
Sunshine Kaita	<u>from 9:00 to 22:00</u> Mondays, the New Year, the end of the year	hall for any purposes, conference room 1, 2	09496-6-3050
Yakiyama Youth Hostel	<u>From 8:00 to 22:00</u> Nov. 1 to the end of Feb.	lecture hall , conference room, cooking room, laboratory	0948-22-0287
Honami Seishonen Yaei Kunrenjo (Fuben no ie)	<u>From 9:00 to 17:00</u> <u>Accommodate:</u> <u>From 9:00 to 14:00</u> <u>on the next day</u> the New Year, the end of the year	Lot for 12 tents Cabin of refuge Cooking block	0948-22-0380
Sekinoyama Camp Place	<u>From 12:00 to 12:00</u> <u>on the next day</u> the New Year, the end of the Year	Long cabin (2 blocks for 5 people, 1 block for 10 people), lot for tents	
Citizen's Library Iizuka Library (in community center)	<u>from 10:00 to 18:00</u> (10:00-17:00 on Sundays, 10:00-20:00 on Thursdays) Mondays (except the following day of the 3 rd Sundays), the 3 rd Sundays, national holidays, the days for the arrangement of the books, the New year and the end of the year		0948-22-5552
Chikuho Library	<u>From 10:00 to 18:00(10:00-17:00 on Sundays and Culture Day)</u> Mondays, national holidays(except Culture Day), the day for arrangement of the books, the New		0948-72-3849

	Year and the end of the year	
Shonai Library	<u>from 10:00 to 18:00</u> Mondays(except the 3 rd Mondays), national holidays, the day for arrangement of the books, the New Year and the end of the year	0948-82-4155
Honami Library	<u>from 9:00 to 17:00</u> Mondays, Aug. 13 –Aug. 15, the New Year and the end of the year	0948-29-1172
Kaita Library	<u>from 9:00 to 17:00</u> Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays, the New Year and the end of the year	09496-2-1034
Historic (Local) Museum Iizuka Historic Museum	<u>from 9:00 to 17:00</u> Mondays(except national holidays), the following day of the national holidays, the New Year and the end of the year	0948-25-2930
Honami Local Museum	<u>from 9:00 to 17:00</u> Mondays, Aug. 13-15, the New Year and the end of year	0948-29-1172
Shonai Historic Museum	<u>from 10:00 to 18:00</u> Mondays, national holidays, the day for the arrangement of the books, the New Year and the end of the year	0948-82-4155

◎Spots for sightseeing

Iizuka had prospered as a granary and as an important traffic point, so it is a historical town with a lot of ancient tombs.

Inquire in detail at the Historical Museum.

Tel. 0948-25-2930

kind		name	location · excavated ground	visitation
National	Important cultural property	Tateiwa Iseki Hotta kamekan gun syutsudohin	History museum	available
	Natural treasure	Chinzei-mura no katsura	Kengeiji 1580-1	available
	Historic site	Daibu Haijito ato	Daibu 718	available
Kakenouma Kogoishi		Kagenouma 814-2 etc.	available	
prefectural	Natural treasure	Myojoji no bodaiju	Myojoji 826	available
		Daibu Hachimangu no Osao	Daibu 1272 (Daibu Hachimangu Keidai)	available

		Uchino no Oicho	Uchino 3367	available
Tangible cultural treasure		Genko 2-nen zaimei Hokyorin Benishi Sotoba	Myojoji 826	available
		Kasseki kokushingon	History Museum	available
		Mokuzo Yakushi Nyorai Ryuzo	Aida 438(Hoshoji keidai)	Not available
		Shokanze Onbosatsu ritsu zo	Daibu 1281(Yogenji keidai)	available
		Gochi Nyorai Itabi	Tsutsuno 4	available
	Historic site	Kawashima Kofun	Kawashima 407-2etc.	Open in spring and in autumn (on exhibition in history museum about the excavation)
Historic site	Obasa nishi kofun	Obasa 780-2 etc.	Open in spring and in autumn (on exhibition in history museum about the excavation ※ the excavation is prefectural tangible cultural treasure	
Intangible cultural treasure	Tsunawaki Hachimangu Hojoe Goshin Kosai	Tsunawaki	In Oct. every other year	

