

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** and **Thursdays**, in Spanish on **Thursdays** and in Chinese on **Fridays**, through *Kōhō-ka*, City Hall. Except these days, inquiries 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.)



## Sakura Furusato Hiroba - Enjoy the tulips field at their best!

April 1 (Wed) to April 26 (Sun) (9:00 ~ 16:00)

The season to enjoy the stunning carpet of tulips has arrived! The field, located at Furusato Hiroba square and facing the Inbanuma Lake is one of the largest in the Kanto region, with some 800,000 tulips of 100 varieties spread all over, having the Dutch windmill 'De Liefde' as the perfect background. ※ Some of the events have been cancelled due to the spread of coronavirus, among them the popular festival and traditional stalls, the Dutch street organ performance, the sightseeing boat tour, rental of Dutch traditional costumes, shuttle buses as well, but still fun activities are waiting for you!

### 👉 Digging up of Blooming Tulip Bulbs - (¥500 for 10 tulips)

You can dig up the tulip bulbs of your choice and bring them home with their flowers to plant in your own garden.

### 👉 Photo Spot - Find your favorite spots and take as many pictures as you want!

### 👉 Bicycle Rental - (Regular bike: ¥500/day; e-bike: ¥1,000/day; tandem or Dutch bicycle: ¥1,500/2 hours)

**Access**  
On foot, it takes about 40 minutes to the venue from both Keisei Sakura and Usui stations. Parking lots are available around the venue (¥1,000/day/passenger car)



## ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Kyōiku Sōmu-ka (General Educational Affairs Section) ☎484-6182

The city grants scholarships to senior high school students who meet all the following conditions. Successful applicants are granted a scholarship of up to 80,000 yen in a fiscal year.

1. Lives in Sakura City;
2. Enters senior high school in the year of graduation from junior high school, or in the following year;
3. Motivated to learn, and has earned a grade point average (GPA) of three or more on the five-grade evaluation system during the third year of junior high school;
4. Family income in the previous year was less than 1.3 times the maximum income eligibility level for public assistance, and deemed to have financial difficulties in attending senior high school in this fiscal year;
5. Have a recommendation letter from the principal of the junior high school from which the student graduated.

Application acceptance starts April 1 (Wednesday) until April 30 (Thursday) and the deadline (for starting the payment of the grant is May 1(Friday)). For later applications, the grant cannot be paid for the month(s) before the application. (Please note that if the high school enrollment support fund by Chiba Prefecture is paid at the same time, the equivalent amount will be subtracted from the city scholarship.) Guidance leaflets and application forms can be obtained at *Kyōiku Sōmu-ka* in the City Hall, or by downloading from the City's website:

<http://www.city.sakura.lg.jp/0000002760.html>

## Services for Non-Japanese Residents

### ◆ Free Counseling for Foreigners' Daily Life ◆ Japanese lessons for Foreigners

Sakura International Exchange Foundation (SIEF)

☎/FAX: 484-6326; E-mail: info@sief.jp

Having difficulties in your daily life? Free counseling is offered by SIEF in English, Spanish and Chinese on:

**Monday ~ Friday** (excluding national holidays)  
10:00~12:00 & 13:00~16:00 at Rainbow Plaza, 198-2, Kaburagi-machi, Sakura-shi. ※For face-to-face counseling, please make a previous reservation.



On Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays at different locations, including Sakura Chūō Community Center. Please call the SIEF for details.

◆ Obtain the latest information on **Coronavirus**: The WHO homepage provides accurate information. Please access the website through the QR Code.



# Information regarding the infectious disease Coronavirus (COVID-19)

## MESSAGE FROM SAKURA CITY MAYOR

As the coronavirus infection continues spreading around Japan, Sakura City has launched the Health Crisis Incident Response Headquarters as a measure against this infectious disease and is examining policies and measures for various cases to prevent further spreading among Sakura's citizens. We ask for your understanding and cooperation as we will take the best possible measures with the highest priority on the safety and security of the citizens. We also ask you to continue working on the prevention of the infections, such as frequent hand washing and cough etiquette. Please act calmly so as not be misled by unfounded information. Sincerely,  
*Sango Nishita, Sakura City Mayor*



## ● What is the Coronavirus?

The new strain of coronavirus (COVID-19), first discovered in China in December 2019, is an infectious virus that affects the respiratory system. It is reported to cause coughing, fever and pneumonia. The virus is transmitted through coughing/sneezing and direct contact with contaminated surfaces.

