

**Recruiting ! Deadline January 21!!****Overseas Student Coordinator for International Relations (OSCIR) for FY 2011!**

Tsukuba City is recruiting International students for multicultural activities for FY 2011. This includes translating, preparing and printing of the monthly foreign language newsletters, and also interpreting or translating for the City Hall if needed.

**Conditions:** The applicants must fulfill all of the following requirements:

1. Must be registered as a foreign resident of Tsukuba.
2. Needs to be a student of a graduate school, university, or a junior college at least until March 31<sup>st</sup> 2012. (\*Auditors do not qualify)
3. Must be interested in volunteer activities or international exchange.
4. Must be fluent in Japanese Language.
5. Must have adequate computer skills
6. Must have exceptional skills as a translator/interpreter.

**Term:** April 1<sup>st</sup> 2011~ March 31<sup>st</sup> 2012

**Languages:** English, Chinese, Korean, Thai, Portuguese, and Spanish

(2 students coordinators per language)

**Application method:** Fill and submit the application form 「ryugakusei kouryuin moshikomisho」 (from City Hall homepage) along with the necessary documents by postal mail or in person by January 21, 2011

\*Applicants selected through screening of the documents will have to have an interview and a translation test. Only those selected will be notified about the interview and the test.

**For more details:** Check the City Hall homepage or contact the division below:

〒 305-8555 Tsukuba City, Karima 2530-2

International Affairs Division, Tsukuba City Hall.

Tel: 029-883-1111

**Coordinators for International Relations (CIR) for 2011!**

Tsukuba City Hall is recruiting a person for the period April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012 for the position of Coordinator for International Relations. CIR is expected to be able to interpret for foreign residents at the City Hall (take phone calls in foreign language), translate and partake in international exchange activities.

**Eligibility:** Regardless of nationality, the coordinator must be able to communicate effectively in Japanese, interpret accurately Japanese to English and vice versa. ( If one is from a region where English is the mother tongue or the official language, the coordinators must have either received High School or University level education there). However, only people who have a valid visa to work in Japan are eligible for this post.

**Place of Work:** International Affairs Division, Tsukuba City Hall

**Time :** 3 days per week from 8:30-17:15

**Application method:** Fill and submit the application form 「ryugakusei kouryuin moshikomisho」 (from City Hall homepage) along with the necessary documents by postal mail or in person by January 21, 2011

\*Applicants selected through screening of the documents will have to have an interview and a translation test. Only those selected will be notified about the interview and test.

**For more details:** Check the City Hall homepage or contact the division below:

〒 305-8555 Tsukuba City, Karima 2530-2

International Affairs Division, Tsukuba City Hall. Tel: 029-883-1111

**2010 Tax Declaration Consultation Venue is at New City Hall**

The 2010 tax declaration consultation on filing income tax returns and Prefectural and City Tax is hosted by the Municipal Tax Division (☎883-1111). It will be held at the Declaration Consultation venue on the 2nd floor of the City Hall from February 16 - March 15 (except for weekends) between 9:00-16:00. The consultation will be done individually.

\* Income Tax returns that require further consultation will be referred to the Tsuchiura Taxation Office for consultation.

\* It is the same declaration consultation as in the past years. However, note that the following are some of the changes.

1. Discuss about the declaration near the south entrance of the new City Hall first, then receive a colored card.
  2. After receiving the colored card, go to the entrance of Declaration Consultation Venue on the 2nd floor and exchange this card with another card of the same color.
  3. This card will have a number which will show the order of consultation.
- \*People who come for the declaration consultation, please park your vehicle at the Declaration Consultation parking spot located on the west side of the new City Hall and enter from the South entrance.

**Due to the changes in Declaration Consultation Venue, the declaration consultation will be done in the following way from February 1****Municipal Tax Division (☎883-1111)**

**City and Prefectural Tax Consultation** will be held at the Declaration Consultation venue on the 2nd floor of the City Hall, from February 1-15 (except for weekends and holidays) between 9:00-16:00 (except 12:00-13:00). The consultation methods are individual interview and computer input.

