

Kōhō-ka (Public Relations Section), Sakura City Hall

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This is a free monthly English newsletter carrying excerpts from the Japanese newsletter *Kōhō Sakura* (こうほう 佐倉) issued by Sakura City. For a free subscription by postal mail, please send your request via email or fax to the above email address/fax number. In general, inquiries can be answered in English on Wednesdays, in Spanish on Thursdays and in Chinese on Fridays, through *Kōhō-ka*, City Hall. Except these days, questions can be answered only in Japanese at City Hall and/or other city facilities. Therefore, when making inquiries, please be accompanied by someone who speaks Japanese as needed. (Printed on recycled paper.)



KAKUTEI SHINKOKU (INCOME TAX RETURN FILING)

Narita Tax Office, ☎0476-28-5151

& RESIDENCE TAX FILING for 2018

Shiminzei-ka (City Tax Section), ☎484-6115

Kakutei Shinkoku (income tax return filing) is the process of filing the final amount of income tax (national tax) levied on total net income earned in the previous year (January 1 – December 31) and the amount of resulting tax refund, if any. In addition to the national income tax, anyone who lives in Sakura City as of January 1 this year must pay residence (city and prefectural) taxes to the city. Residence taxes consist of two parts: the per-capita part and the income-based part. Basically, the filing of income and residence taxes can be completed at the same time. The below table shows where and when a filing is accepted. At some locations, assistance for completing the return form is provided, and some acceptance periods start earlier than others. For *Kakutei Shinkoku*, one's social security and tax number ('My Number') must be reported and an identification procedure is required. Please make sure to bring your 'My Number confirmation document' and an ID card. Regarding other documents to be submitted with the tax return form, and other details about income tax filing, please refer to the "2018 income tax guide for aliens" at: <https://www.nta.go.jp/english/taxes/index.htm>

Assistance by city staff is provided at Chūō Kōminkan (198-3, Kaburagimachi), not at City Hall.



Map of Chūō Kōminkan

2018 TAX RETURN FILING VENUES

Location	Date	Closed	Time	Service
Aeon Hall, 2 nd floor in the Aeon Mall Narita (24, Wing Tsuchiya, Narita City)	Feb. 14 – Mar. 15	Sat & Sun	9:00 -17:00 (Assistance is <u>not</u> available after 16:00)	Assistance with preparation & Acceptance of income and other tax return filings ⁽¹⁾
	Sunday special openings on Feb. 24 & Mar. 3	—		
Narita Tax Office (1-15, Karabe, Narita City)	Feb. 14 – Mar. 15	Sat & Sun	9:00 -17:00 (A submissions repository box is available after-hours)	Acceptance of income and other tax return filings ⁽¹⁾ (Please note that <u>no</u> assistance can be provided.)
Chūō Kōminkan, Sakura City <i>Gakushū- Shitsu</i> (Study room on the 3 rd floor) In front of the <i>Gakushū Shitsu</i>	Feb. 18 – Mar. 15	Sat & Sun	9:30 -15:00	Assistance with preparation ⁽²⁾ using dedicated PCs for tax filing
			9:00 -17:00	Acceptance of income/residence tax return filings
Sakura City Hall (lobby on the 2 nd floor of the main building.)	Feb. 18 – Mar. 15	Sat & Sun	8:30 -17:15	Acceptance of income/residence tax return filings
Sakura City Branch Offices	Feb. 1 – Mar. 15	Sat, Sun & Public Holiday	8:30 -17:15	Acceptance of residence tax return filings only
Citizens' Service Centers (Sakura & Nishishizu)	Feb. 1 – Mar. 15 (Open on Sat & Sun)	Monday & Public Holiday	9:00 -17:00	
Off-site Assistance Services	Yatomi Kōminkan	Feb. 5	—	Assistance with preparation ⁽²⁾ & Acceptance of income/residence tax return filings
	Wada Furusato-kan	Feb. 6	—	

(1) Tax return filings for income tax and other taxes, except for residence tax and inheritance tax. Inheritance tax return filings are accepted only at Narita Tax Office, where consultations about inheritance tax are provided with a reservation.
 (2) People who can receive the city's assistance are limited to those who are going to file residence tax return and/or national tax return, whose income came solely from salary and/or public annuity. Please go to **Aeon Mall Narita** if your filing include: deduction for foreign taxes; special deduction for housing loans and other similar liabilities; casualty loss deduction; donation tax and/or consumption tax; tax return filing for a person who has moved away from Japan, etc.

