



Let's Join the Neighborhood Community Association: "Jichikai"

The "Jichikai" is the neighborhood community association which promotes community interaction by providing useful information and organizing recreational activities as well as working on disaster and crime prevention, environment beautification to upgrade the living environments of the region. The activities of the "Jichikai" enables a deeper community interaction where the residents can help each other and make the community one in which the residents feel great about living. So why not join the "Jichikai" and help your community become better!

Tsukuba City Mayor Kenichi ICHIHARA

The "Jichikai" is composed of the local residents and organizes various community events. To make the community more enjoyable for the residents, the "Jichikai" addresses problems in the community as well deepening the interaction between the members of the community. To build a safe community, some of the recent activities of the "Jichikai" include anti-crime patrols as a countermeasure against crimes such as attacks on children and criminal activities by suspicious people. In some places the "Jichikai" forms independent disaster prevention body that organizes disaster prevention drills in order to build a stronger community.



Consultation service in foreign language

This service is for foreign residents who live in Tsukuba City. The consultation can be received on various topics such as education/qualification, marriage and divorce, daily life issues and procedures.

Tsukuba International Association

Location: Azuma 1-10-1, Tsukuba Science Information Center. **Time and Date:** 9:00-12:00. Wednesday (Chinese and Easy Japanese) and Thursday (English and Easy Japanese) **Holiday:** December 29~January 3, **Tel:** 029-868-7700

Consultation Method: By phone or in person. **Fee:** free, appointment is necessary.

Foreigners Consultation Center

Ibaraki Prefecture International Association **Tel:** 029-244-3811

Location: Mito City, Senbacyo 745, Prefectural Culture Center Annex 2nd floor.

Time and date: From Monday to Friday 8:30-12:00, 13:00-17:00. Portuguese 8:30 ~12:00 (Mon), Korean, Spanish (Tue), Chinese, Thai (Wed), Tagalog, Portuguese (Thur), Thai, Indonesian (Fri), English/Japanese (Mon~Fri)

Holiday: National Holidays, the beginning and the end of the year.

Consultation on daily life is done by phone or in person. Consultation with lawyer is available twice a month.

Fee: free, appointment is necessary.

AIDS consultation for foreigners

Tsukuba Public Health center

Tel: 029-851-4920

Location: Tsukuba City, Matsushiro 4-27

Examination day: Tuesday 9:00 to 10:00, the 4th Tuesday of a month 17:00-19:00

Holiday: National Holidays

Consultation and examination on AIDS (HIV) is available.

Consultation method: by phone or in person. Appointment is necessary. **Fee:** free **Languages:** English, Thai

Hello Work Tsuchiura

Tel: 029-822-5124 31#

Location: Tsuchiura City, Manabe 1-18-19

Time: Monday to Friday, 8:30 -17:15 (consultation in foreign languages is from 10:00-15:00)

Holiday: National Holidays, the beginning and the end of the year. Consultation is for the people who are looking for a job. When you apply for this service, please bring your Residence card or the certificate of foreign registration and passport.

Date and language: English, Chinese (Mon/Wed), Spanish (Tue/Thurs), English (Fri), Portuguese (Mon~Fri)

Target: Spouse or child of Japanese, permanent resident, permanent settler whose status of residence doesn't limit working and foreign students who want to do a part time job.

Centro de Apoio Aos Estrangeiros

Tel: 029-750-0371

Location: Joso City, Mitsukaido morishitamachi 4346-3, Sugita building 2nd floor.

Time and date: Monday-Friday 10:00~19:00, Saturday 10:00~17:00

Holiday: National Holidays, the beginning and the end of the year. You can consult about working and school in Portuguese and Spanish.

Language: Portuguese and Spanish

Consultation service for foreigners working in Japan

Consultation is regarding the issues of job and working environment.

Consultation method: by phone or in person.

Tel: 029-224-6214, Ibaraki Labor Standards Bureau

Location: Mito city, Miyamachi 1-8-31.