**Business Trip Declaration Consultation**

**Income Tax Refund Declaration Consultation** will be held on February 1 at the meeting room on the 2nd floor of Civic Hall Tsukubane and on February 7 and 8 at the main conference room on the 2nd floor of Kukizaki Health Centre. Reception time is between 9:00-9:30 for morning and 13:00-13:30 for afternoon. Consultation methods are orientation and individual writing.

**City and Prefectural Tax Declaration Consultation** will be held from February 2-4 at the meeting room on the 2nd floor of Civic Hall Tsukubane and on February 9 and 10 at the main conference room on the 2nd floor of Kukizaki Health Centre. Reception time is between 9:00-16:00 (except 12:00-13:00). Consultation methods are individual interview and hand written preparation.

\* Please understand that all declaration forms will be hand written and may take some time.

\* If there is an income tax generated during the consultation, it can not be paid on the spot.

**Preparation of Income Tax Returns by computer** between February 1- March 15 (except for weekends and holidays) at the training room 2 on the 2nd floor of the City Hall. Reception time is from 9:00-16:00 (\* except 12:00-13:00 between February 1-15). Use the homepage of the National Tax Agency and fill in by oneself.

\* The preparation of Tax Returns form by computers is done by oneself.

\* Between February 1-15, only those who file for Income Tax Returns may use it.

**Tsuchiura Taxation Office(☎822-1100)**

Orientation on Home Loans Special Deduction and Income Tax Returns from February 1-4 at the IIAS Hall 2nd floor of IIAS. The reception time for morning is 10:00 - 10:30 and afternoon 13:30- 14:00. Use the homepage of the National Tax Agency and fill in by oneself.

\* Make the declaration form by oneself if you are applying for a new Home Loans Special Deductions.

**Public Tax Accountants Association (☎824-5055)**

The Public Tax Accountants Association Tsuchiura Branch will provide free consultation on Income Tax Returns from February 1-22 (except on weekends and holidays) at the Training room 1 on the 2nd floor of City Hall. Reception time for morning 9:15-11:00, for afternoon 13:00-15:00. Use a computer and fill in the form by oneself.

\* People getting a salary or receiving a pension, and are applying for Income Tax Returns, please use this service.

**In case no family member from a household subscribing the National Health Insurance submits the declaration form**

1. The National Health Insurance Tax will not be accurately calculated
2. In case the total income of the household is less than a standard limit, low income tax relief measures apply for the National Health Insurance Tax. However, if a member of the household does not submit declaration form, the exact total income of the household can not be known to be under the standard limit, hence the tax relief measure will not apply.
3. Irrespective of the actual income, it will be assumed that the household is the general tax payer, therefore the high medical expenses and food costs during hospitalization would need to be paid by oneself.

English Bulletin  
January 2011



TSUKUBA CITY HALL  
International Affairs  
Division

☎ Address: 〒305-8555 Tsukuba City, Karima 2530-2(Kenkyugakuen D32-2) ☎Tel: 029-883-1111 ✉Email: ctz031@info.tsukuba.ibaraki.jp

🌐 HP: http://www.city.tsukuba.ibaraki.jp/ <http://www.city.tsukuba.ibaraki.jp/005511.html> ✍Editors: Prakash Ronit, Yeow Li Sa

**Happy New Year!**

We wish all the Tsukuba Citizens a prosperous and healthy new year. Last year was a memorable year with the opening of long-planned new Tsukuba City Hall, the renewal of the Tsukuba Centre Station Plaza and the opening of health oriented “Tsukuba Wellness Park”. The unification of the branches aims to provide more efficient services by taking cross-sector approach. With the theme “Tsukuba wo mitsume, sekai wo mitsume, mirai wo hiraku (gaze at Tsukuba, gaze at the world and pioneer the future)”, Tsukuba will continue to grow with national and international collaboration. The Child Raising Support Centre will open with the aim of making child raising fun and exciting, so we would like to ask for cooperation from all of you to make it happen! Once again, we wish you all a healthy 2011.