Who needs to file a tax return?



INCOME TAX – Narita Tax Office, ☎0476-28-5151

People in any of the following situations must file an income tax return:

1. The person's total employment income in 2018 was more than 20 million yen
2. Received a salary from only one employer, and the total of various kinds of non-salary income was more than 200,000 yen in 2018
3. Received a salary from two or more employers, and the total amount of "(income not subject to the year-end adjustment) + (various kinds of income, besides salary and/or retirement income)" was more than 200,000 yen in 2018
4. Income tax has not been withheld from the person's monthly salary, yet he/she has earned a taxable level of income in 2018
5. The balance of "(total income in 2018) – (income deduction)" was a positive amount*

* If the "Income from Public Annuities, etc." was 4 million yen or less and other "Miscellaneous Income" was 200,000 yen or less, a tax filing is not required. However, this shall not be applied if annuities from overseas are included. Please note that you may receive a tax refund if you do the filing regardless.

People in either of the following situations **do not need** to file an income tax return:**

1. All income was from a salary, and the year-end adjustment has been made by the employer; or
2. No income was subject to income tax (for example, survivor's pension and unemployment insurance benefits are not taxable).

** Even in this case, a resident tax filing may be required.

A limited number of the Income Tax Return Filing Forms are available at the City Tax Section of City Hall (2nd fl. of main bldg., from Feb. 1) and at Chūō Kōminkan (from Feb. 18). Also, the form can be downloaded from:

<https://www.nta.go.jp/taxes/shiraberu/shinkoku/yoshiki/01/shinkokusho/02.htm>

Also, you could find related information written in English at:

<http://www.nta.go.jp/english/index.htm> (National Tax Agency Japan)

RESIDENCE TAX – Shiminzei-ka (City Tax Section) of Sakura City Hall, ☎484-6115

Anyone registered as a Sakura citizen as of January 1, 2019 and meets any of the following conditions must file a residence tax return:

1. An unemployed person with business income (e.g. from sales, agriculture, real estate, etc.) less than the minimum income tax filing requirement
2. A salary earner who also had an income of 200,000 yen or less from sources other than salary

On the other hand, those who meet any of the following conditions **do not need** to file a residence tax return:

1. Will file or have already filed an income tax return at Narita Tax Office
2. All income was from a salary, and a payroll report has already been submitted to the City Hall by the employer
3. A dependent family member listed on the tax return form or payroll report of any other member in the same household

The Residence Tax Return Filing Form is available at the City Tax Section of City Hall and city branch offices, and from Feb. 18, also at Chūō Kōminkan. The forms have been sent out to those who filed their residence tax last year.

Applications being Accepted for Year-round Use of City Parking Lots for Bicycles/Motorcycles

Japan Society of Parking Engineering, ☎03-3591-7165, URL: <http://bycp-shiteikanri.sakura.ne.jp> (Japanese only)

In Sakura City, there are 12 parking lots available at around 6 train stations for bicycles, mopeds and scooters up to 125 cc displacement. Yearly usage fees vary depending on where/what you park, and whether you are a resident in Sakura or not. For people want to use any one of the lots year-round (April 1–March 31), distribution of application guidance leaflets has started at each parking lot.

If interested, please obtain the leaflet, fill out the enclosed application form and submit it to the manager of the parking lot you are planning to use, within:

The 1st Application period: Feb. 1–Feb. 10 (a drawing will be held as needed); or

The 2nd Application period: Feb. 11–Mar. 25 (if vacant spots remain after the 1st period).