		Daibuhachimagu no shishimai	Daibu 1272 (Daibu Hachimangu Keidai)	The last Saturday and Sunday in September
city	Historic site	Kawashima Kofun gun	Kawashima 407-5 etc.	The excavation is on exhibition in History Museum
	Tangible cultural treasure	Previous Residence of Ito Den-emon	Kobukuro 300	Open in April of Heisei 19 Available(pa y)
		Makiageki Daiza	Hiratsune 460-8	available
		Kyu Matsuki Shoyu ya	Seita 730-1	available (in advance contact)
	Natural treasure	Daibu Hachimangu no Okusugun · Ichō	Daibu 1272 (Daibu Hachimangu nai)	available
	Historic site	Motoyoshi no tonō haka	Shonai Motoyoshi 318	available
Registra tion by city	Tangible cultural treasure	Kaho Gekijo Syuoku	Iizuka 5-23	Available (in advance contact)
other	Historic site	Uchino syuku · Honjinato	Uchino 3313 etc.	Available

3. main sightseeing spot in Iizuka

Kaho Theatre

This theater has some box seats, 2 runways and a revolving stage. It's a wooden architecture which is of Kabuki Theater type of Edo era. It's very famous as a public theater that cannot be ignored. Although the flood caused great damage to it in Heisei 15 (2003), it was restored miraculously one year later thanks to the tremendous help of entertainers and inhabitants.

The theater is popular among the public and gives not only traditional performances of like "Zenkoku Zacho Taikai(the leader of a theatrical troupe of the whole country)" but also jazz concerts and fashion shows and many performances. The theater is also open for visits on the days when there are no performances. If the number of visitors exceeds a certain limit, they can have an experience of "seri" from "naraku". Seri means going up from under the

stage. Naraku means the abyss. This is a theatrical trick that makes the person look as if he appeared from nowhere.

●5-23 Iizuka Iizuka-shi Tel.0948-22-0266

Previous Residence of Ito Den-emon

It is a previous residence of Ito Den-emon who had made a fortune in the coal mining and has been called the king of coal mining in Chikuho area. It has a wonderful Japanese garden that has 1500 tsubo (1 tsubo is 3306 square meters). Byakuren, Den-emon's wife was one of the most famous poets in the whole country and the residence can still keep the gorgeousness of those days. Byakuren had lived there for 10 years. It has a flush toilet that was built first in Kyushu. The Western-style reception room, a dining room and a library including art nouveau style are of architectural value. The movement by inhabitants for its preservation as a cultural heritage in the memory of Den-emon and Byakuren had risen and Iizuka-shi decided to own it. The residence can be available for visiting after its restoration finishes in April 2007.

●Inquiry at the Historical Museum. Tel. 0948-25-2930

Sun Village Akane

It is located on the side of hill that is 400m above sea level. It has a ski ground that has an artificial turf. The length is 280m and the width is 40m. You can enjoy skiing there at night also and all the year around. And it has accommodation and camping facilities like cottages. A lot of youths and aged enjoy the natural beauty that has a lot of greenery, clean air and clear water all the year long.

Hours: 9:00 -17:00 Closed: Monday

● 845-38 Yamaguchi Iizuka-shi Tel. 0948-72-3331

Trace of Nagasaki Gaido Uchino Juku

We have traces of 2 inns, "Iizuka Inn" and "Uchino Inn" that had been flourishing as Nagasaki Gaido Chikuzen 6 Inns. This Uchino Inn was the accommodation that Kuroda Nagamasa, the lord of Fukuoka Clan had started and it has been bustling with a lot of passengers coming to visit Ise temple and feudal lords coming to attend by turn the shogun's court about 300 years ago. The road at that time (Edo era) still remains and you feel the remnant of the accommodation of that time.

The market that we call "Nagasaki Gaido Uchinojuku Fureai Ichi" opens on Thursdays and Sundays and home-grown vegetables and homemade products like homemade dressing are sold. "Nagasakiya" as a free place for taking a rest is there from 10:00 to 17:00 on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Hometown for sweets

"Hiyoko" is known as a speciality of Tokyo, "Chidoriya" and "Sakaeya" came from Iizuka actually. These sweets are Portuguese in their origin. Coal miners who were fatigued in Meiji era when coal mining was flourishing loved sweets. So they say sweets industry had been developing. We call Nagasakigaido Sugar Road. We are planning to organize a tour to introduce the different sweets which have each a story of their own.

Shonai hot spring Chikuho Heights

Shonai hot spring Chikuho Heights that has an accommodation and was rebuilt on Feb. 2003, it has a jaggy bath and a sauna bath now. It is available for just bathing without using the accommodation. The hot spring has much radon and lots of benefits. Besides they have tennis courts and a swimming pool.