Mayor Tsukuba City

Ichihara Kenichi

**2011 The year of the Rabbit 卯年**

In Japan, each year is represented by an animal, with a cycle of 12 years. 2010 was the year of the tiger and 2011 is the year of the rabbit. In Japanese the Rabbit year is written as 卯年 read “udoshi”. Rabbits have an image of being fast and forward leaping. Even if a rabbit hops a small step at a time, it is moving forward progressively, so may all the readers achieve their new year resolutions progressively until the end of the year.

**Hitokoto Nihongo**

Beginning from January 2011, a new vocabulary will be introduced every month in this section. These are words that are very useful in daily life or are unique to Japanese. Lets master Japanese!

The word for January is “SUGOI”

Sugoi (凄い) although on one hand means “horrible”, recently its mostly used as “awesome, incredible, super”. For example, it can be used in the following ways:

A: *kono mae no tesuto de 100 ten totta yo!* (I got 100 in the last test!)

B: *Eh!? Sugoi!!* (Wow ! Awesome!!)

However, especially young people (mainly guys) often say “Sugeh” which is a slang of Sugoi. For example:

A: *hiru gyudon mega mori tabetandakedo, sugokune?* ( I ate a huge dish of beef and rice for lunch, isn’t that incredible?)

B: *maji de!? Sugeh!* (Really !? Super!)

**Library Information****Tsukuba Public Library.**

PH: (856) 4311. Open : Tue ~ Fri: 9:30-19:00,

Sat/Sun/Public Holidays 9:30-17:00

There are library rooms at Yatabe, Tsukuba, Onogawa and Kukizaki Community Halls as well.(Tue - Sun: 10:00 - 18:00).

**Library closed on:** Jan 17, 24, 27, 31. February 7, 11, 14, 21-25, 28

**When borrowing from the library...**

When borrowing books and other materials from the city libraries you will need a “Member’s Card”. If you are a resident of Tsukuba, you can simply apply at the central library or community center libraries by presenting ID with your address on it. If you do not live in Tsukuba, but work or study here, you can apply for a card. You are required to present a work or student ID.

**Are you prepared for the Digital Terrestrial Broadcasting?**

The analog broadcasting will end on July 24 this year and if you are not prepared, you will not be able to watch TV. It is advised that you prepare for the digital broadcasting as soon as possible. In the case of common reception for apartment or condos, a facility upgrade might be necessary if there is interference in reception due to building shadows. It might take time to upgrade the facilities, therefore it is advised to do so as soon as possible. (It is also possible to set up an UHF antenna to solve this problem). \* Be careful of scams or vicious business practice with Digital Broadcasting products.

**Contact:** ▽*dejisapo*(Digital Support) Ibaraki Tel: 029-307-0101 (Weekdays 9:00-21:00, Weekends & holidays 9:00-18:00). ▽Information Systems Division, Tsukuba City Hall Tel: 029-883-1111

**Please use the convenient and safe account transfer payment for Paying City Tax**

In the account transfer payment method, once the application is completed, the respective financial institution or the Post Office bank automatically pays on the payment day. You do not need to worry about forgetting or going to the bank to make the payment. To apply, fill in the City Tax Account Transfer Payment Request Form “shizeitou kouza furikae iraiشو” (available at every financial institutions in the city) , take the bank book and your personal seal and apply at the counters of the financial institution. \* If there is no City Tax Account Transfer Payment Request Form at the financial institutions, please contact the Tsukuba City Tax Division.

**If You Are Starting Account Transfer Payment from 2011**

After you get the payment notice, the first payment will not be made in time through account transfer payment, so apply as soon as possible.

**\*Fixed Asset Tax and Urban Planning Tax**

Application deadline February 18

**\*Light Vehicle Tax**

Application deadline March 18

**\*City Tax and Prefectural Tax**

Application deadline April 20

**Changing or Cancelling Account Transfer Payment**

In case of changing (such as full to periodic payment) or cancelling the account transfer payment, apply as soon as possible.

