



This newsletter is published by Naka Ward in English and Chinese to provide foreign nationals with useful information on topics such as municipal administration, social programs and rules for everyday living in the community.

Important!

What You Need to Know about Resident Taxes

This issue takes a special look at resident taxes (municipal and prefectural) to deepen your understanding of the requirements and procedures, as some points can be difficult to grasp. Remember that you have a duty to pay resident taxes. Failure to pay will result in penalties and can even jeopardize your ability to renew your visa!

Inquiries: Zeimu (Tax) Division (Counter 42, 4F), Naka Ward Office, Tel: 045-224-8231

What are taxes used for locally?

Childraising / Education



For daycare, pediatric medical subsidies for infants/children, enhancement of school education, etc.

Public Parks Maintenance



To maintain safe and secure public parks

Waste Disposal / Reduction / Recycling



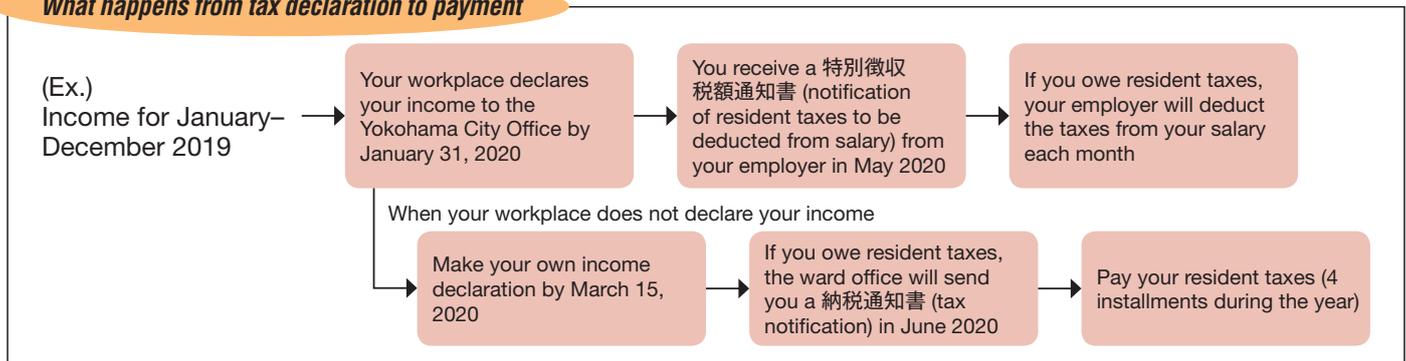
For municipal waste collection

* Taxes are also used for ambulance and firefighting services; subway and bus operations; welfare, health and medical programs, etc.

Who needs to pay resident (municipal and prefectural) taxes?

You may have to pay resident taxes (municipal and prefectural) if you were living in Japan as of January 1 and had income in the previous calendar year.

What happens from tax declaration to payment



Important points:

- Please check with your employer if you are unsure whether they will submit your income declaration
- Resident taxes are based on your income for the previous year and issued by the municipality where you resided on January 1
- If you didn't have any income, you must still declare your circumstances to the ward office

Without a tax declaration (income tax filing or declaration of circumstances) you cannot be issued documents such as a taxation certificate, tax exemption certificate or tax payment certificate!



Procedures requiring a taxation, tax exemption or tax payment certificate

Status of residence ("visa") renewal, support for entering elementary school, high school or the like, entering public housing, applying for a bank loan, etc.

How do I pay my resident taxes on my own?

The tax payment slips will be sent by post to your home address. Please make each payment by the indicated due date.

Remember to pay!

Calendar for payment of resident (municipal and prefectural) taxes

* Pay by the last day of the month.

June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January
 1st payment		 2nd payment		 3rd payment			 4th payment

The tax payment slips will arrive in June. Please pay each one by the indicated due date.