Acceptance hours: 7:00-10:00 & 16:30-19:30 on weekdays;

8:00-11:00 on weekends & holidays.

In the 2nd period, the rights for year-round use will be given out on a first-come, first-served basis. (Applications by post are also accepted until Feb. 28. For details, please visit the website at the URL shown above.) Also, you can park your bicycle for ¥100/day, or your moped/scooter for ¥210/day, if there is a vacancy.



Bicycle Parking Locations (Open 24h)

South Exit of Keisei Sakura Sta.
North Exit of Keisei Sakura Sta.
South Exit of Ōsakura Sta.
North Exit of JR Sakura Sta.
South Exit of JR Sakura Sta.
North Exit No. 1 of Usui Sta.
North Exit No. 2 of Usui Sta.
South Exit of Usui Sta.
North Exit of Shizu Sta.
South Exit of Shizu Sta.
Under Jōza Overpass at the North Exit of Yukarigaoka Sta.
South Exit of Yukarigaoka Sta.

Congratulation Money for Single-Parent Families with Children

who are going to enter school or start work this coming April

Jidō Seishōnen-ka (Children & Youth Section) ☎484-6140



Congratulation money will be offered by the city to single-parent families with children

who are entering elementary, junior or senior high school, or starting to work (after completing junior high school) in April 2019. Families where a person other than a parent is bringing up the child are also entitled to this gift of ¥10,000 per applicable child.

In January, application forms have been sent to the households that are receiving "Child Rearing Allowances for Single Parents" and/or "Medical Expense Subsidies for Single Parent Households." Please contact *Jidō Seishōnen-ka* if you haven't received the application form, or if you are not receiving those allowances despite being eligible. The application period is from **February 1 to February 28** (must be postmarked by the 28th). Please make sure you apply before the deadline, because if the deadline is missed, no payments can be made.



List of People in Need of Special Assistance in Case of Evacuation

Shakai Fukushi-ka (Social Welfare Section) ☎484-6135 / Kiki Kanri-shitsu (Crisis Management Office) ☎484-6131



Based on the Basic Act on Disaster Control Measures, Sakura City is preparing, for residents who are in need of assistance during an emergency evacuation, two kinds of lists: **List A** (List of residents deemed to be in need of assistance during an emergency evacuation), which is used only when a disaster occurs; **List B** (List of residents who need to be watched over in normal times for emergency preparedness), which is used for evacuation preparation/planning including usual visits and interviews by *Minsei Iin* (district social workers). The information on both lists is to be shared with Chiba prefectural police, *Sakura-shi Yachimata-shi Shisui-machi Firefighting Association*, *Minsei Iin*, volunteer disaster prevention organizations, and community associations. **If you have difficulty communicating in Japanese, it is highly recommended that you apply for registration. Please contact *Kōhō-ka* to obtain an application form written in English, Spanish or Chinese.** (Note: Evacuation support based on these lists is not always guaranteed.)

What to do in order to be included in the lists

- People mentioned in Table① are included in **List A** automatically, based on individual conditions as of January 1. Relevant documents will be sent to those people by early February. If you receive the documents, and agree to be included also in **List B**, please fill out and send back the enclosed consent form for the sharing of personal information.
- People mentioned in Table② need to apply for registration if they want to be included in **List A and B** at the same time. (Applications to be included only in List A are not accepted.)

* If listed already, you don't need to make another request.

* If you want to delete yourself from the lists, please contact *Shakai Fukushi-ka*.

Table① People included automatically in List A

People with certification of long-term care needs (Levels 3 to 5)
People with certain levels of various disabilities

Table②: People eligible to be included in Lists A & B

Elderly people aged 65 years or over who live alone or belong to an 'aged household'
Patients with intractable diseases
Households with infants not yet in elementary education
Expectant and nursing mothers
Non-Japanese residents who have difficulty communicating in Japanese
Others (Residents for whom none of the above is applicable, but with an equivalent level of need for special assistance in an evacuation)

'Samurai Sampo' Walking Tour

through the Castle Town of Sakura
Sakura-shi Kankō Kyōkai ☎486-6000

'Samurai Sampo' are guided tours walking through the old castle town of Sakura wearing samurai costumes. Participants visit historical, scenic spots and experience the manners and swordplay of samurai. A prior application is required.