**Contact:** Tax Division, Tsukuba City Hall

Tel: 029-883-1111

**Household Daycare Fee Allowance for Families with Three or More Children in Tsukuba Ibaraki for FY 2010**

To reduce the financial burden of child rearing, in Ibaraki families with 3 or more children (children under 18 on April 1, 2010) will be assisted with partial or full allowance for daycare fees. Therefore, Tsukuba City will provide allowance for the period April 2010 to March 2011 as well. A maximum amount of 5000yen per month may be paid for the licensed Daycare Centres (Public or private).

**Eligibility:** All the following conditions must be met in order to receive the allowance.

1. The third child or later and under 3 years of age (Limited to the case where the daycare fees is applicable to children under 3 years of age. If the child was admitted to the daycare centres in the middle of the year, the child must be under 3 on the first day of that year)
2. If two or more children from the same household are attending the daycare centers at the same time, and the household is receiving half of the allowance.
3. Household falling in the range of 2nd to 5th level of the Daycare Center Standard Fee list.
4. There is no arrears in daycare fee in the past.

**Application Method:**

Fill in the application form (available at the licensed daycare centers, Childrens Division and the City Hall homepage) and submit it before February 28 in person. \* If you already left the daycare center for good, contact the City Hall and the application form will be sent.

**Contact:** Childrens Division, Tsukuba City Hall. Tel: 029-883-1111

**Single Parent Families**

Children entering elementary schools in FY 2011 will receive an entrance present. Ibaraki Prefecture Single Parents and Childrens Welfare Joint Association will give an entrance present (school related) to the child coming from a single parent (single-mother, single father) families. The guardian of a child entering elementary school is eligible to apply.

Apply before January 31 by phone.

**Application:** Children’s Welfare Section, Children’s Division, Tsukuba City Hall.

**Contact:** ▽Ibaraki Prefecture Federation of Single Parents and Children’s Welfare Association Tel: 029-221-7505

▽Children’s Welfare Section, Children’s Division, Tsukuba City Hall. Tel: 029-883-1111



## EVENTS

### Japanese Language Café

This is a place where Japanese speaking foreigners and Japanese people meet.

#### 1. January 25 from 10:00-13:00 at the Azuma Public Hall Cooking Room (Azuma Kouminkan Kan Chourishitsu).

Theme: “Tsukuba de sakana no kaikata, tabekata” (how to buy and eat fish in Tsukuba). Maximum of 20 people may attend. The material cost is 500yen and the instructor for this day will be Mr. Komagata Kazuo.

#### 2. February 22 from 10:00-13:00 at the Azuma Public Hall Cooking Room

Theme: “Oishi gohan no norimaki” (Taste! Japanese rice cooking and making Sushi rolls)

Maximum of 20 people may attend. The material cost is 300yen and the instructor for this day will be Mr. and Mrs. Morinaka

Apply by phone or email for both events:

**Contact:** Tsukuba International Association

Tel: 029-869-7675

Email: inter@tsukubacity.or.jp

### Friendly Conversations “Kigaru ni oshaberi Salon”

#### 1. Attraction of Oriental Medicine

This event will be held on January 20 from 10:00-12:00 and will be instructed by Emily Smith who is originally from California but and has been living in Japan for 17 years. Emily Smith earned a National License in acupuncture and massage and is instructing Yoga in Tsukuba.

#### 2. Current State of Higher Education in China

Held on February 17 from 10:00-12:00. This event will be instructed by Cho Yo, who is a graduate student at the University of Tsukuba. Cho Yo will talk about the current situation of higher education in China.

Place: Disaster Prevention Conference room , 2nd floor of Tsukuba City Hall. \* You are welcomed to join on the day of the event.

**Contact:** Gender Equality Section, Tsukuba City Hall.

Tel: 029-883-1111 Fax: 029-868-7586

### Speech Contest by Foreign Residents “Nihongo Benron Taikai”

Only 5 months left for the speech contest by foreign residents to be held in Tsukuba. People from around the globe will discuss their opinions regarding International Society. This contest is being held since 1960, and apart from the Broadcasting on NHK, the contents of this contest will also be added into the text books of Junior High and High Schools. This year the contest will be held in Tsukuba City on the 11th of June from 13:00 at the Nova Hall (305-0031 Ibaraki Prefecture, Tsukuba City Azuma 1-10-1). Eligibility for participation: Must fulfill all the requirements as followed.