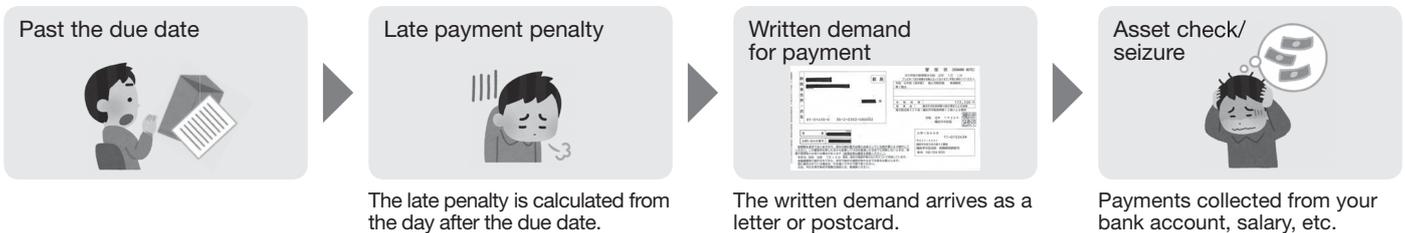
- Payment slips with barcodes can be paid at a convenience store
- Automatic bank withdrawal is also very convenient!



Payment slips with barcodes

When you don't pay by the due date

Taxes must be paid even when you have other financial obligations such as loans. Failure to pay will result in late penalties. In some cases, your assets could be seized to pay for outstanding taxes.



Consultations on Employment

Kanagawa Labor Center (Free Consultations, Confidentiality Assured)

2F, Kanagawa Labor Plaza, 1-4 Kotobuki-cho, Naka-ku

<Scope of consultations>

Specialized consultations for wages, working conditions, social insurance, occupational accidents, dismissals, workplace harassment, etc. If the employee and employer find it difficult to reach a voluntary resolution, center staff can serve as a liaison between the worker and the employer to find a solution.

<Foreign Worker Labor Consultations> (phone/in person)

Spanish

Vietnamese

2nd/4th Wednesday of each month, Tel: 045-662-1166

2nd/4th Thursday of each month, Tel: 045-633-2030



(Consultation hours: 1 p.m.–4 p.m., no reservation required)

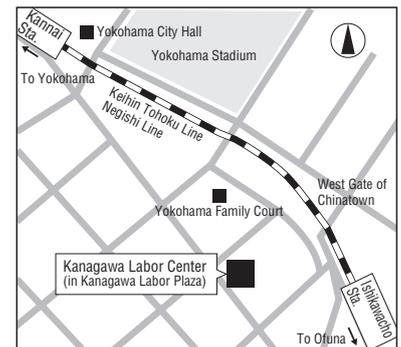
<General Labor Consultations> (phone/in person)

(In Japanese) Mon–Fri: 8:30 a.m.–12 p.m., 1–5:15 p.m., Tel: 045-662-6110



For Foreign Worker Labor Consultations, support is provided by interpreters only for the above languages.

You can consult with the center when you're experiencing workplace trouble—for example, your employer won't provide a payslip.



Naka International Lounge Japanese Classes (30 lessons)

■ Every Tuesday and Thursday from November 19 to March 19 (winter break from December 18 to January 6), 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m. ■ 6,000 yen / 30 lessons

These enjoyable classes provide useful Japanese for everyday life. Lessons are done in small groups divided by Japanese level. Please make an appointment to determine your level by phoning or coming to the lounge (10 a.m.–5 p.m. [to 8 p.m. on Tue/Sat], closed the 3rd Sunday of each month).

Note: These are beginner-level Japanese lessons for those who are at least 16 years old and live or work in Naka-ku.

<Naka International Lounge, Tel: 045-210-0667>



Seniors, Get Your Flu Shot before Flu Season Arrives

Influenza can affect seniors quite seriously, so vaccination is recommended. Seniors can receive a flu shot at cooperating Yokohama medical institutions* for 2,300 yen.

Eligibility: Age 65 or older
Period: Until Dec. 31 (Tue.)

Please bring your residence card or identification that shows your name, address and age.

