



Entering a new stage for prevention of the spread of COVID-19 infection

Be especially careful not to suffer heatstroke this year!

As it is still necessary to wear a mask in an increased number of settings to prevent infection even though the temperature will rise in the coming season, it is necessary to be more careful than in previous years to ensure that you do not suffer heatstroke.

The elderly in particular need to take extra care because their physical strength may have decreased due to lack of exercise.

Keys to the prevention of heatstroke

I. Stay cool at home by wearing breathable clothing, using air conditioners effectively, and taking other measures.

II. Drink something before you feel thirsty.

Measures when wearing a mask

If you feel tired, even if only slightly, rest and have a drink before you normally would.

While taking measure to prevent infection, let's also be prepared for flood and landslide disasters due to typhoons and heavy rain.

1. First, review the hazard map for your neighborhood and check whether the site of your house is shaded in or not.

2. If it is shaded in, it is important to prevent infection, but first, do not hesitate to take action to protect yourself.
3. The purpose of evacuation is to avoid danger; persons who can ensure their safety at home or at the home of an acquaintance or relative should take refuge there.
4. When going to an evacuation site, you should add items such as face masks, disinfecting wipes/disinfectants, thermometers, and slippers to the items in your emergency bag.

Contact	Risk Management (Kiki Kanri Ka) Tel: 0748-69-2103 Fax: 0748-63-4619
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Various guidelines have been prepared to prevent the spread of infection

We have prepared guidelines for prevention in Koka City, including actions to avoid the 3Cs (confined/crowded spaces and close contact with people) in nurseries, kindergartens, elementary schools, junior high schools, and after-school children's clubs, as well as criteria for organizing municipal events and renting municipal facilities. From this point forward, we will carefully proceed with operations based on the guidelines while fully taking measures to prevent infection.

Adopt new lifestyles while continuously taking conventional measures to prevent infection

The Expert Meeting of the Japanese Government has published practical examples of new lifestyles that people should adopt to prevent infection. Even if spread of the virus has slowed temporarily, there is a risk of another epidemic. We need to think about this as a long-term battle and make the transition to new lifestyles.

Practical examples of new lifestyles (reference: Expert Meeting of the Japanese Government)

Shopping

- Shop alone or with a small group and avoid times when stores are crowded
- Plan what to buy in advance and shop quickly
- Shop by mail or online
- Minimize contact with items you do not buy
- Maintain distance from others in lines at cash registers



Recreation, sports, etc.

- Jog in small groups
- Keep your distance when passing others
- Avoid staying in small rooms for long periods of time
- Go to parks during off-peak hours and avoid crowded areas



Use of public transportation

- Talk as little as possible
- Avoid peak hours
- Use a bicycle or walk when possible



Dining

- Order takeout or home delivery or use a delivery service
- Avoid sharing food from large dishes; serve food on individual plates
- Sit side-by-side, not face-to-face
- Talk as little as possible



Ceremonial occasions and other family gatherings

- Avoid dining with large groups of people
- Do not participate if you have a fever and/or other cold symptoms



Please do your best not only to protect yourself from infection but also to prevent the spread of infection around you in your daily life.

Contact	Health Support (Sukoyaka Shien Ka) Tel: 0748-69-2168 Fax: 0748-63-4085
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Special cash payment of 100,000 yen per person

We are now sending the "Guide to Special Cash Payments" to all residents by mail. You can apply for payment by August 21 (Fri.).

We ask that you apply by mail

If you wish to create a new Individual Number Card or reset the PIN required to apply online, you will need to visit the service counter at City Hall. These procedures take time, so to prevent the spread of infection, we ask that you apply by mail.

We are checking the applications we have received by mail and performing the procedures to transfer the payments in sequence. Please understand that it may take some time before your payment is transferred.