Fee: ¥6500/person
(or ¥6000 for groups of 3 or more) including lunch & costume rental/dressing

Time & Date: 10:00 -13:20
Feb. 13 & 23; Mar. 12 & 23
Apr. 9 & 27; May 14 & 25

For details, please send an email to:
sakurashi-kankou@catv296.ne.jp

Sakura Castle Town Kimono Walk

Sakura Ichirizuka (13:00 - 15:30 on Wed, Thur, Sat & Sun)
☎/Fax: 483-3535

Castle Town Hina Tour

February 10 - March 10

Beautiful sets of traditional *hina* dolls new and old will be displayed at about 32 shops and public facilities mainly along Shinmachi Street.



Don't miss it!

Castle Town Kimono Walk

February 10, 24, March 2, 3, 10, 17, 21, 24, 31
& April 6, 14, 21 (10:00 - 15:00)

Want to enjoy strolling through the castle town of Sakura wearing a beautiful kimono? Make a reservation to rent and get dressed up in kimono!

Kimono rental & dressing fee per person:

Adults (junior high school age and over): ¥3000
Dressing only (with one's own kimono): ¥2500

Children (rental & dressing): ¥2000
(or ¥1500 each for more than two children in a family)

Participation (with kimono dressed by oneself): ¥1500

A souvenir photo, *matcha* green tea and a Japanese treat will be served at Kyū Hiraike Jūtaku (the Hirai family's former house, located near Makata Jinja).

To make a reservation, please send a fax or email to *Sakura Ichirizuka* at:
sakuraichirizuka@catv296.ne.jp



Mamemaki at Kusabue-no-Oka

Open 9:00-17:00; ☎485-7821
(Closed on Mondays until March 18)

Mamemaki (bean flinging) is a ceremony held as part of the *setsubun* celebration (the end of winter and the start of spring) to ward off disasters and accidents, ensure good health and bring good fortune. On **February 3** from **11:00 & 14:00**, visitors to Kusabue-no-Oka will be invited to *Mamemaki* ceremonies (entrance fee required). Come join and spend a joyous day at Kusabue-no-Oka!



Distribution of the Sakura City Life Guidebook

(佐倉市暮らしの便利帳) Kōhō-ka, ☎484-6101

In February, the Sakura City Life Guidebook 2019-2021 will be distributed to all households in Sakura City. A city map and a couple of English pages are included. If you don't receive one, contact *Kōhō-ka*.

POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY

As of the end of December 2018, the population of Sakura City was 175,833 (86,746 males and 89,087 females) in 77,399 households. The total includes 3,243 registered non-Japanese residents.

SAKURA-SHI SAIGAI KYŌSAI (COOPERATIVE INSURANCE) FOR FY 2019

Application period starts on Friday, February 1

Kiki Kanri-shitsu (Crisis Management Office), ☎ 484-6131



Sakura City sponsors an inexpensive insurance program (*Sakura-shi Saigai Kyōsai*) that offers its residents a certain level of coverage for personal injuries, death, and damage to residential buildings due to fire, lightning strike, gas explosion, storm wind, heavy rain, tornado, flood, etc. (Damage caused by earthquake, snowfall, hailstorm or decrepit condition is not covered; nor is damage to ancillary facilities, electrical appliances or indoor decorations. A head of a household who is registered as a Sakura resident is eligible to enroll in this cooperative insurance, regardless of nationality.

INSURANCE PREMIUM & PERIOD Costs ¥1,000 per household for the period starting on: a) April 1, 2019; b) the day following the actual application day, whichever is later. The insurance period ends on March 31, 2020.

