



## Temporary Weekend Window for Registrations/Certificates

Due to new jobs, schools, etc., the end of March is a busy time for moving in Japan. Therefore, the city is opening a temporary registration window to help those who need to file a change of address, etc.

**Dates:** March 30th (Sat) from 8:30 AM to 5:15 PM  
 March 31st (Sun) from 8:30 AM to 12 PM

**Where:** Koka City Hall (1st floor)



### Types of Registrations:

- Residence changes (Moving-In [Tennyu], Moving-Out [tenshutsu], Change of Address [tenkyo])
- Personal Seal Registration (Inkan Toroku) / Proof of Seal Registration (Inkan Shomei)
- Certificate issuance (Residence Certificate [Juminhyo], Family Register [Koseki], Taxation Certificate [Kazei Shomeisho], Income Certificate [Shotoku Shomeisho])
- Issuance of Student Transfer Notice (Tennyugaku Tsuchisho)

\*\*Please be aware that because this window is open on a weekend, some procedures cannot be done and some certificates cannot be issued. Thank you for understanding.

**Inquiries:** Shimin Ka TEL 0748-69-2138 FAX 0748-65-6338

### First in Shiga Prefecture!

## Introduction of AI Translators at City Windows

In response to the increasing number of foreign residents within the city, an AI translator is being tested at some city windows.

Currently the number of foreign residents in Koka City is around 3,200; one of the highest percentages of foreigners in Shiga prefecture. These residents come from over 30 countries including Brazil (the largest population), China, Peru, the Philippines, and Vietnam.

With new immigration laws starting in April, it is expected that the number of foreign residents will increase. However, the city has a limited number of staff who can speak foreign languages, so the AI translators are being tested.

**Testing Period:** Until March 20th (Wed)

**Number of Devices:** 5

### Testing Locations:

Koka City Hall, General Information and Shimin Ka  
 Shigaraki Chiiki Shimin Center  
 Other windows



### AI Translator

- Automatically translates from Japanese to other languages and vice versa with voice-to-text technology.
- Used in 105 regions around the world and compatible with 74 different languages
- Can translate everyday conversations without any problems (as determined by previous tests)

### Inquiries:

Seisaku Suishin Ka TEL 0748-69-2105 FAX 0748-63-4554

## Change of Certificate Issuance at 19 Chiiki Shimin Centers

(Except Tsuchiyama, Koka-Ohara, Konan Daiichi, and Shigaraki Chiiki Shimin Centers)

Starting April 1st, there will no longer be same-day delivery of certificates at Chiiki Shimin Centers (except those mentioned above). After April 1st, it will take several days to receive a certificate after applying, so please be sure to apply in advance. We are sorry for the inconvenience and appreciate your understanding.

Please note that certificates will be delivered to the Chiiki Shimin Center where you applied unless you specify that you would like them delivered to your home (shipping fees are paid for by the city).

\*\*If you wish to have the certificate delivered to your home by rapid mail or special delivery, you must pay for extra costs for shipping.

**Handling Time:** Weekdays from 8:30 AM to 5:15 PM (excluding December 29th to January 3rd)

**Handling Place:** Chiiki Shimin Centers in Koka City (except for the 4 listed above)

Types of Certificates	
Certificate Name	Who Can Apply
Copy of Family Register (Koseki Tohon)	Self, spouse, direct relative (parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, etc.)
Abstract of Family Register (Koseki Shohon)	
Copy of Koseki Fuhyo	
Copy of Residence Certificate (Juminhyo no Utsushi)	Self or someone from the same household
Certificate of Items Mentioned in Residence Certificate (Juminhyo Kisai Jiko Shomeisho)	

Types of Certificates	
Certificate Name	Who Can Apply
Personal Seal Registration Certificate (Inkan Toryoku Shomeisho)	The person who holds a Personal Seal Registration Card
Income Certificate (Shotoku Shomeisho)	Self or someone from the same household
Taxation Certificate (Kazei Shomeisho)	
Tax Exemption Certificate (Hikazei Shomeisho)	

\*\*Personal identification (such as a driver's license or My Number Card) is required when submitting an application.

\*\*If you do not have an ID with a photo, please contact the number below.