Payment FAQ

- Q.** Can a person who is not the head of the household receive the payment?
- A.** Only the head of the household can receive the payment in principle.
- Q.** How is the payment made?
- A.** In principle, the payment is transferred to a bank account of the head of the household, who is the eligible recipient. (Online bank accounts are also acceptable.) It is not possible to make the transfer to a bank account of another member of the household.
- Q.** What are the identity verification documents?
- A.** A copy of a driver's license, Individual Number Card, passport, or other acceptable form of personal identification is needed.
- Q.** I have received the guide by mail but do not know how to fill out the application form. If I go to City Hall, can I learn how to fill it out and then submit it?
- A.** We ask that you apply by mail using the enclosed reply envelope to help prevent the spread of infection. Please contact us by phone if you have any questions.

Watch out for scams involving payments!

Reports of scams involving payments are increasing. Koka City will never do any of the following:

- (1) Ask you to use an ATM or transfer any fees
- (2) Ask you to visit a specific website for application procedures, make a reservation for an application, or perform other actions by phone or email.

If you are contacted in any way that seems even a little suspicious, even if you are not sure, do not respond to it, and consult one of the following services.

- Police consultation phone number
TEL: #9110
- Consumer hotline
TEL: 188 (without the area code)



Application by mail

* Please notify us if you have not received an application form.

- 1 Confirm the number of persons, amount of the payment, and other information included in the form and enter the name, address, and other required information of the head of the household.
- 2 Enter a bank account number (only the account of the head of the household)
- 3 1. Copy of an identity verification document (e.g., driver's license)
2. Copy of bank book page verifying the account information for the transfer
* Affix 1 and 2 on cardboard.
- 4 Return it in the enclosed reply envelope to complete the application process.



We will check the contents and the attached documents.

The deadline for application is August 21 (Fri.).

* Applications must be postmarked by this date.



The payment will be transferred to the designated bank account.

* 100,000 × number of people in household

Contact

Koka City Call Center (8:30 to 17:15 daily)
Tel: 0748-69-2133

The guidelines for consultations have been revised

If any of the following are true, please consult us immediately:

- (1) You have any **intense symptoms**, such as difficulty breathing, a strong sense of fatigue, or a high fever.
- (2) You are elderly and/or a person with diabetes, cardiac failure, a respiratory disorder, or other condition who is prone to severe illness and you have **relatively mild symptoms**, such as a fever and coughing.
- (3) You do not fall under (1) or (2) above but continuously have **relatively mild cold symptoms**, such as a fever and coughing.

- Call Centers for Japanese Returnees and Potential Contacts TEL: 077-528-3621 (open 24 hours daily)
- Consultation on other issues related to COVID-19 (Shiga Prefecture General Telephone Consultation Service) TEL: 077-528-3637 (8:30 to 17:15 daily)

Koka City Scholarship Fund Grant Program



We grant scholarships to persons who have difficulty attending high school or other educational institutions for financial reasons.

This program may also apply to the households that suffer sudden changes in their family finances due to the COVID-19 pandemic, depending on the current status of their income. Please consult us if you may be eligible.

Eligible persons

Persons for which all of (1) to (2) below apply:

- (1) You are receiving a scholarship from the Shiga Prefecture Scholarship Fund, Japan Student Services Organization Scholarship or other similar program.

- (2) Your parents or guardians had had their address in Koka City continuously for one year or more before the day when the scholarship in (1) was granted.
- (3) You are a member of a household on welfare based on the Public Assistance Act or a similar household.

Amount of the scholarship

High school, special needs school (high school course), etc.
Monthly amount: 5,000 yen
University (except postgraduate courses), etc.
Monthly amount: 15,000 yen

Application period: June 10 (Wed.) to July 31 (Fri.)

* Applications must be made every year even if a scholarship was granted in the previous year.

* For the documents required to apply and how to apply, contact the Education Section.

Contact School Education (Gakko Kyoiku Ka) Tel: 0748-69-2243 Fax: 0748-69-2293



Koka City will give 10,000 yen to each child-rearing household

- Temporary Special Benefit for Households with Children and Koka City Temporary Special Benefit for Households with Children -

In addition to the 10,000 yen benefit provided to child allowance recipients by the Japanese Government for each child, Koka City will add an additional 10,000 yen per child to the benefit (20,000 yen in total).

* For details, contact the Child Rearing Policy Division.