Time and date: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, 13:00 pm -16:30 pm/English, Chinese, Spanish (Tue), English, Spanish (Thurs), Chinese (Fri)

Holiday: National Holidays, the end and the beginning of a year

Exemption and Extension of National Pension Premiums

The National Pension is a system for everybody between the age 20 and 60. Apart from receiving the basic old age pension, the basic disability pension and basic pension for the bereaved can also be received.

Exemption System

If the monthly premium of 15,040 yen can not be paid due to financial difficulties, part or full amount of the premium may be exempted after application.

Exemption Amount

The ratio for the exemption amount will be calculated based on the previous years income of the applicant, dependents and the head of household and it also depends on the number of dependents.

Payment Extension for Young People

The payment may be extended for those under the age of 30. The incomes of the applicant and his/her spouse will be subject to screening.

Special Payment System for Students

Students do not qualify for exemption and need to apply for the special payment system for students. The income of the applicant will be subject to screening.

Statutory Exemption

Those receiving welfare payments according to the Public Assistance Act or the Disability Pension will get payment exemption.

Reception Period

Application for the exemption for the period July 2013 – June 2014 and payment extension for young people must be done between July 2013 – July 2014.

Contact: Tsuchiura Pension Office: TEL: 029-824-7121

Medical Welfare and Pension Division:

TEL: 029-883-1111 (ext. 1470)

Tax Notice : Let's Pay Taxes Before Deadline

★ Municipal Tax (Aug) Payment Deadline: Sept 2 (Monday)

* City and Prefectural Tax (2nd phase)

Contact: Tsukuba City Hall, Municipal Tax Division, Tax Collection Division. Tel: 029-883-111 (Ext. 2930)

* National Health Insurance Tax (2nd phase)

Contact: Tsukuba City Hall, Health Insurance and Pension Division, (Ext. 1463)

★ Municipal Tax (Sept) Payment Deadline: Sept 30 (Monday)

* National Health Insurance Tax (3rd phase)

Contact: Tsukuba City Hall, Health Insurance and Pension Division, (Ext. 1463)

Personal Municipal tax and prefectural tax are called City and Prefectural Tax (shi-ken-min ze) or Resident's Tax (jumin-ze). All residents who live in Tsukuba city on January 1st of the year have an obligation to pay the Municipal Tax in principle. The amount is calculated according to the income of the previous year.

The National Health Insurance (NHI) Tax is used for the operations of the NHI and is imposed on the head of the household whose members are subscribers of the NHI. This tax together with the assistance from the National and local governments is used to assist with the medical costs of sick or injured subscribers of NHI and at childbirth or death in the family. The benefits from the NHI, as a rule, is provided 50% by the national and local government and the remaining is from the tax paid by the people insured.

National Health Insurance Tax

The National Health Insurance (NHI) Tax is the tax which is used to cater for the medical costs of the residents of Tsukuba who are subscribers of the National Health Insurance. Owing to this tax, the citizens can get medical treatment in case of sickness or injury without having to worry too much about the medical costs.

How is it calculated?

The National Health Insurance Tax is based on the number of subscribers and their income from the previous year and calculated for each household.

Declaration of Income

In order to calculate the National Health Insurance Tax, the incomes of the head of the household and of all the subscribers are considered. If the incomes are not declared, not only will the calculated tax be incorrect but also the tax relief and deduction systems will be inapplicable and the high medical costs will not be determinable.

Tax Payment is the duty of the Head of Household

The payment of the National Health Insurance is the duty of the head of the household. Therefore, even if the head of the household is not a subscriber of the National Health Insurance, the tax payment notice will be sent to the head of the household if any member of the household is a subscriber of the National Health Insurance.

Payment of the Tax

From July until March of the following year, a monthly payment can be made (total of 9 installments). The payment deadlines is usually at the end of the month (except for December where it is on the 25th)

National Health Insurance Tax is from the Month of Joining

The National Health Insurance Tax is calculated from the day of moving in from another city, village or when the insurance from the workplace ends. It is not the day on which the notification was made to the city hall, so please make sure not to be late in making the notification.