**Inquiries:** Shimin Ka TEL 0748-69-2138 FAX 0748-65-6338  
Chiiki Community Suishin Ka TEL 0748-69-2113 FAX 0748-63-4554

## March 1st to 7th is Children's Vaccination Week!

The Japan Medical Association, the Japan Pediatric Association, and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare have implemented a "Children's Vaccination Week" so that those who cannot take their children to get vaccinated during normal hours can still receive treatment.

Vaccines are important to protect children from diseases. Please check your Maternity Record Book to make sure that no vaccinations have been forgotten.

**Target:** Children in Koka City within the age range for vaccinations

**Types of Vaccinations:** Hib infection, children's pneumococcus, hepatitis B, 4-type combined (diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, polio), BCG (tuberculosis), measles, chickenpox, Japanese encephalitis, diphtheria-tetanus



Medical Facility Name	Date & Time	Reservations, etc.
Asada Clinic	March 2nd (Sat) 12:30PM to 1:30PM	Make reservations by February 23rd TEL 0748-69-7755
Tanaka Pediatric Clinic	March 2nd (Sat) 1PM to 1:15PM	Make reservations by February 20th TEL 0748-65-0121

**Inquiries:** Sukoyaka Shien Ka TEL 0748-69-2169 FAX 0748-63-4085

# Letter to the Mayor



In order for Koka City to develop, it is important for not only the administration but also for all Koka City residents to work together. That is why we want to hear from you! Using the "Letter to the Mayor", we want opinions from people of all ages so that we can help create a better city for everyone.

The letters sent in will be read by the mayor and those who request it will receive a reply. Please use the post card provided on the right or pick up the card at city hall's Hisho Koho Ka or at any of the Chiiki Shimin Centers.

**Inquiries:** Hisho Koho Ka  
 TEL 0748-69-2101 FAX 0748-63-4619

## Closing of Koka-shi Shimin Fukushima Katsudo Center

The Koka-shi Shimin Fukushima Katsudo Center (located at Konan-cho, Terasho 960) has been a base for the city's volunteer activities. However, this facility will be closing at the end of March. All activities will be moved to Koka-shi Machi-zukuri Katsudo Center Maroom (located at Minakuchi-cho, Minakuchi 6009) when it opens at the end of May. Until then, please use the Konan Kominkan or other facility for your activities.

**Inquiries:**  
 Chiiki Community Suishin Ka  
 TEL 0748-69-2113 FAX 0748-63-4554  
 Shakai Fukushima Ka  
 TEL 0748-69-2157 FAX 0748-63-4085

## Change to National Health Insurance Card Distribution



Previously, National Health Insurance Card or Elderly Benefits Card (for members over 70 years of age) were distributed in March and available for use in April. However, with a system change, new cards are going to be sent out in July. You can start using the new health insurance card in August.

**Inquiries:**  
 Hoken Nenkin Ka  
 TEL 0748-69-2140 FAX 0748-63-4618

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Letter to the Mayor

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(From)

Address			
Name		Sex	男・女 M F
Phone		Age	

Would you like a reply? Yes • No

Do you give Koka City permission to publish the contents of your letter?

内容の公表 Yes, publish. • No, don't publish.

## Final Tax Returns Must Be Filed Before March 15th!

### For Income Tax and Residence Tax

Income tax returns are to be filled out by each taxpayer by declaring the amount of income made within one year and calculating the amount of tax owed.

Even if you do not need to declare your income, or if you have no income, filing a residence tax return is required in order to reduce the amount of national health insurance tax, calculate medical fees for the late-stage elderly medical care system, deliver income certificates, and other procedures.

Please be careful not to miss the declaration deadline.

#### Inquiries:

Zeimu Ka  
TEL 0748-69-2128  
FAX 0748-63-4574



You can file online!

## Child Rearing Concierge


The Kosodate Concierge is a consultation window for anything having to do with child-rearing. The Concierge provides information and works with other related organizations and groups to support those who need help in parenting.

### Kosodate Concierge Sodan Madoguchi (from 9 AM to 5 PM)

1. Minakuchi Kosodate Shien Center (Monday thru Saturday)  
TEL 0748-65-5511 FAX 0748-65-5522
2. Tsuchiyama Kosodate Shien Center (Monday thru Friday)  
TEL & FAX 0748-66-0375
3. Koka Kosodate Shien Center (Tuesday thru Saturday)  
TEL 0748-70-0074 FAX 0748-70-2091
4. Konan Kosodate Shien Center (Monday thru Friday)  
TEL & FAX 0748-86-0949
5. Shigaraki Kosodate Shien Center (Tuesday thru Saturday)  
TEL & FAX 0748-82-2799



For questions, please call each Kosodate Shien Center directly.