Contact

Child Rearing Policy (Kosodate Seisaku Ka)
Tel: 0748-69-2176 Fax: 0748-69-2298

A sickness and injury allowance will be paid in the case of absence from work due to COVID-19 infection

- For persons insured by the National Health Insurance or the Medical Care System for Elderly in the Latter Stage of Life -

If you fail to receive your salary from your employer in whole or in part as a result of absence from work due to COVID-19 infection (or suspicion of infection), you can receive a sickness and injury allowance.

* For details, contact the Health Insurance and Pension Division.

Contact

Health Insurance and Pension (Hoken Nenkin Ka)
Tel: 0748-69-2140, 2142 Fax: 0748-63-4618

Emergency loans and benefits for securing housing are available

- For persons with insufficient funds for living expenses due to absence from work or unemployment -

If your income decreases, you are at risk of losing your home, or you face other financial problems, emergency loans and benefits for housing costs are available.

(1) Emergency small loans

(2) General support loans

(3) Benefits for securing housing

* For details, contact the Koka City Social Welfare Council or Public Assistance Division.

Contact

- For (1) or (2):

Koka City Social Welfare Council
Tel: 0748-62-8085

- For (3) and support for the resolution of other life-related troubles, including financial and work issues:

Consumer and Environmental Protection (Seikatsu Kankyo Ka)
Tel: 0748-69-2158 Fax: 0748-63-4085

The information below is as of May 21, and services may be terminated or postponed due to the impact of COVID-19 infection.

Consultation corner June 15 - July 14

Consultation content / Contact	Date	Time	Location
Life and work consultations (Public Assistance Counter)* You can ask for advice regarding concerns about life and work. * No application required. ● Responders: consultation support staff and employment support staff Contact: Public Assistance (Seikatsu Shien Ka) Tel: 0748-69-2158 Fax: 0748-63-4085	Monday to Friday (except national holidays)	8:30 to 17:15	Public Assistance (Seikatsu Shien Ka), City Hall
Consumer affairs consultations You can ask for advice regarding concerns about consumer affairs, such as contracts and products. ● Responders: consumer affairs counselors Contact: Consumer Life Center (Shouhi Seikatsu Center) Tel: 0748-69-2147 Consumer Hotline 188 (without area code)	Monday to Friday (except national holidays)	9:00 to 17:00	Consumer Life Center (Shouhi Seikatsu Center) City Hall 1F
Pension consultations ● Consultants: Staff of the Kusatsu Pension Office *Reservation required (first-come, first-served) Contact / Application: Kusatsu Pension Office Tel: 077-567-1311 (for making reservations only) Fax: 077-562-9638 (for making reservations only)	July 9 (Thu.) September 10 (Thu.) * Organized every two months	10:00 to 15:00	Minakuchi Shakai Fukushi Center 2F, Middle meeting room
Childrearing and learning consultations* You can ask for advice regarding development, educational, mental and other issues. * Reservation by phone or fax required. ● Targets: Children roughly 4 years old or older, elementary school, junior high school and high school students, and youths (up to around 25 years old) * For consultations regarding children under 4 years old or so, contact the Health Support Division (Tel: 0748-69-2169). Contact / Application: Public Assistance (Seikatsu Shien Ka) Tel: 0748-69-2179 Fax: 0748-69-2298 (reception hours: 9:00 to 17:00)			Kindergartens/ Nurseries, Schools, Koka Shiyakusho, etc.

Youth concerns consultations*

You can ask for advice on school absenteeism, bullying, delinquency, relationships with friends, employment, admission to schools, etc.
 * Monday to Friday (excluding national holidays and Year-End/New Year holidays), 9:00 to 16:00. You can ask for advice by phone or email as well.

Contact : Shounen Center
(Minakuchi Chuo Kouminkan Bekkan 2F)
Tel: 0748-62-6010 Fax: 0748-63-3977
Email: k-syonen@city.koka.lg.jp



In June, opening hours will be extended (until 19:00 every Tuesday) on June 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30.

The Shimin Ka of Shiyakusho has extended its opening hours, to 19:00 every Tuesday for the issuance of family registers, residence certificates, tax certificates and other certificates, seal registration and other services.

* Note that some services are not available after normal opening hours even on these days. Please contact the Civic Affairs Division for the available services.



