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バレンタインチョコ **English**

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PROGRAMS TO REDUCE THE BURDENS OF HIGH LIVING COSTS

Free School Lunch for Elementary and Junior High School Children

In February and March, the school lunch expenses for all 9,000 elementary and junior high students in Iruma are paid by the city. For the families whose children cannot eat school lunch because of allergies or religious reasons and bring their lunch box to school, the city offers the amount equivalent to the school lunch fees. **Inquiries:** Gakko Kyushoku-ka (Section for School Lunch)

Subsidy for Families with Preschool and High School Children

In the middle of February, the City will send a **QUO card worth 10,000 yen** to the families in Iruma who were sending their 3 to 5 year-old children to a kindergarten or their 0 to 5 year-old children to a nursery school as of January 1, 2025, as well as families with children born between April 2, 2006 and April 1, 2009 as of January 20, 2025. The purpose of these subsidies is to support families who are rearing children in this financially hard time. The card is sent by registered mail, which you need to receive in person. **Inquiries:** Hoiku Yochien-ka (Section of Nursery & Kindergartens) for preschool children and Kodomo Shien-ka (Section for Child Support)

SPECIAL BENEFIT OF 30,000 YEN FOR LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS

To mitigate the impacts caused by recent utility cost increases, the city will offer a special one-time benefit of 30,000 yen to low-income households who have a resident registration in Iruma as of December 13, 2024, and whose per capita levy of local resident taxes are exempted for all the household members. If you have child(ren) under 18 years old, **additional 20,000 yen per child** will be paid.



Eligible households will receive a notice of payment by postal mail. No reply or application is necessary, unless your registered information (e.g. bank account) has changed. The benefit will be automatically sent to your registered bank account.

If you did not have any resident registration in Japan as of January 1, 2024 (i.e. you entered Japan last year), you need to make an application to receive this benefit. Apply at the City Hall or Chiku Centers with your passport, resident card and cash card/bank book by May 30, 2025. **Inquiries:** Seikatsu Shien-ka (Section for Livelihood Support)

RATE OF FOREIGN NATIONALS KEEPS INCREASING IN IRUMA

As of January 1, 2025, there are 3,357 foreign residents who have registered in Iruma City, which still shows a continuous increase after COVID ban was lifted. Residents from other Asian countries are dramatically increasing; among them the population of Indonesian increased by 147% and Nepali by 188% over the previous year. While the total population of Iruma has been on a continuous downward trend, the proportion of foreign residents is as high as **2.34%** as of January 1, 2025; roughly one out of 43 Iruma citizens is a foreign national!



	Country	Pop.	Other countries include:
1	Vietnam ↑	879	Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Chosun, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cuba, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Laos, Liberia, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Morocco, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Rumania, Russia, Senegal, Singapore, Sudan, Sweden, Swiss, Tanzania, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, UK, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yemen, Zimbabwe (in alphabetical order)
2	China →	584	
3	Philippines ↑	476	
4	Indonesia ↑	245	
4	Nepal ↑	245	
6	Myanmar ↑	145	
6	South Korea →	145	
8	Brazil ↓	86	
9	Peru →	84	
10	Thai →	65	
11	Sri Lanka ↑	55	
12	USA ↑	51	
13	Taiwan →	48	
14	Mongolia ↓	28	
15	India ↑	27	
	Others in total	194	

TIME TO FILE YOUR FINAL TAX RETURNS



Tax returns for the year 2024 should be filed by March 17 (Mon). If you have gone through the year-end adjustment

(nenmatsu chousei) procedures by your company, you do not have to worry about the final tax return, except when you have any deductible expenses not reported to the company such as dependents overseas, a large medical expenses and housing loan.

The Information Desk is happy to help you with your processing. Just bring all the related documents, including the gensen choshu hyo, a certificate of life insurance premium payment, receipts of medical expense, etc.

Also, **Tokorozawa Taxation Office** (Tokorozawa-shi Namiki 1-7) consultation tables on weekdays from February 17 to March 17 and on March 2 (Sun), from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.. You can pick up an appointment number by Taxation Office's official LINE account (use the 2D code below) or on the day. Because one case takes a quite long time to complete, please allow enough time for consultations.



TAKE ADVANTAGE OF FREE HPV VACCINATION

The HPV vaccine (cervical cancer prevention) had been refrained from being actively recommended for vaccination for a long time, but according to the governmental decision in 2021, HPV vaccination is now a routine vaccination given to girls from the sixth grade of elementary school to the first grade of high school. Also, from April 1, 2023, the new Sylgard 9 (9-valent vaccine) is available for use.



Recommendation notices and coupons will be sent from the City Office to those who are eligible.

For the ladies born between April 2, 1997 and April 1, 2009, as long as you receive the first shot **by March 31, 2025**, the cost of the whole HPV shots will be covered by the city. If you have lost your coupon, request reissuance to the Kenko Fukushi Center by phone or via online form (<https://logoform.jp/form/7Bob/607244>).