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甲賀市水口町水口六〇五三番地

(受取人)

# 甲賀市長宛

市長への手紙

甲賀市長宛

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#### To make the postcard:

- 1) Cut along the dotted lines and fold in the center.
- 2) Glue on the spaces labeled "GLUE"
- 3) Send the post card as is.  
No postage stamp is necessary.

## **Koka City Sets the Scene for TV Drama**

It has been decided that Koka City will be the stage for NHK's new TV drama series "Scarlet" which will start airing in September of this year. This is the first time in 40 years that Shiga Prefecture has been selected as the filming location for an NHK drama series and the first time ever for Koka City.

The 101st drama for NHK, "Scarlet", will be a story about female artisan who struggles in the world of Shigaraki-yaki pottery making. Actress Erika Toda will play the heroine.

This drama is a great opportunity for Koka City to showcase its charm through Shigaraki-yaki, ninjas, the Tokaido highway, and others. Let us be proud that our city was chosen and come together as "All-Koka".



### **FUN FACT:**

The drama "Scarlet" is named after the color which is red with a slight yellowish tint. The color scarlet in Japanese is hi-iro (緋色/ひいろ) and is traditionally considered the color of flames.

### **Building a Framework Through "All-Koka"**

In order to discuss with filmmakers about the location of filming and promote filming locations, Kanko Kikaku Suishin Ka at city hall created a "Location Promotions Team" in January. In addition, with the ideals of All-Koka in mind. The city and other affiliated organizations created a "Scarlet" Support Council in order to ensure that filming runs smoothly, a proper system of hospitality for incoming tourists is made, and that information is spread successfully.

### **Expectations of Region Revitalization**

Areas that have previously been featured in NHK drama series have seen an increase in tourism. In the same way, Koka City is expected to have a rise in the number of tourists (especially around Shigaraki) when the broadcasting of "Scarlet" begins in the fall.

As an effect of this increase, regional products can become famous and businesses will have the opportunity to promote themselves, giving the area an economic boost. By allowing NHK to film their drama here, the benefits are expected to spread to different areas of Koka and create a sense of unity throughout the city.

### **Connecting to Film Location Tourism**

In recent years, tourism created by films and dramas (Called Loke-Tourism) has attracted a lot of attention. NHK's drama series are run every day for half a year and have a great impact on the area featured. Koka City has high expectations that the drama will create a new path for its efforts towards tourism promotion.

However, in order to make Loke-Tourism effective, we must increase the level of satisfaction of tourists so that they will come back in the future. Using "Scarlet" as a trigger, and Shigaraki as a starting point, tourists will spread to other parts of the city, such as those related to the ninja or Tokaido highway. From there, we can create "Koka City Fans" who will continue to visit our city even after the broadcast of the drama has ended.

### **Taking Pride in Koka's Drama Debut**

It is a unique opportunity for Koka City to be selected as a film location for an NHK drama series and a chance for us to promote our city all across Japan. Each and every one of Koka's citizens has a pride and affection for the city and it will be our job to spread awareness of Koka's charms. Let's continue to promote the "All-Koka" spirit while filming is underway and look forward to the drama's premiere on September 30th.

1. Events related to this drama will be announced in future Koka Newsletters as well as on the city homepage.
2. For more information about "Scarlet", please go to NHK Osaka's blog at:  
<https://www.nhk.or.jp/osaka-blog/program/scarlet/>

**Inquiries:** Kanko Kikaku Suishin Ka    TEL 0748-69-2198    FAX 0748-63-4087

# Living with Pets

Cats, dogs, or other pets are irreplaceable to humans, but require responsibility and good manners to take care of. There may be times when your pet's cries or improper feces management trouble other people around you. Let's think about how to properly live with and care for our pets.

## Dogs



### How to Care for a Dog

1. Take Them for Walks
  1. Be sure to prepare the proper items to clean up after your dog (shovel, plastic bag, water, etc.)
  2. Always keep them on a leash
2. Manage Their Feces
  1. You may think, "No one's looking. The road is made of dirt anyway. I'll just leave my dog's feces here and keep walking". However, even if the road is in the middle of a rice field, someone owns that land and will be troubled by your dog's feces. Remember, managing your dog's feces is your responsibility as an owner.