## ● If you are concerned or have any of the symptoms described below, please contact a Coronavirus Consultation Center.

- Cold symptoms and/or fever above 37.5°C which has lasted for 4 days or more (2 days or more for the elderly or those with preexisting health conditions. If you are pregnant, please consult as soon as possible as it is likely the symptoms will become severe.
- Heavy physical fatigue or trouble breathing.

If it appears that you may have the coronavirus, the center will introduce you to medical facilities that are able to treat you. Please wear a mask and make your way to the indicated facility, if possible avoiding public transportation.

### Returnees – Contact consultation center

Weekdays (9:00~17:00)	24 hours Consultation Including Sat., Sun., & Holidays
Inba Kenkō Fukushi Center ☎ 483-1466 / Fax 486-2777	Prefectural Office ☎ (0570) 200-613

For general inquiries related to coronavirus, please call the Chiba Prefecture office, 9:00~17:00  
☎ 223-2640 ※Including Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

## ● Preventing the spread of the infection.

Please refrain from going to work or school if you have fever or cold symptoms

*Individual actions to prevent the infection:*

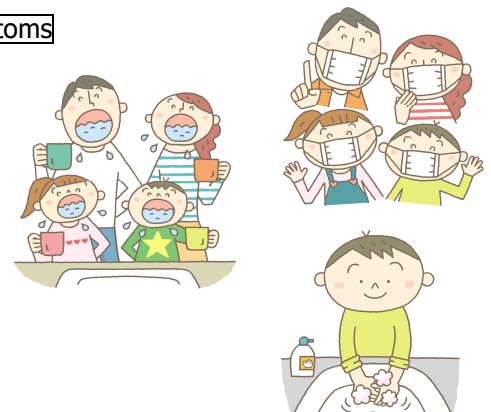
- After going outside, wash your hands and gargle.
- Disinfect your hands using an alcohol-based disinfectant.
- Avoid visiting crowded areas.
- Keep rooms humid and well-ventilated.
- Lead a regular lifestyle and get enough rest.
- Eat a balanced diet and drink plenty of fluids.

## ● Preventing the infection through proper "Coughing Etiquette"

- If you have symptoms of coughing or sneezing, please wear a mask.
- If you don't have a mask, when you sneeze or cough, do so into a tissue or the crook of your elbow.

## ● Further information on the new strain of coronavirus →→

<http://www.clair.or.jp/tabunka/portal/info/contents/114517.php>



## NOTICE FOR FOREIGNERS WORKING IN COMPANIES

Even when the new coronavirus (COVID-19) has caused a decrease in businesses, companies are not allowed to treat foreign workers less favorably than Japanese workers.

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

1. Companies must pay a **leave allowance** to foreign workers as well as Japanese workers when they are forced to take days off from work by the company.
2. The **subsidy** provided by the national government for companies to protect workers' employment can be used for Japanese workers as well as for foreign workers.
3. When you take days off from work because your children's schools are closed, you can use **paid**
4. **vacation days** just like Japanese workers.
5. Companies cannot freely fire you at will> When a company wants to fire a foreign worker, the **same rules as Japanese workers** must be followed.

If you need help, please consult your Prefectural Labour Bureau, Labour Standards Supervision Office or Public Employment Security Office (Hello Work)



## Please cooperate in measures against infectious diseases

Based on the information announced by the government, efforts to prevent the spread of infection can be controlled to some extent by the cooperation of all of us. The basic measures against infectious diseases, including the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

① **Washing hands.** Wash your hands with soap and use alcohol disinfectant frequently before returning home, before and after cooking, before meals, etc. If you have a cough or other symptoms, holding a cough or sneezing with your hand may transmit the disease to other people via a doorknob, etc.

② **Coughing manners.** Please perform cough etiquette by all means.

③ **Wearing a mask.** If you don't have a mask, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or handkerchief. Cover your nose with your sleeves in case of an emergency.

※For the elderly or if you have a pre-existing illness, please take extra care such as avoiding crowded places as much as possible.

Please learn the correct ways to perform these basic measures by accessing the **Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare** website through its QR Code: →



In order to prevent outbreaks, avoid any of the following three dense locations which, when they are aligned, the risk of infection is high: Poorly ventilated locations, places where a lot of people concentrate and locations where people talk closely to each other.