Tax Relief Regarding the National Health Insurance Tax

If the total income of the head of the household and the subscriber is less than the income limit, tax relief may be given, where the amount of tax to be paid would decrease. Although there is no need to apply for the tax relief, the incomes of the head of the household and all the subscribers must be declared.

Contact: National Health Insurance Division, (ext. 1460, 1461)

Convenience Store Promulgation System is getting more convenient

Now there are more and more convenience stores where you can use the automatic Promulgation system.

Stores where certificate is available: Seven Eleven, Lawson, Circle K Sunkus

* Not available at Lawson stores 100 and where the machine isn't installed.

Note:

★“Juki Card” that does not registered for using at the convenience store, the registration is required at City Hall.

★Those who wish to use new system, acquisition of “Juki Card” and registration to use the system is necessary.

Sealed registration certificate is not issued at a convenience store. **Contact:** Tsukuba City Hall, Citizens Services Division. TEL: 029-883-1111 (ext) 1181

Sekisho International Women's Open Tennis Tournament 2013

You can watch the high level matches of professional women players presented by Japanese top ranking players and young players from abroad. You will enjoy matches of players who are expected to participate in US tennis tournament in the future.

Period: August 25 ~ September 1

Venue: Tsukuba Hokubu Park, Tennis Court (Tsukuba Kitahara 1) (parking available)

Event: women's singles and doubles. **Cost:** Free



Recruiting volunteers for 33rd Tsukuba Marathon

Volunteers for Tsukuba Marathon are wanted. Support and assistance of volunteers encourage runners' finish. You are welcomed to participate as a group or company.

Date and Time: November 24, 2013 (Sun), it will be held in rain or shine

7:00 am - 4:00 pm (tentatively scheduled)

(Time depends on the charge of place)

Content: water, food, goods distribution and support of runners, etc.

Eligibility: 15 years old and older (Except for junior high school students)

Participants: approx. 800 people

Supply: stuff uniforms and lunch

Meeting: November 3, 2013, from 10:00 am

Conference room 201, Tsukuba City Hall

10 minutes walk from Tsukuba Express, Kenkyugakuen Station

Application: Apply by email or post with your name, address, age, gender, emergency phone number and email address

Deadline of application: October 4 (Fri) 2013

Contact: Tsukuba Marathon Office

〒 104-6038, Harumi Triton Square X, 1-8-10, Harumi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo

e-mail: 33info@tsukuba-marathon.com

TEL: 03 (5166) 0287

Bee Hive Removal

The season for bee hive formation has come. The Swift Dispatch office removes about 1000 hives every year, however it is urged that small homes use insecticides sold commercially to fix this problem. The bee hive removal services, provided by the city hall will handle the matter in the following cases:

1. The bee hives are inside general housing complex and are very dangerous.
2. The bee hives are inside a property where the owner can not be contacted and the bees are posing danger to the general public.
3. The bee hives are in a place near a route which children take, and may pose a danger.

If the confirmation of the hives can not be done without breaking parts of the building or the hives are under the floor or at high places, it does not qualify for the bee hive removal services of the city.

In case of apartments, dormitories and businesses, please request the building administrators to deal with it.

* The fire headquarters do not deal with bee hive removal.

Contact: Tsukuba City, Swift Dispatch Office.

TEL: 029-883-1111 (ext. 1711)

Subsidy for Vaccinations against Rubella for Adults

1. Eligibility for Subsidy

People who are registered in the Tsukuba City Residence Registration (on the day of the vaccination), were born on or after April 1st 1990, have never been infected with Rubella, have not taken the vaccination twice and fall into the following category are eligible:

- ★ Women who are planning to or hoping to get pregnant
- ★ Dependents and housemates of pregnant women (including common-law marriages)

2. Subsidy Period

For those getting the vaccinations between April 1, 2013 - March 31, 2014

3. Subsidy Amount and Frequency

One time for either Rubella vaccination or the combined Rubella and Measles vaccination. Subsidizes of 50% of vaccination charges (up to 5000 yen). * First, pay the full amount at the medical institution and then apply for assistance later.