### Get the Rabies Vaccine

Dogs over 91 days old are required to get registered (once) and receive a rabies vaccination (once a year). Please be sure to get your dog vaccinated by your family vet or on the vaccination days listed below:

Vaccination Schedule		
Minakuchi Area	April 12th (Fri), 15th (Mon)	May 14th (Tue)
Tsuchiyama Area	April 5th (Fri), 24th (Wed)	May 10th (Fri)
Konan Area	April 3rd (Wed), 16th (Tue)	May 8th (Wed)
Koka Area	April 10th (Wed), 17th (Wed)	May 10th (Fri)
Shigaraki Area	April 9th (Tue), 19th (Fri), 23rd (Tue)	May 8th (Wed)

\*\*For details about locations, times, and veterinarians in charge, please visit the city homepage or check the postcard sent to registered pet owners that will be sent in late March.

What to Bring	
When Already Registered	Dog's registration card (Aiken Card)
	Notice of Rabies Vaccine postcard
	Vaccination fee (3,400 yen)
	*In order to make the vaccination process smooth, please fill out the questionnaire attached to the postcard in advance
New Registration	*Dogs who are pregnant, recently have given birth, or are deemed unwell by a veterinarian cannot receive the vaccination.
	Registration fee (3,000 yen)
	Vaccination fee (3,400 yen)

## Cats



### How to Care for a Cat

3. Keep Them Indoors
  1. Letting your cat outdoors poses many dangers, including accidents and diseases.
  2. Also, your cat's feces will bother others if they are left outside.
4. Spaying/Neutering
  1. Spay or neuter your cat so that you do not get kittens that you cannot take care of.

### Do Not Increase the Number of Stray Cats

You may think that stray cats are cute or feel sad for them and want to give them food. However, an increase in stray cats in your area can cause trouble for your neighbors because of cats crying, unmanaged feces, and coming in and out of properties. If you do not plan to adopt and protect a stray cat, please do not feed them.

**Inquiries:**  
Seikatsu Kankyo Ka  
TEL 0748-69-2144 FAX 0748-63-4582

## **Emergency Supplies in the Event of a Disaster ~City Agreement with Sekisui Plastics Shiga, Co.~**

On January 28<sup>th</sup>, an agreement with Sekisui Plastics Shiga, Co. was concluded. This agreement allows the city to request supplies, such as plastic food containers or roll insulation, from Sekisui in the event of a disaster.



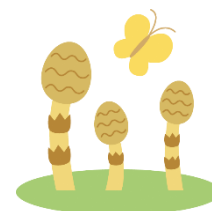
When a disaster occurs, the city will be able to receive support

▲Sekisui Plastics Shiga, Co. President Chida(right) and Mayor Iwanaga (left)

**Inquiries:**  
Kiki Kanri Ka  
TEL 0748-69-2103 FAX 0748-63-4619



# March Events & Information



## 2019 Nursing & Welfare Job Fair

The largest job fair for those wanting to working in nursing or welfare (for the elderly, disabled, or children) will be held this month. There will be 75 companies at the job fair over the course of 3 days.

**When:** March 6th (Wed), 7th (Thur), 9th (Sat) from 12:30 PM to 4 PM

**Where:** Collabo Shiga 21 (Otsu-shi, Uchidehama 2-1)

\*\*No application necessary. Participation is FREE. No dress code. Come and go as you please\*\*



### Inquiries:

Shiga-ken Nanbu Kaigo/Fukushi Jinzai Center  
TEL 077-567-3925 FAX 077-567-3928

## Meetings About the New Activities Center

We will hold explanation meetings about the new activities center “Koka-shi Machi-zukuri Katsudo Center Maroom” which will become the base for citizen activities.

**When:** March 13th (Wed) from 7:30 PM to 9 PM

March 17th (Sun) from 10 AM to 11:30 AM

**Where:** Hekisui Hall

\*\*For an overview of the new center, please see the city homepage.



**Inquiries:** Chiiki Community Suishin Ka TEL 0748-69-2113 FAX 0748-63-4554

## Singapore Host-Town Event ~Boccia Experience~



Since Koka City was designated as the host-town for Singapore for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic & Paralympic Games, the city will hold a boccia experience. Boccia is an official sport of the 2020 Paralympic Games and the rules are very simple. Anyone from children to the elderly can play!