INSURANCE AMOUNT ★ HOUSE DAMAGE: The maximum benefit in case of total loss by fire or complete collapse is ¥1.2 million for an owner-occupied house and ¥600,000 for a rented house. Less benefits for partial losses.

★ PERSONAL INJURIES & DEATHS: The maximum benefit is ¥1.2 million for death. Less for injuries.

Benefits from *Sakura-shi Saigai Kyōsai* are paid separately from other insurance policies.

HOW TO ENROLL Program leaflets and application forms in Japanese are available at *Kiki Kanri-shitsu* of the city hall, city branch offices, and citizens' service centers. Applications are accepted at any of these offices, but applications by post are not acceptable. Please turn in the completed form and pay the premium at the same time. For further information, please call *Kiki Kanri-shitsu*.

HEALTH INFORMATION



HEALTH INFORMATION FOR MOTHERS & CHILDREN				Holiday & Night-time Emergency Medical Services			
Health Checkups	Feb. 2019	Place	Reception				
4-month checkup for children born in September 2018	Tue. 05	Kenkō KC	9:30 – 10:30,	Sundays & Holidays Night-time Treatment 19:00 - 21:45 Dentistry & Internal Medicine at Kenkō KC ☎239-2020			
	Wed. 13	Seibu HC	13:30 – 14:30				
	Mon. 25	Nambu HC	13:30 – 14:30				
8-month checkup for children born in May 2018 ("Mogu-Mogu Class")	Fri. 08	Kenkō KC	13:30 – 13:45				
	Fri. 15	Seibu HC	9:30 – 9:45				
	Mon. 25	Nambu HC					
18-month checkup for children born in August 2017	Tue. 26	Kenkō KC	13:15 – 14:15			Emergency Pediatric Internal Medicine at Kenkō KC ☎485-3355 for children aged 15 or younger Every night 19:00 - 5:45 (until the next morning) & 9:00 – 16:45 on Sundays & holidays	
	Thur. 21	Seibu HC					
3-year checkup for children born in August 2015	Wed. 27	Kenkō KC	13:15 – 14:15				
	Fri. 22	Seibu HC					
Dental Checkup for children born in February or August 2016, or in February 2017 * On the days with a * mark, consultation on Speech Development is also available.	Thur. 07*	Kenkō KC	13:15 – 14:15	To Find an On-Duty Doctor 8:30-22:00 on Sundays & Holidays ☎484-2516 Recorded audio guidance on contacting: (daytime) • a surgeon • a dentist • a doctor in internal medicine (night-time) • a surgeon *Treatment is provided at each doctor's office			
	Tue. 19						
	Mon. 04*	Seibu HC					
	Mon. 18						
Child Development Consultation for preschoolers ("Suku-Suku Hattatsu Sōdan")	Thur. 21	Kenkō KC Reservation required	9:00 – 12:00				
	Thur. 14	Seibu HC Reservation required	9:00 – 14:30				
Maternity Class for expectant mothers of babies due in April–June 2019 for expectant fathers & mothers of babies due in May–July 2019	Sun, March 03 (App. Deadline: Feb. 28)	Seibu HC Reservation required	9:00 – 12:00				
	HEALTH CONSULTATIONS FOR ADULTS						
Consultation with public health nurse	Mon. 18	Kenkō KC	13:30 – 15:30			Night-time Consultation • on children's acute illnesses: ☎#8000 (19:00 – 6:00, 365 days) • on acute illnesses (for anyone): ☎#7009 (18:00 – 23:00, 365 days; 9:00 – 23:00 on Sunday & Holidays)	
	Wed. 20	Seibu HC	9:30 – 11:30				
	Thur. 28	Nambu HC					
Mental health consultation with counselor * There's no therapeutic treatment, and this service can't be used continuously.	Thur. 14	Kenkō KC	13:50 – 16:00 (40 min./person)				

Kenkō Kanri Center
☎485-6711

Seibu Hoken Center
☎463-4181

Nambu Hoken Center
☎483-2812