4. Application Period

July 1, 2013 - March 31, 2014 (8:30 - 17:15)

Application Reception: Tsukuba City Hall, Health Promotion Division or the Sakura, Yatabe and Oho Health Centers. Monday - Friday (except for weekends, public holidays and between December 29 - January 3)

5. Requirements for the Application

- 1) Application form (available from service counters and city hall website)
- 2) Receipt from the medical institution (that clearly shows amount paid, date of vaccination, name of person vaccinated, name of vaccination, name of the medical institution)
- 3) If dependents of pregnant women were vaccinated, copies of the Maternal and Child Health Handbook (front cover, page showing certificate of birth registration) * Name and residential address of the biological mother of the child must be stated.
- 4) If housemates of pregnant women were vaccinated, copies of the Maternal and Child Health Handbook (front cover, page showing certificate of birth registration) * Name and residence of the biological mother of the child must be stated. Identification where residential address can be confirmed (example driving license)
- 5) Name seal and bank book or cash card to deposit the subsidy.

Contact: Tsukuba City Hall, Health Promotion Division.

TEL: 029-883-1111 (ext. 1332)

Sakura Health Center. TEL: 029-857-3931

Tsukuba World Futsal 2013 will be held!

Tsukuba World Futsal is an event where various nationalities and cultures meet and welcomes everybody regardless of Japanese and foreigners to participate. There are many events such as attraction and world restaurants, so not only players but also guests can enjoy the atmosphere. Why don't you come and enjoy various cultures and nationalities and make friends?!

Tsukuba World Futsal 2013 will be held as follows.

Period: December 1, 2013

Location: Sekisho Challenge Stadium (1565 Yamaki, Tsukuba City). The details about event will be on the October issue of this bulletin and the website.

Contact: Tsukuba World Futsal Committee

Tsukuba City Hall, Globalization and Culture Division

TEL: 029-883-1111 (ext) 2270

“Emails and Letters to the Mayor”

To build a comfortable living environment, Tsukuba City has introduced the “Emails and Letters to the Mayor”, where the citizens can directly inform the Mayor of their opinions. The suggestions and opinions sent by the citizens will be viewed by the Mayor, and a reply will be sent back (except to anonymous senders). If you wish to post your suggestions, there is a postcard with the title “*Shicho e no tayori*” available at the city hall, service counters, community centers, health centers and other public places.

To send emails, send the emails through the Tsukuba City Hall homepage:

[http://](http://www.city.tsukuba.ibaraki.jp/14278/14279/206/006840.html)

[/www.city.tsukuba.ibaraki.jp/14278/14279/206/006840.html](http://www.city.tsukuba.ibaraki.jp/14278/14279/206/006840.html)

* The reply may take some time depending on the content. Please understand that the opinions and suggestions may be posted on the city Hall homepage, while keeping the privacy of the senders.

There will be no replies for the following contents:

- * Anonymous, without name and address
- * Defamation or insults to an individual or group
- * Business motives
- * Having no purpose
- * Other contents that the city can not reply to

Contact: Policy Coordinator Office,

TEL: 029-883-1111 (ext. 5142)

City Chat Café

This is a good chance for foreigners and Japanese residents to communicate in English. Japanese who don't speak English very well are supported by the students of Tsukuba University

Date and Time: September 22 & October 20, Sunday, 14:00 to 16:00

Place: LALA Garden Tsukuba, first floor, community room **Entry fee:** Free **Registration:** not required

Contact: Ms Ohki at Tsukuba International Association

E-mail: ohki@inter.or.jp TEL 029-869-7675

Interesting to know!!! Japanese manner

Every country has its specific manner which is different from each other. Japan is one of the countries where you can come across with various manners. This corner introduces Japanese manner to foreign residents who live in Tsukuba City. Let's learn about Japanese manner in order to enjoy our life in Japan.