Information from Maina-chan

You can obtain various certificates at convenience stores with your "My Number" card. For the available types of certificates, please contact the Civic Affairs Division.

Contact Citizens' Affairs (Shimin Ka) Tel: 0748-69-2138 Fax: 0748-65-6338

Taxes to be paid this month

The due date is June 30 (Tue.).

- Municipal and prefectural inhabitants tax (1st term)
- National health insurance tax (3rd term)
- Expenses borne by users (childcare fee, kindergarten/nursery lunch fee)
- Long-term care insurance premium (3rd term)
- Water charges

It is convenient to use account-to-account transfers for payments.

Complete the renewal procedures for medical welfare subsidy certificates, etc., by mail (by July 3)



Koka City subsidizes medical costs to reduce the economic burden on persons with disabilities and single-parent households. We will send a renewal guide to eligible persons, so please complete the renewal procedures by mail.

- **Period:** Late June (after receipt of the guide) to July 3 (Fri.)
- **Eligible persons:** Persons who have medical welfare subsidy certificates that expire on July 31, 2020

* For details about eligibility requirements, see the Koka City website or contact the Elderly Medical Care Section. Please consult us if you think that you have newly become eligible.

- **Application method:** Application by mail using the reply envelope enclosed in the guide

- **Deadline:** July 3 (Fri.)

Contact / Application Health Insurance and Pension (Hoken Nenkin Ka) Tel: 0748-69-2142 Fax: 0748-63-4618

You can also apply for renewal at a counter during the following period if you have difficulty applying by mail.

- **Period for application at counters**
July 2 (Thu.) to July 7 (Tue.)
8:30 to 17:15

- **Reception counters**
Health Insurance and Pension (Hoken Nenkin Ka), Tsuchiyama, Koka Ohara, Konan and Shigaraki Community Centers

Submit your status notifications for the childcare allowance and special childcare allowance by June 30



We ask for the submission of status notifications to assess the status of the recipients as of June 1 every year and check whether they still meet the requirements to continue receiving the childcare allowance and special childcare allowance for June and thereafter (e.g., supervision and protection of children, whether they share the same livelihood).

The notification form was sent by Koka City to recipients at the end of May. Please make sure to submit your status notification; otherwise, you will not be able to receive the allowance for June and thereafter.

- **Submission deadline:** June 30 (Tue.)
- **Submission method:** By mail (must be postmarked by June 30)

* We will accept notification only by mail this year to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection. Please confirm the documents to be submitted and send them using the enclosed reply envelope by the deadline.

Contact Child Rearing Policy (Kosodate Seisaku Ka)
Tel: 0748-69-2176 Fax: 0748-69-2298

Issuance of FY2020 income certificates and tax certificates will start on June 1 (Mon.)



Issuance of FY2020 income certificates and tax (or tax exemption) certificates (for fiscal 2019) from certificate issuing machines in the entrances of government facilities and in convenience stores will start on June 1 (Mon.).

Issuance will also start at counters of the Citizens' Affairs Division and community centers on June 1 (Mon.).

* Certificates issued by community centers other than Tsuchiyama, Koka Ohara, Konan Daiichi and Shigaraki will be sent by mail at a later date.

Contact Taxation Affairs (Zeimu Ka)
Tel: 0748-69-2128 Fax: 0748-63-4574

Up to 20,000 yen is provided to subsidize rent



The subsidy is granted to persons who live in private rental housing and meet the standards for living in municipal housing.

- **Application deadline:** June 12 (Fri.)
- **Application method:** The application guide and application form have been posted on the Koka City website and are also available from the Public Housing Section.
- **Number of recipients:** 10

* Recipients will be decided by lot if there are too many applicants.

Contact Application Public Housing Construction (Jutaku Kenchiku Ka)
Tel: 0748-69-2212 Fax: 0748-63-4601

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☎0748-65-0650 FAX 0748-63-4086
Business hours: 8:30 to 17:15
(excluding days with extended opening hours)

The information in this newsletter can also be found on the city's website and Facebook page.

- Koka City Website:
<http://www.city.koka.lg.jp/>
- Koka City Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/city.koka>

Koka City Website



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