1. Japanese Language is not your native language.

2. You are above 15 years of age on the day of the event.

3. You have not been awarded the Foreign Ministers award or the Education Ministers award in the past.

#### Application:

The application form can be downloaded from the website below. It should reach on or before April 14, 2011.

**Contact:** International Education Center

HP: http://www.iec-nichibei.or.jp

160-0004 Tokyo-to, Shinjuku-ku, Yotsuya 1-21, Tel: 03-3359-9620, Fax 03-3353-8908, Email: benron@iec-nichibei.or.jp

Monday to Friday 9:00-17:00

### 20th Speech Contest by Foreign Residents

This event will be held in Mito City on January 29, 2011 from 13:00-16:30. This might be helpful for people who would like to participate in the “Nihongo Benron Taikai”. It will be held at the Prefectural Cultural Centre, Small Hall (Mito City, Senba-cho 745). No entrance fee required.

**Contact:** Ibaraki International Association Tel: 029-241-1611

### Clean Energy Exhibition

The clean energy exhibition started on January 5 and will be held until February 16. The venue is Chuo Park Rest House (In front of Tsukuba Expo Centre) and will be open from 10:00-16:00.

“Clean Energy” decreases the environmental damage by emitting very little amount of carbon dioxide, and therefore it is gaining popularity as a contributor to solving global warming and energy crisis. The “Clean Energy Exhibition” displays readily available technologies and products that can be used as and energy system in the future. Also one can experience footbath, or enjoy trial runs of Segway and electrically assisted bicycles and learn about some cutting edge technology.

### Energy System in the Future Utilizing Clean Energy:

#### Future Energy System

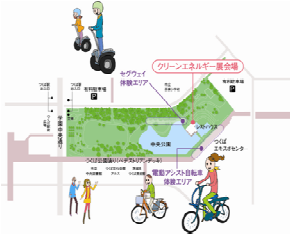
**Keywords:** solar power generation, LED lights, pure hydrogen power cell, direct current related systems, smart meter

Solar power generation will replace the fossil fuels and the use of hydrogen power cells will lead the clean energy in the future. The combination of these energy systems will be used in a DC model grid.

### Reach for electricity from clean energy sources: Experience the Future Energy

**Keywords:** Segway, electrically assisted bicycle, footbath

In Chuo park and at the pedestrian deck, you can test drive a Segway or an electrically assisted bicycles. You can also experience footbath where the heat is generated from power cells.



### Let’s draw an “ECO City” map of the future!

Draw how you would like Tsukuba to be in the future and bring it to the clean energy exhibition. (gifts awarded). For children in or under elementary school grade 6. \* Download the formatted paper from the homepage.

**Contact:** Office of Environmental Management

Tel: 029-883-1111

### 3rd Nihongo de hanaso! Let’s Speak in Japanese! Tsukuba Challenge

This will be in small group forum style contest in Japanese and is a great opportunity to make friends. It will be held on February 6 from 9:30-16:00 at the conference room on the 2nd floor of Tsukuba City Hall. Maximum of 20 participants for each category of 1.) beginners–intermediate level. 2.) intermediate– advanced level (JLPT N3 or above). Foreign residents who are studying Japanese, and are above 15 years old are eligible.

### Looking for volunteers for this event!

People in Junior High School level and above are eligible. Volunteers are expected to be able to assist in reception and other duties.

\* The winners of past years may not participate in the same category as before.

\*Audience and supporters are welcome. Entry is free of charge.

\* Daycare service available (for participants and volunteers only) for 0-10 years old children. First come first serve basis.

Application: Submit the application form (available on the homepage and at the International Association) by January 21 by mail or in person.

**Contact:** International Association, 305-0032 Takezono 1-10-1

Tel: 029-869-7675

### Tsukuba Science Information Centre

This centre displays the achievements of the many scientific institutions in Tsukuba City. It also distributes pamphlets which contain useful information for foreign residents. The display and area and exchange salon are free of charge. However, the meeting room is subject to fees.