## Handling of Applications for Residence due to the coronavirus spread

According to the notification from the Immigration Service Agency, a large number of people will gather at the Immigration Office. In order to reduce congestion at counters and to prevent the spread of coronavirus infections, special rules for submitting documents have been established.

- Foreign residents whose card expiration date is between March and mid-April, procedures will be accepted one month after the expiration date of the foreigner's residence period, including those who must apply for a resident status in March or April, such as those born in Japan.
- For babies born between January 31 until March 31, there will be an extension period of one month after the 61<sup>st</sup> day of birth to submit documents and carry out procedures at the Immigration Office.
- If you are unable to return to your country because of the coronavirus spread, issue your documents at the Immigration Office before your card's expiration date.
- Please search for the "Seikatsu-Shigoto" (living and working) Guidebook to find out details for your period of stay extension as well as those needs when your baby is born:  
[http://www.moj.go.jp/nyuukokukanri/kouhou/nyuukokukanri10\\_00062.html](http://www.moj.go.jp/nyuukokukanri/kouhou/nyuukokukanri10_00062.html)
- For questions, please call the International Information Center for Foreign residents, Monday through Friday from 8:30~17:15 ☎0570-013904 (From abroad ☎03-5796-7112) or the Immigration Services Agency ☎0570-034259 (From abroad ☎03-5796-7234)

## VACCINATION OF DOGS AGAINST RABIES

Seikatsu Kankyo-ka (Living Environment Section), ☎ 484-6148

Under the Rabies Prevention Act, all dog owners must register their dog(s) and have them vaccinated against rabies annually after the dog becomes 91 days old. **The city's annual mass vaccinations carried out at different venues have been cancelled due to the spread of coronavirus**, so please get your dog vaccinated at an animal clinic and submit the report to the city. As for dog registrations, we provide below temporary locations, dates and times where you can carry out this procedure.







DATE	LOCATION	TIME
May 9 (Sat)	Chiyoda – Someino Fureai Center (At the first meeting room)	9:15 ~ 10:15
	Seibu Chiiki Fukushima Center (In front of the Seibu Hoken Center)	10:45 ~ 11:45
	Nishishizu Fureai Center (Near the front entrance)	13:00 ~ 14:00
	Sakura Minami Public Library (At the front entrance)	14:40 ~ 15:10
	Sakura City Hall (At the 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor lobby, First building)	15:40 ~ 16:10
May 21 (Thur)	Shizu Shimin Plaza (Near the front entrance)	18:00 ~ 19:00
June 9 (Tue)	Chiyoda – Someino Fureai Center (at the first meeting room)	18:00 ~ 19:00
June 14 (Sun)	Sakura City Hall (At the 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor lobby, First building)	8:45 ~ 9:15
	Aeon Town Yukarigaoka (3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor of East Block, East-West Passage)	10:15 ~ 11:30
	Nishishizu Fureai Center (Near the front entrance)	13:00 ~ 14:00
	Chiyoda – Someino Fureai Center (At the first meeting room)	14:30 ~ 15:30
July 2 (Thur)	Seibu Chiiki Fukushima Center (In front of the Seibu Hoken Center)	18:00 ~ 19:00