* For cooperating institution information in English or Chinese, please inquire with Naka International Lounge (1F, Naka Ward Office Annex, Tel: 045-210-0667)

<Fukushi Hoken (Health and Welfare) Division, Naka Ward Office, Tel: 045-224-8332>

Rubella antibody test and vaccination

Rubella is a highly infectious disease. If a pregnant woman passes her rubella infection to her unborn child, there is a possibility the child will have congenital rubella syndrome. The following persons are encouraged to get a free rubella antibody test to determine if they could pass rubella to a family member, partner, etc. If the test shows you don't have enough rubella antibodies, you can receive a free measles/rubella (MR) vaccination. For details, please contact the Yokohama Vaccination Call Center. (Tel: 045-330-8561, Fax: 045-664-7296)

Eligibility: Men born between April 2, 1962 and April 1, 1979

Cost: Free
Period: Until March 31, 2022

<Fukushi Hoken (Health and Welfare) Division, Naka Ward Office, Tel: 045-224-8332>

Enrolling Your Child in Daycare from April 2020

Daycare centers will look after children whose parents are working, ill, etc. and unable to care for their child at home during the day. Daycare is available from the 57th day after the child is born until the start of elementary school. Note that some facilities have different age ranges.

▶ Applications for daycare from April 2020
Application guides will be distributed from Oct. 11 (Fri.) at the *Kodomo Katei Shien* (Children and Families Support) Division (Counter 54) at Naka Ward Office.
Applications by mail: Oct. 11 (Fri.)–Nov. 8* (Fri.)
* Postmarked

For persons unable to submit their application by mail during the above period, applications will be accepted in person on Nov. 14 (Thu.) and Nov. 15 (Fri.) from 9–11:30 a.m. and 1–4:30 p.m. in the 7th floor meeting room. If you applied for a daycare spot in FY 2019 and were not accepted, you need to reapply for FY 2020.

<Kodomo Katei Shien (Children and Families Support) Division, Naka Ward Office, Tel: 045-224-8172>

Seeking Renters for Municipal Housing

Application period: Oct. 9 (Wed.)–18 (Fri.)
The 募集のしおり (application guide) for *shiei* (Yokohama municipal) housing will be available from the Naka Ward Office from Oct. 7 (Mon.).

Separate Your Waste!

If you don't know the waste category for an item, you can search for it by name using this 2D code. →



Hello Yokohama 2019

"Hello Yokohama," Naka Ward's annual festival, will be held for the 44th time in 2019, with about 25 groups performing music (including jazz), dance, etc. There will also be more than 100 stands from Naka Ward shopping street businesses and action groups. Please come and enjoy the festival!

Date: Oct. 13 (Sun.), 10 a.m.–4 p.m. (postponed to the 14th [public holiday] in bad weather)

Location: Yokohama Park, Nihon Odori St., Zo-no-hana Park

<Chiiki Shinko (Community Promotion) Division, Naka Ward Office, Tel: 045-224-8132>

All about Neighborhood Associations

What do neighborhood associations do?

Patrols to enhance community safety

Members of your *jichikai/chonaikai* (neighborhood association) carry out voluntary neighborhood patrols to communicate with residents and enhance community safety. With a focus on streets with less traffic, these patrols help prevent crime. Patrolling is also a great way to communicate with members of your community, so why not volunteer your time?

<Chiiki Shinko (Community Promotion) Division, Naka Ward Office, Tel: 045-224-8132>

International Service Staff Naka Ward Office, Counter 23 (2F) English: 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

International Service Staff provide guidance on ward office services and interpretation at counters, and can help you fill in certificate applications, etc. Stop by if you would like assistance.

Help Me Know Q&A



Do foreign nationals have to enroll in the National Pension system?

⇒ All persons aged 20–59 with an address in Japan must enroll. The self-employed, freelancers, farmers, foresters and fishermen, students and the unemployed need to go to the local municipal office where their residence is registered to take the necessary procedures.

Inquiries: *Kokumin Nenkin* (National Pension) Section, *Hoken Nenkin* (Health Insurance and Pension) Division, Naka Ward Office, Tel: 045-224-8311



▶ How much are the monthly premiums?

16,410 yen/month (FY 2019)



▶ I can't afford the premiums. What should I do?

If you can't pay the premiums due to financial difficulties, there are systems to defer or receive an exemption from payments.