Japanese chopsticks: It's said that Japanese cuisine starts with chopsticks and ends with chopsticks, so it's important to know the proper usage of chopsticks. Let's check the way of using our chopsticks.

Mayoi-bashi: to move chopsticks over dishes, without touching them, considering what to choose

Sashi-bashi: to pick up food by stabbing it

Yose-bashi: to draw a bowl or dish to yourself with chopsticks

Awase-bashi: to pass food from chopsticks to chopsticks

Watashi-bashi: to place chopsticks on top of a bowl (it can mean that “I can't eat any more”)

Kuwae-bashi: to hold chopsticks in your mouth

Have you done any of them before?

All these manners are considered as bad behavior while using chopsticks. Be careful not to do!



The new product!!!

“Tsukuba Science Chocolate”



New chocolate product called “Tsukuba Science Choco” is now on sell. It's a good souvenir from the Science City. You can make your original chocolate with a new taste.

It's like a scientific experiment. Melt the chocolate and put your favorite drinks and mix in it. When it's chilled, your original chocolate is made up.

Price: 450 yen (tax included)

Selling places: Tsukuba Sightseeing and Convention Association, Mt. Tsukuba Tourist Information, Tsukuba Information Center

Contact: Tsukuba Sightseeing and Convention Association

Tel: 029-869-8333 **website:** <http://www.tca.jp>

Japanese Conversation Course

Daytime course :10:00am-12:00pm

Nighttime course :6:30pm- 8:00pm

Japanese 1 For those who have no experience of learning Japanese.

16 sessions for Daytime, 20 sessions for Nighttime

Date: Daytime courses Every Wednesday(Oct.2-Jan.30)

Nighttime course Every Tuesday (Oct.1- Mar.27)

Japanese 2 For those who have studied Japanese more than 50 hours, or who can introduce him/herself and can read Hiragana and Katakana. 20 sessions

Date&Time: Nighttime course Every Tuesday (Oct.1- Mar.27)

Writing and reading — For those who want to learn and memorize Hiragana, Katakana and Kanji. 20 sessions

Date&Time: Nighttime course Every Tuesday (Oct.1- Mar.27)

Japanese 3 For those who have studied Japanese more than 100 hours, or who can use noun modification or can write Hiragana and Katakana. 16 sessions for Daytime, 20 sessions for Nighttime

Date&Time: Daytime courses Every Wednesday (Oct.2-Jan.30)

Nighttime course Every Thursday (Oct.1- Mar.27)

Japanese 4 For those who have studied Japanese more than 150 hours who can express his/her hope and intention and can make a sentences when speaking. 20 sessions

Date&Time: Nighttime Course Every Thursday (Oct.1- Mar.27)

Nihongo no kai— For those who have studied Japanese more than 200 hours or who has passed JLPT 3rd level or who can talk about any topics and can express his/her ideas in Japanese somehow.

16 sessions for Daytime, 20 sessions for Nighttime

Date&Time: Daytime Course: Every Thursday(Oct.2-Jan.30)

Nighttime Course:Every Thursday (Oct.1- Mar.27)

Location:

Daytime course: Tsukuba Science Information Center (Azuma 1-10-1) **Night course:** Tsukuba Capiro (Takezono 1-10-1)

Cost: 6000 yen for new members, 5000 yen for the members

Textbook Price: Nihongo 1, 2 , Nihongo 45 jikan – 1300 yen/ Nihongo 4,5, Nihongo tsugino45 jikan – 1400 yen.

Registration period: from September 1, 2013

How to register: please fill out the application form and apply to the following address.

TEL: 029-869-7675, Tsukuba International Association, Tsukuba Science Information Center, 1-10-1 Azuma, Tsukuba City, 305-0003.