**Contact:** Tsukuba Science Information Centre

Tel: 029-852-6789

## Health

### Medical Check-up for Babies

Irrespective of residential area babies can receive the check-ups at Sakura Health Center or Yatabe Health Center. A notification is sent in the month prior to the check-up date. Contact the health center respectively or Tsukuba City Hall, Health Division for more information.

**Reception time:** 12:45-13:30; **Check-up:** 13:00 ~

**Contact:** Sakura Health Center [TEL] 029-857-3931, Yatabe Health Center [TEL] 029-838-1100

#### Check-up for 18 months, babies born in:

June 2009 : Yatabe H.C. Jan 19.

July 2009: Sakura H.C. Feb 1, 16. Yatabe H.C. Feb 9

#### Check-up for 3 year olds, babies born in:

December 2007: Sakura H.C. Jan 26

January 2008: Sakura H.C. Feb 15, 17. Yatabe H.C. Feb 23

#### Preventative Vaccination for Infants

##### Polio Vaccination

**Time:** 13:30 ~ (reception time: 13:00 ~ 14:20)

\*No reservation required, vaccination given in order of reception.

**Eligibility:** Child between 3 months ~ 90 months \* Children over 1 who are yet to get measles and rubella vaccinations should get it first. **What to bring:** Mother and Child Health Handbook, Polio Vaccination ticket

**Date:** Yatabe H.C.: Jan 17. Feb 14. Sakura H.C.: Jan 18, Jan 27, Feb 24. Oho H.C: Feb 3.

#### Measles and Rubella Vaccination

For phase 2 ~ 4, the vaccination period is until March 31<sup>st</sup> 2011. For

details, please refer the personal notification or ‘Life Plan Sukoyaka’.

**Contact:** Sakura Health Centre

Tel 029-857-3931

#### Clinics Open During Sundays and Holidays

Emergency medical institution reception hours 9:00-17:00.

The dates below may change. In case of emergency call the fire department Tel: 851-0119

Jan 16 Sunshine Clinic, Yatabe 6107-14, Tel: 839-3333

Sakayori Iin, Kunimatsu 855-2, Tel: 866-0106

Jan 23 Tsukuba Tsuji Clinic, Kenkyugakuen C50-1, Iias Tsukuba,

Tel: 868-7170

Tsukuba Shiritsu Byoin, Houjou 5022, Tel: 867-1196

Jan 30 Miyagawa Naika Ichoka Iin, Ninomiya 2-2-26, Tel: 855-8777

Tsukuba Chuo Byoin, Houjou 5118, Tel: 867-1211

Feb 6 Ohta Iin, Teshirogi 309-4, Tel: 838-5333

Hayashi Iin, Houjou 19-2, Tel: 867-0114

Feb 11 Ohno Iin, Shimana 634, Tel: 848-0888

Hirose Iin, Houjou 85, Tel 867-0127

Feb 13 Okano Seikei Geka Naika Clinic, Nishi Ohhashi 192, Tel 856-2300

Hirose Clinic, Kunimatsu 56-1, Tel: 866-0129

Feb 20 Ogura Naika (Higashi), Higashi 2-4-14, Tel: 852-0777

Aoyagi Iin, Uenomuro 887, Tel: 857-1522

Feb 27 Katsuragi Clinic, Karima 196-1, Tel 852-1105

Iioka Iin, Sakura 3-20-2, Tel: 857-7526

## Sports

### Do you like to Ski?

#### Citizens Ski tour

Date: February 10-13, 2011 (2.5 days)

Destination: Ozeiwakura Ski Area (Katashinamura, Gunma Prefecture)

For: People living or working in Tsukuba. \* Elementary school students must be accompanied by their guardian.

Participation: maximum of 70 people (first come basis). 39,000yen for adults. 33,000 yen for children (include lesson fees, bingo tournament fee and Insurance. Lift fee is not included)

Application: Write “Ski Tour application” on the back of a return postcard, with name, address, age and phone number and send it in. It Must reach before Jan 27.

Sports Association (Sports Division)

305-8555 Tsukuba City, Karima 2530-2. Tel: 029-854-8511

**Contact:** Ski League Tel: 029(865)0345 Kataoka