Special payment system for students

Students can have their premiums deferred (excludes certain types of schools).

Exemption system

Persons with income below a set standard can be exempted from premium payments.

▶ What pension benefits can I receive?

If you have 10 years or more of valid coverage periods, you can receive a pension from age 65, even if you leave Japan. If you have paid into the system for at least 6 months but less than 10 years, you can apply for a lump-sum refund.

Where to apply: Japan Pension Service

Tel: (Domestic): 03-6700-1165
(International): +81-3-6700-1165



Feel the Breezes of Port History -A walking tour of Naka Ward history-

Go for a Visit



Multilingual Guide Map to Naka Ward Commemorative Monuments

Naka Ward is home to the Port of Yokohama, where Japan started to open up to the world in the 19th century. There are many *hi* (commemorative monuments) in the ward that mark the port's history. Picture maps of these monuments are now available in English, Chinese and Korean. Why not take this opportunity to take a tour of the monuments using one of these maps? They can also be used as educational material for history and social studies.

Monument Highlights

Japan's first gas lamps

Naka Ward is where Japan's first gas lamps were used. They were installed in 1872 by the Takashima Kaemon gas company from Bashamichi to Honcho-dori St. The wall relief depicts Bashamichi at the end of the Meiji Era.



What will I learn?

▶ The 51 monuments convey the history of the start of modern Japan and port history

It has been 160 years since the port was opened. The map features pictures and short explanations of each of the 51 monuments in Naka Ward. Use the map to find each of these historical monuments.

▶ Recommended walking courses

The map suggests six different walking courses that range from 20 minutes to 90 minutes in length. Pick the course that best fits your mood.

▶ As a tourist map

The map also includes major tourist spots between Sakuragi-cho and Ishikawa-cho, such as the Red Brick Warehouses and Chinatown, so it can also be used as a tourist map.

▶ Available in three foreign languages

This map was previously only available in Japanese, but is now available in English, Chinese and Korean.

How can I get a copy?

The map for each language (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean) can be downloaded from the Naka Ward website. A print version (Japanese map only) is also available from the Naka Ward Office.

Inquiries:

Kusei Suishin (Ward Admi Promotion) Division,
Naka Ward Office
TEL: 045-224-8128



Thoughts of a Foreign Resident Life and Culture in Japan



School Life

My son couldn't communicate well in Japanese for the first while after arriving in Japan and it was very hard for him to get used to living in Japan. After a while, we moved to Yokohama for my husband's work, where my son and daughter respectively entered junior high school and elementary school. In his first year of junior high, my son ran for student council, receiving the largest number of votes. For the election, he had to give a speech in front of the entire school—about 700 students. I remembered his shy personality as a young child and realized it was as if he had changed into a different person. On the other hand, my daughter attends a public elementary school in Naka Ward. Because Naka Ward is home to many foreign nationals, there are many children

at her school with overseas ties, so everyone gets along well. When a Chinese student transfers into the school, my daughter assists the teacher and student by translating and interpreting. One year later, the student provides support to other children who are newly arrived in Japan. Sometimes my daughter's Japanese friends are envious of her abilities, saying "I wish I could speak Chinese, too."

So while it can be difficult at first for children new to Japan to get used to living here, remember that children pick things up fast. I hope that such children can enjoy their school lives in Japan.

(Naka International Lounge, Chinese language staff)



Good to Know! About Japanese Culture



An introduction to seasonal events and Japanese culture in terms of food, clothing and housing.

Bunkasai Cultural Festivals

Many schools hold an annual *bunkasai* (cultural festival). The *bunkasai* is where students present the results of their studies as well as run enjoyable events for visitors such as coffee stands and game booths. For this day, students work together as one in their classes and clubs, spending several months planning and preparing. Depending on the school, persons from outside the school can visit. It is also a valuable opportunity for potential students to tour the school. Have a look at Japanese school life by visiting a *bunkasai*!



We are always looking for locations to distribute *Naka Ward Town News*. If you have many foreign visitors to your shop, clinic, organization, etc. and would like to make this newsletter available to them, please contact us at 045-224-8123 to arrange delivery. The next issue will be published on January 1.