In addition, the steps that were taken to become a host-town will be explained at this

**When:** March 16th (Sat) from 1 PM to 4 PM

**Where:** Heiwado AI Plaza Minakuchi store, 1st floor (Umi no Hiroba)

\*\*Participation is free. No application required\*\*

**Inquiries:** Bunka Sports Shinko Ka TEL 0748-69-2249 FAX 0748-69-2293

## Libraries Closed Due to System Maintenance

Due to system maintenance, all 5 city libraries will be closed. Please return books via the book drop box during this period. In addition, internet service, borrowing of books, and extension of loans are unavailable during maintenance. We are sorry for the inconvenience.

**Libraries Closed:** March 14th (Thr) thru March 21st (Thr)

\*\*\* Minakuchi Toshokan and Koka Toshokan will be closed thru the 22nd (Fri)

### Inquiries:

Minakuchi Toshokan TEL 0748-63-7400 FAX 0748-63-4737  
Tsuchiyama Toshokan TEL 0748-66-1056 FAX 0748-66-1067  
Koka Toshokan TEL 0748-88-7246 FAX 0748-88-7005  
Konan Toshokan TEL 0748-86-1504 FAX 0748-86-1505  
Shigaraki Toshokan TEL 0748-82-0320 FAX 0748-82-3921



## March Taxes (3がつのぜいきん)

National Health Insurance Tax 国民健康保険税 (こくみんけんこうほけんぜい)

Nursery School Fee 保育料 (ほいくりょう)

Kindergarten Fee 幼稚園使用料 (ようちえんしゅうりょう)

Nursing Care Insurance Fee 介護保険料 (かいごほけんりょう)

Late-Stage Elderly Medical Insurance Fee 後期高齢者医療保険料 (こうきこうれいしやいりょうほけんりょう)

Sewerage Fee 公共下水道使用料 (こうきょうげすいどうしゅうりょう)

Agricultural Sewerage Fee 農業集落排水使用料 (のうぎょうしゅうらくはいすいしゅうりょう)

Due date for tax payments:  
**April 1st (Mon)**

## CLASSES FOR NEW MOTHERS - MARCH

Offered to parents of 2 to 3-months old infants. This class aims to provide information on child development, hazard prevention, vaccinations, and mother's health management. A mixer will be held as well.

No reservation is required.

Eligibility	Parents with 2- to 3-months-old infant(s)
Time	10:00 to 11:30am (Check-in from 9:45am to 10:00am)
Things to Bring	Maternity record book, the Health Check Calendar, a bath towel, the Sukoyaka Set you received upon submitting the Notice of Birth
Staff	Public health nurse

Date	Location	For babies born in
Mar. 11 (Mon)	Minakuchi Hoken Center	January 2019
Mar. 13 (Wed)	Kokomori	

## HEALTH CHECKUP FOR INFANTS & TODDLERS -- MARCH

Health Checkup	For Children Born In	Exam Date	Location	Reception Hours	Items to Bring
4 months	November 2018	3/14 (Thr)	Minakuchi HC	1:00pm~ 1:30pm	Maternity record book(ぼしてちょう), questionnaire(しつもんひょう), towel, diapers, change of clothes, formula if necessary.
		3/19 (Tue)	Shigaraki HC		
		3/27 (Wed)	Kaede Kaikan		
10 months	April 2018	3/6 (Wed)	Minakuchi HC	1:00pm~ 1:30pm	Maternity record book(ぼしてちょう), questionnaire(しつもんひょう), towel, diapers, change of clothes, formula if necessary.
		3/19 (Tue)	Shigaraki HC		
		3/27 (Wed)	Kaede Kaikan		
1 year and 8 months	July 2017	3/11 (Mon)	Kaede Kaikan	1:00pm~ 1:30pm	Maternity record book(ぼしてちょう), questionnaire(しつもんひょう), diapers
		3/13 (Wed)	Minakuchi HC		
2 years and 6 months	August 2016	3/7 (Thr)	Kaede Kaikan	1:00pm~ 1:30pm	Maternity record book(ぼしてちょう), questionnaire(しつもんひょう), survey for your child's hearing ability(ささやきこえけんしん)
		3/25 (Mon)	Minakuchi HC		
3 years and 6 months	August 2015	3/7 (Thr)	Kaede Kaikan	1:00pm~ 1:30pm	Maternity record book(ぼしてちょう), questionnaire(しつもんひょう), Additional questionnaire distributed at 2 years and 6 months checkup
		3/18 (Mon)	Minakuchi HC		

**No appointment required!**

Visit your nearest Hoken Center directly.