When receiving the vaccine, make a reservation in advance at a designated medical institution in the city or a cooperating medical institution in the prefecture. Bring your pre-examination form and maternal and child health handbook (boshi techo) to receive the vaccination. **Inquiries:** Chiiki Hoken-ka (Section for Community Helath) ☎04-2966-5513

Shimin-ka Opening on Saturdays: February 8 & 22, 8:30 a.m. to noon

Registration and certification regarding of moving-in/moving-out, juminhyo, koseki and registered seals; reports of family register-related events (birth, death, marriage, divorce and other)

This Month's Tax Payment (Due date: Feb. 28)

- ◆ Fixed Property Tax & Urban Planning Tax (固定資産税 & 都市計画税)
- ◆ National Health Insurance Premium (国民健康保険 kokumin kenko hoken)
- ◆ Long-term Care Insurance Premium (介護保険 Kaigo hoken)
- ◆ Medical Insurance Premium for Aged 75 + (後期高齢者医療保険 Koki Koreisha Iryo Hoken)

EVENTS THIS MONTH

IRUMA 'BUDO' MARTIAL ARTS FESTIVAL

February 11 (National Holiday) from 9:00 to 11:55 a.m. at the Budokan (martial arts gym) in Kurosu. All the Budo teams in Iruma will gather together to demonstrate their skills. You can see performances and try some Budo, including Kendo, Judo, Kyudo, Shorinji-Kempo, Naginata, Aikido and Iaido. **Inquiries:** Sports Suishin-ka (Section for Sport Promotion)

FREE MOVIE FOR CHILDREN @Fujisawa Chiku Center

February 16 (Sun) from 11 a.m. at Fujisawa Chiku Center. Micky Mouse short movies will be shown. A cup of popcorn will be served. Admission is free. Seats are limited to 60, including accompanying parents. Register at the Fujisawa Branch Library by phone or in person. **Inquiries:** Fujisawa Branch Library ☎04-2966-8080

CONCERT BY FIRE DEPARTMENT'S BRIGADE BAND

March 5 (Wed) from 2:00 p.m. at the Sangyo Bunka Center. Fun concert presented by Brass Band of Seibu Fire Department. Brief lecture on disaster prevention will also be given. Admission is free. **Inquiries:** Sangyo Bunka Center ☎04-2964-8377

CITY MUSEUM SPECIAL EXHIBITION

Life and Tools in Olden Days Until February 16

This annual exhibition at City Museum ALIT will focus on "clothes in olden days" this year. Everyday during the period, you can try on kimono and try to use tools in those days (10:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 to 4:30 p.m.). There are also related events, such as a picture-story show on February 11 (National Holiday). Admission to the permanent exhibition is 200 yen for adults, and free for this special exhibition. Museum is closed on Mondays and February 12. **Inquiries:** City Museum ALIT ☎04-2934-7711



ALL LIBRARIES CLOSED FROM MARCH 3 TO 7

To take an inventory, all the libraries will be closed from March 3 to 7. **Inquiries:** Main Library ☎04-2964-2415



CONSULTATION SERVICE BY SAITAMA PREFECTURE: Saitama Information & Support (SIS) ☎048-833-3296

Consultations and information on everyday living are offered in 13 languages* by phone and in person, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.. Consultations with specialists on labor, immigration and legal issues, which are offered in cooperation with the Association of Certified Social Insurance and Labor Consultants, Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau and Saitama Bar Association respectively, need a prior appointment.

They also provide intermediary interpretation services over the phone, basically upon request from municipality (prefectural/city/town office), hospitals and public institutions in the prefecture.

*13 languages: English, Spanish, Chinese, Portuguese, Korean, Tagalog, Thai, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Nepali, Russian, Ukrainian and plain Japanese.

Information Desk for Foreign Residents

Located on the second floor of the City Office. All consultations are kept confidential. **English: Every Tuesday and, by appointment, 2nd & 4th Friday;** Spanish: Every Wednesday; Chinese: February 13 and March 6. **All from 9:00 a.m. to noon.** Consultations by fax (04-2964-1720), by e-mail (i-society@city.iruma.lg.jp), or by LINE video talk (needs to make friends with International Friendship Society first) are welcome.

SUNDAY/HOLIDAY MEDICAL SERVICES

If you or a family member becomes sick or injured on these days, visit a hospital on the list. Healthcare covered by health insurance is provided from 9:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Please make a call before visiting. These services are basically for patients who do not need to be hospitalized

	Name of hospital	Specialized in	Address	Tel.		Name of hospital	Specialized in	Address	Tel.
Feb 9	Seibu Iruma Byoin	Internal medicine	Noda 3078-13	04-2932-1121	Feb. 23	Kobayashi Byoin	Internal medicine	Miyadera 2417	04-2934-5121
	Toyooka Daiichi Byoin	Surgery	Kurosu 1369-3	04-2964-6311		Toyooka Daiichi Byoin	Surgery	Kurosu 1369-3	04-2964-6311
11	Iruma Heart Byoin	Internal medicine	Koyata 1258-1	04-2934-5050	24	Seibu Iruma Byoin	Internal medicine	Noda 3078-13	04-2932-1121
	Harada Byoin	Internal & Surg.	Toyooka 1-13-3	04-2962-1251		Harada Byoin	Internal & Surg.	Toyooka 1-13-3	04-2962-1251
16	Kaneko Byoin	Internal medicine	Araku 680	04-2962-2204	Kyukyu Denwa Sodan (Emergency consultation hotline) is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year: Push #7119 or Dial 048-824-4199. As for children, Shoni Kyukyu Denwa (pediatrics hotline): Push #8000 or Dial 048-833-7911. Nurses give advice on whether to seek hospital care for sudden illnesses or injuries.				
	Toyooka Seikei Geka Byoin	Surgery	Toyooka 1-7-16	04-2962-8256					