# HEALTH INFORMATION – APRIL 2020



Health Information for Mothers & Children				Holiday & Night-time Emergency Medical Services 
HEALTH CHECKUPS	APR. 2020	PLACE	RECEPTION	<b>Sundays &amp; Holidays Night-time Treatment</b> Dentistry & Internal Medicine at Kenkō KC ☎239-2020 19:00 ~ 21:45
<b>4-month checkup</b> for children born in November 2019 	Tue. 21	Kenkō KC	9:30 – 10:30	<b>Emergency Pediatric Internal Medicine</b> for children aged 15 or younger at Kenkō KC ☎485-3355 Every night 19:00 ~ AM 5:45 On Sundays & holidays, open 9:00 ~ 16:45 & 19:00~AM 5:45
	Wed. 08	Seibu HC	&13:30 – 14:30	
	Mon. 27	Nambu HC	13:30 – 14:30	
<b>8-month checkup</b> for children born in July 2019 ( <i>"Mogu-Mogu Class"</i> )	Fri. 10	Kenkō KC	13:30 – 13:45	<b>Night-time Consultation on children's acute illnesses:</b> ☎#8000 (19:00 – 6:00, 365 days) <b>on acute illnesses (for anyone):</b> ☎#7009 (18:00 – 23:00, 365 days; 9:00 – 23:00 on Sunday & Holidays)
	Fri. 17	Seibu HC	9:30 – 9:45	
	Mon. 27	Nambu HC		
<b>18-month checkup</b> for children born in October 2018	Wed. 15	Kenkō KC	13:15 – 14:15	<b>To Find an On-Duty Doctor (*)</b> 8:30~22:00 (Sundays & Holidays) ☎484-2516 Recorded audio guidance on contacting: (daytime) • a surgeon • a dentist • a doctor of internal medicine (night-time) • a surgeon <b>(*)Treatment is provided at each doctor's office</b>
	Wed. 22	Seibu HC		
<b>3-year checkup</b> for children born in October 2016	Thur. 16	Kenkō KC	13:15 – 14:15	<b>Child Abuse Consultation/Reporting</b> Children & Youth Section, City Hall (Daytime): ☎484-6263 Chiba Pref. Hotline (24 Hours): ☎252-1152 Sakura Police Station: ☎484-0110
	Fri. 24	Seibu HC		
<b>Dental Checkup</b> for children born in April or October 2017, or in April 2018. (On the days with a *mark, consultation on <b>Speech Development</b> is also available.)	Thur. 09*	Kenkō KC	 13:15 – 14:15	
	Tue. 14			
	Mon. 06*	Seibu HC		
<b>Child Development Consultation</b> for pre-schoolers ( <i>"Suku-Suku Hattatsu Sohdan"</i> )	Mon. 20			
	Mon. 13*	Nambu HC		
<b>Maternity Class for expectant mothers</b> of babies due from June - August 2020 	Thur. 16	Kenkō KC Application required	9:00 – 12:00	
	Tue. 28	Kenkō KC Application required	9:00 – 14:30	
<b>Maternity Class for expectant mothers and fathers</b> of babies due from June - August 2020	Sun. 19	Seibu HC Application required	9:00 – 12:00	
Kenkō Kanri Center ☎485-6711		Seibu Hoken Center ☎463-4181		Nambu Hoken Center ☎483-2812

## FY 2020 SUBSIDIZED VACCINATIONS

By using vaccination slips issued by the city, eligible residents can get subsidies for the following vaccinations administered in this fiscal year: April 1, 2020 ~ March 31, 2021. For inquiries and eligibility details, please call the Kenkō Kanri Center.



### **Pneumococcal vaccinations for senior residents**

The following categories can get immunized at a lower cost of ¥3,000 thanks to a partial subsidy from the city:

① People who have reached/will reach 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95 and 100 years-old in FY 2020. (For those aged 65, a pre-diagnosis form will be mailed at the beginning of April).

② As of the date of vaccination, 60 to 64 years-old with heart / renal / respiratory disorders or immune dysfunction. Also, those physically challenged with a first grade certification.

※ 70 years-old and above in group ① and those in group ② who wish to receive this vaccination, please contact a health center.

### **Phase 2 measles-rubella (MR) vaccinations for preschoolers**

M&R vaccinations, which can be gotten for free by using a city-issued vaccination slip, are recommended to be taken twice: when the child is 1 year-old and in the fiscal year before the child enters elementary school (Those born between April 2, 2014 ~ April 1, 2015). Please don't miss the deadlines in order to get them for free, especially the one for the second shot before school.

### **Japanese encephalitis (JE) vaccinations**

For people who missed at least one chance for a JE vaccination due to the temporary suspension of the government's recommendation for it, a free vaccination is offered. Eligible people are: ① Those born between April 2, 2000 ~ April 1, 2007 who have reached and not older than 20 years-old and ② Those born between April 2, 2007 ~ October 1, 2009 who have reached and not older than 13 years-old. (Vaccination for a total of 4 doses can be made for both groups). For those eligible and interested, please apply by bringing the maternal handbook to any city health center.

### **Rubella or MR vaccinations subsidies for adults**

Males born between April 2, 1962 ~ April 1, 1979 are eligible to receive an antibody test and vaccination free of charge. For those born between April 2, 1972 ~ April 1, 1979 the validity period of their coupons has been

## POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY ※ ( ) Increase/Decrease from previous month

As of the end of January, the population of Sakura City was 174,856 ※ (-68) (86,231 males and 88,625 females) in 78,120 households. The total includes 3,752 registered non-Japanese residents.