For more details, refer to the Health Checkup Calendar.

**Inquiries:**  
Sukoyaka Shien Ka (すこやかしえんか) at 0748-69-2168

English interpreter is available from 8:30 AM to 5:15 PM

Phone: 0748-69-2114

English translation of city information is available:

<http://www.city.koka.lg.jp/en/>



Check out our video about Koka City!





# Koka City Living Guide Part 6

## National Health Insurance & National Pension (Part 2)

<b>National Pension</b>	<b>Questions: Hoken Nenkin Ka TEL 0748-69-2140/</b>
<b>Tsuchiyama, Koka-Ohara, Konan Daiichi, or Shigaraki Chiiki Shimin Center</b>	
<b>Enrollment / 国民年金の加入 / Kokumin Nenkin no Kanyu</b>	

In general, residents of Japan between the ages of 20 and 59 **must** enroll in National Pension. The pension is then granted when the person reaches 65 years of age, becomes disabled, or dies.

※ National Pension members are divided into 3 groups depending on their premium payments.

Category	Contents
<b>Category 1 Members</b>	Self-employed persons or students who are residents of Japan and between the ages of 20 and 59 (who are not members of the Employee Pension or Mutual Pension systems). These members pay their own premiums.
<b>Category 2 Members</b>	Company employees and public officials (who are members of Employee, Fisherman's, Mutual or other pension systems). Premiums are taken out of the member's paychecks by the employer and then the employer pays the premium to the National Pension service.
<b>Category 3 Members</b>	Persons between the ages of 20 and 59 who are spouses/dependents of Category 2 members. Category 3 members do not pay premiums themselves.

※ The following individuals can enroll in the National Pension upon request (voluntary enrollment)

- ◇ Those between 60 and 64 years of age whose period of National Pension payments is less than 40 years. (However, if you are enrolled in Employee Pension or Mutual Pension, or receive your Basic Old-Age Pension early, you cannot enroll in National pension voluntarily.)
- ◇ Japanese residents between 20 and 59 years of age who reside overseas.
- ◇ Recipients of retirement pensions under 60 years old.
- ◇ Those who were born before April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1965, but are over 65 years of age who have not paid premiums for the required 10 years. You can be enrolled until 70 years old or until your premium payment period is finished, whichever comes first.

### National Pension Notifications / 年金の届出 / Nenkin no Todokede

Please submit a notification in the following cases:

When you...	Necessary Items	Submit to:
<b>Become employed (and are enrolled in Employee Pension or Mutual Pension)</b>	Pension book	Your employer
<b>Leave employment (retire or resign)</b>	Pension book, Certificate of Retirement/Resignation, personal seal (inkan)	Hoken Nenkin Ka at city hall or any of the following Chiiki Shimin Centers: Tsuchiyama, Koka-Ohara, Konan Daiichi, or Shigaraki
<b>Become independent from your spouse's pension plan (Category 2 Member)</b>	Both you and your spouse's pension books, inkan, proof of status change as an independent (Certificate of Ineligibility – Shikaku Soshitsu Shomeisho)	Hoken Nenkin Ka at city hall or any of the following Chiiki Shimin Centers: Tsuchiyama, Koka-Ohara, Konan Daiichi, or Shigaraki
<b>Become a dependent on your spouse's pension plan (Category 2 Member)</b>	Application to become a dependent will be processed with the employer	Spouse's employer