It's popular with women and many people visit there.

【hours】 from 11:00 to 19:00 (in the case of just bathing)

【charge】 ¥300 for adult ・ ¥200 for child (from the age of 4 to in the sixth grade in elementary school)

●8-30 niho izuka-shi TEL0948-82-0240

Ikawa hot spring

This spa stands at the foot of Yakiyama Pass.

There are 4 hot spring facilities, “ Iizuka shi fukushi center Ikawa no sato”, ”Konoyu onsen”, ”Iizuka Shohakuen Hotel” and “Ikawa Onsen Center”. The hot spring has the most radon in Western Japan and has curing effects against rheumatism, gout, arteriosclerosis or aftereffects of surface wound.

4. An annual event

The name of event	The period	The place	content
Chikuzen Iizuka Hina no Matsuri	from the beginning of February to the beginning of March	Urban district	Remarkable hina dolls such as “the Kyoho era’s Hina doll” and Kabuki doll. The handmade dolls by shopkeeper’s wives are also decorated.
Daishoji Sakura Matsuri	At the 1 st Sunday of April	Daishoji Park	This festival is held as the sights of cherry blossoms. It is depends on the time when the cherry trees bloom.
New Musician competition	Preliminary: From the 3 rd of May to 5 th of May Final: at the beginning of June	Cosmos Common	To find and encourage rising musicians and improve local music culture
Iizuka International Wheelchair Tennis Tournament (Japan Cup)	At the end of May	Tennis Court of Chikuho Ryokuchi Park	The theme is “rally for society and smash to the heart”. This is one of the biggest world tournaments.
Iizuka Yamagasa	From the 1 st to 15 th	Urban	4 groups bravely compete in

Iizuka Children Yamagasa	of July	district	speed on the 15 th . The float by children is very interesting to see.
Iizuka summer evening fireworks	At the beginning of August	Onga river bank	It was held for 70 years and so. It has the biggest scale of Western Japan. The feature is 7000 rockets and auto race fireworks that color the night sky in summer.
Honami summer evening fireworks	On the 16 th of Aug.	Honami river bank (the lower Tendo bridge)	It has long history as one of summer's charming sights. Laser beam show and love letters by stars are very popular.
Iizuka Dontaku Shukuba festival	In the latter part of October	Urban district	An autumn festival that is lively with people. You can join an atmosphere of Edo era during the festival. Especially, the parade on Edo era's costume is very interesting.
Eishokai	From the 1 st to 5 th of December	Urban district	It has been continuing since Meiji 7 th (1874) without sopping.

Inquiry

New Musician competition: board of education of Honami Tel. 0948-22-0380

Iizuka International Wheelchair Tennis Tournament: Social Disability Welfare Department of City Hall Tel. 0948-22-5500 (ext. 164)

5. Let's use Iizuka Citizen Exchange Plaza

You can use internet for free at Iizuka citizen exchange plaza in i-town.

You can read English newspaper too. The parking is free for 90 minutes.

● 6-1 Yoshihara machi Iizuka, i-town Tel. 0948-21-6711

Website <http://www.fcom.ne.jp/kouryuplaza>

F. Volunteer Network

■ Iizuka International Exchange Promotion Conference ■

This is formed by some volunteer groups in Iizuka who support foreigners.

They also promote international exchange in the community and they aim to make a good environment to live in.

• Iizuka friendship network • international student front • Futase support center for international students(Futase community center) • Chikuho SGG • Iizuka Toastmasters • K.P.T. Tsubaki • FUSA • KIT tutors association • Mal Tech Inc. • Iizuka Junior Chamber Inc. • Iizuka Chamber of Commerce & Industry • Kyushu Institute of Technology, computer science and systems Engineering • Kinki University, School of Humanity-Oriented Science and Engineering • General Planning Department of city hall • Commerce and Industry Promotion Department of city hall

1. Learning Japanese

International student front offers Japanese classes for foreigners

Date: Every Saturday 14:00 ~ 16:30

Every Thursday 19:00 ~ 20:30

Place: Iizuka citizen exchange plaza in i-town

Fee: free

2. Support Center for international students

Futase Support center offers some donated things and used bicycles.

Dishes, kotatsu(a kind of Japanese heater), electric fan, futon, furniture, bed and etc.

※These are available for international students who reside in Iizuka-city.

●Inquiry International Support Center Tel: 0948-22-2196

Chikuho SGG gives foreigners any help about Japanese language. English, Chinese, French, Portuguese and Spanish volunteer interpreters are available.

Inquiry: Chikuho SGG blog : <http://sgg.no-blog.jp>

E-mail : (高松) s21718@star.ocn.ne.jp

E-mail : (松野) laranja@mx35.tiki.ne.jp

3. Friendship Network

Some events are held to promote exchange between international students and citizens.

- A welcome party for new international students (Iizuka friendship network)
- The Star Festival (Iizuka friendship network)
- Iizuka International Exchange between foreigners and citizens
(Iizuka International Exchange Promotion Conference)
- Futase Sports day
- Futase community center festival (Futase community center)

- Futase farewell party for international students (Futase community center)
- International exchange project by elementary schools, junior high schools and community center

**●Inquiry Secretariat of Iizuka International Exchange Promotion Conference
General Planning Department of Iizuka city hall Tel. 0948-22-5500 (ext. 321)**

G. Consultation service

※ Legal consultations

The Japanese legal system may be very different from that of your country. If you have any legal problems, contact your national embassy or consulate.

In addition, Rainbow Plaza offers free legal consultations for foreign nationals, for which interpreters, can be provided upon request. For more details, contact Rainbow Plaza.

Fukuoka Bar Association also offers free legal consultations for foreign nationals twice a month. English-speaking staff is available on certain days of the week, and interpreters can be arranged if necessary.

Kokusai Hiroba also offers free consultations for human rights and etc. English-speaking staff is available on certain days of the week, and interpreters can be arranged for other languages if necessary. For more details, contact Kokusai Hiroba .

1 Kokusai Hiroba:

Place: Across Fukuoka 3F, 1-1-1 Tenjin Chuo-ku Fukuoka-shi
 Tel. 092-725-9201
 Open: from 10:00 to 19:00
 Closed day: Dec. 29th –Jan. 3rd
<http://www.kokusaihiroba.or.jp/>

【Free Counseling Service】

① Consultation on immigration, residency and nationality

Administrative scriveners (Gyoseishoshi) from the Fukuoka Gyoseishoshi Lawyers Association can offer helpful advice regarding residence status or foreign registration. English and Chinese interpreters are available (support for other languages may be provided if prior notice is given).

Time: 4th Saturday of each month, 13:00 ~ 16:00 Free

② Human rights counseling

A representative of the Fukuoka Legal Affairs Bureau or Human Rights Protection Agency (lawyer) can offer consultations in English on human rights issues such as labor, residence, marriage, divorce, naturalization or immigration. Interpreters may be available for other languages.

Time: 2nd Wednesday of each month, 13:00 ~ 16:00 (appointment required) Free

2. Legal consultations at Fukuoka Prefecture Lawyer' s Center

The Tenjin Bar Association provides free legal advice for foreigners, An interpreter can be supplied upon request.

Place:	Sun Light Bild.3F, 5-23-8 Watanabe-dori,Chuo-ku Fukuoka-shi
Tel.	092-737-7555 (free) 092-741-3208 (pay)
	Http://www.fben.jp/whats/gaikokujin.htm

【Inquiry and Appointment】

The Tenjin Bar Association

Appointment: (Japanese)	Monday to Friday,	10:00 ~ 16:00
(Chinese)	2 nd and 4 th Fridays,	10:00 ~ 13:00
(English)	4 th Fridays,	10:00 ~ 13:00
Consultation:	2 nd and 4 th Fridays	13:00 ~ 16:00

3. Rainbow Plaza

Place:	IMS Build.8 F, 1-7-11 Tenjin Chuo-ku Fukuoka-shi
Tel.	092-733-2220
Open:	from 10:00 to 20:00
Closed day:	The 3 rd Tuesday(excluding Jan. Jul. Aug. Dec.), Dec. 29 th –Jan. 3 rd
	Http://www.rainbowfia.or.jp

Rainbow Plaza provides foreigners living in or visiting Fukuoka city with some useful information about living or sightseeing in Fukuoka city.

And experts from different fields contribute with their free counseling services. These services are aimed at residents in Fukuoka city but non residents may also be eligible depending on their situation. Please contact Rainbow Plaza for further information.

- ① **Consultation on immigration, residency and nationality**
- ② **Legal consultation**
- ③ **Counseling**
- ④ **Health consultation**
- ⑤ **Counseling for Chinese Exchange Students**