When you...	Necessary Items	Submit to:
Change your address or name	Pension book, inkan	<b>Category 1:</b> Hoken Nenkin Ka at city hall or any of the following Chiiki Shimin Centers: Tsuchiyama, Koka-Ohara, Konan Daiichi, or Shigaraki <b>Category 2:</b> Employer <b>Category 3:</b> Spouse's employer
Lose your pension book	Inkan	<b>Category 1:</b> Hoken Nenkin Ka at city hall or any of the following Chiiki Shimin Centers: Tsuchiyama, Koka-Ohara, Konan Daiichi, or Shigaraki <b>Category 2:</b> Employer <b>Category 3:</b> Spouse's employer
Have difficulty paying the premium	Pension book, inkan, Certificate of Receiving Employment Insurance (if you are unemployed), Student ID	Hoken Nenkin Ka at city hall or any of the following Chiiki Shimin Centers: Tsuchiyama, Koka-Ohara, Konan Daiichi, or Shigaraki
Wish to voluntarily enroll or discontinue your voluntary enrollment	Pension book, Inkan	Hoken Nenkin Ka at city hall or any of the following Chiiki Shimin Centers: Tsuchiyama, Koka-Ohara, Konan Daiichi, or Shigaraki

### **Premiums / 保険料 / Hoken Ryo**

All residents of Japan between the ages of 20 and 59 are required by law to pay monthly premiums. The premium must be paid within 2 years of the due date.

**Flat Rate Premium** 16,340 yen/month (for April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019)

※ This amount changes every year

**Additional Voluntary Coverage:** 400 yen/month (only available for Category 1 Members)

### **Discounts on Premiums Paid in Advance / 前納割引制度 / Zenno Waribiki Seido**

You can pay your premiums at a discounted rate if you opt to make advance payments.

### **Premium Exemptions & Payment Extensions for Young People**

#### **保険料免除・若年者納付猶予制度 / Hoken Ryo Menjo • Jakunensha Nofu Yuyo Seido**

If you have difficulty making payments due to economic reasons, you can apply for an exemption or extension of premium payments.

※ There are full exemptions, half exemption, 3/4th exemptions, and 1/4th exemptions.

### **Special Provisions for Students / 学生納付特例制度 / Gakusei Nofu Tokurei Seido**

If you are a student, and your income from the previous year is below a certain amount, you can apply for a special payment system which allows you to postpone your premium payments.

## Special Exemptions for Retirees

### 退職による特例免除制度 / Taishoku ni yoru Tokurei Menjo Seido

If you retired in the previous year or during the year you applied for an exemption/extension, the income of the retired person (whether you, your spouse, or head of household) will not be included when calculating the amount of exemption or the extension period.

## National Pension Benefits / 年金の給付 / Nenkin no Kyufu

<b>Basic Old-Age Pension</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◇ You can receive the Basic Old-Age Pension starting at 65 years old.</li><li>◇ In general, the total period of pension enrollment (both payment periods and exemption periods) must be at least 120 months (10 years) in order to qualify.</li><li>◇ You can also opt to receive a reduced pension starting at 60 years old.</li></ul>
<b>Basic Disability Pension</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◇ You can receive the Basic Disability Pension if you become disabled due to illness or injury.</li><li>◇ However, you may not be able to receive this pension if you have too many delinquent premium payments.</li><li>◇ Even if the disability was caused by illness or injury before turning 20 years old, if you meet certain criteria, you can start to receive the pension after turning 20.</li></ul>
<b>Basic Survivor's Pension</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◇ If a National Pension Member or a person who is qualified to receive the Basic Old-Age Pension dies, the bereaved spouse who takes care of his/her child(ren) or his/her dependent child(ren) can receive the Survivor's Basic Pension.</li><li>◇ However, you may not be able to receive this pension if you have too many delinquent premium payments.</li><li>◇ A dependent child is qualified to receive this pension until the end of the year when he/she turns 18 years old (20 years old in the case of a child with a disability)</li></ul>
<b>Widow's Pension</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◇ If your husband dies after he has finished paying his Basic Old-Age Pension premiums, but he did not receive any pension, you can receive the Widow's Pension while you are between the ages of 60 and 65.</li><li>◇ You are qualified if you have been married to your husband for at least 10 years.</li></ul>
<b>Lump-Sum Death Pension</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◇ When a person who paid the National Pension premiums for 3 years or more dies, the bereaved family can receive a lump-sum payment in proportion to the payment period.</li></ul>
<b>Other Types of Pension</b>	Lump-Sum Withdrawal Payment (for non-Japanese), Lump-sum Death Benefit, Old-Age Welfare Pension, etc.

※ The procedure to claim pensions and necessary documents vary by the type of the subscribed pension and each pension system, so please call the Kusatsu Nenkin Jimusho at 077-567-1311 for more information.