



CYCLING RULES WILL BE TIGHTENED

Using a smartphone while riding a bicycle: 12,000 yen fine

Approximately three-quarters of fatal and serious injury bicycle accidents involve violations of the law on the part of cyclists. It is said that cyclists also need to be held accountable for serious and dangerous traffic violations. Therefore, from April 2026, the government introduces a "Blue Ticket System" for cyclists, similar to that for car drivers, under which cyclists will not be prosecuted if they pay a fine. This will allow for swift processing, prevent violators from having a criminal record, and ensure that violators are effectively held accountable.

System applicable for:

Blue tickets are issued to **violators 16 years of age or older** for bicycle violations which a police officer can actually observe and clearly determine to be a violation. Those under 16 years of age are generally dealt with a warning.

Processing method:

Police officers issue violators a "Blue Ticket" detailing the violation and a "Payment Slip" to be taken to a bank or post office counter when paying the fine. Once the fine is paid, the violation is resolved, and no criminal proceedings are initiated, resulting in no criminal record.

Prepare for traffic accidents!

In cases of bicycle accidents, there have been court decisions ordering the cyclist and their family to pay tens of millions of yen in damages. It's important to take out liability insurance just in case. Various insurance plans are available on internet which you can join less than 200 yen per month.



Violations and Fines

Currently, blue tickets are issued for 113 types of violations. For example:

| Using a smartphone while riding a bicycle | ¥12,000 |
|---|---------|
| Riding on the right side of the road | ¥6,000 |
| Ignoring traffic lights | ¥6,000 |
| Riding while using earphones or an umbrella | ¥5,000 |
| Riding without lights on in darkness | ¥5,000 |
| Riding side by side on the road | ¥3,000 |
| Two people riding a bicycle | ¥3,000 |

NEW SCHOOL YEAR STARTS THIS MONTH FOR IRUMA'S JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASSES

SATURDAY CLASS AT SANGYO BUNKA CENTER:

The classes are held on **Saturdays from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** at the Sangyo Bunka Center. The new year for classes starts on **Saturday, April 4**. Participants are grouped according to their fluency. Child-care services are available for the duration of classes (Prior registration is necessary). The Sangyo Bunka Center is a 15-minute walk from Iruma-shi Station.

WEDNESDAY CLASS AT SEIBU BRANCH LIBRARY:

Classes will also be offered on **Wednesday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to noon** at the Seibu Branch Library in Bushi. The new year for Wednesday classes starts on **May 13**. Cultural events such as a cooking class will be scheduled. The Seibu Branch Library is a 5-minute walk from Bushi Station.

For both classes, the tuition fee is **1,500 yen for the first half of the year** (up to the end of September). Applications are now being accepted at the Chiiki Shiko-ka in the City Office. Observations are welcome.

Inquiries: The Information Desk for Foreign Residents ☎04-2964-1111 ext. 2147 <https://irumako.net/foreign-residents/japanese-language-classes/>

I-HOP International House of Pupils

Spring Tutoring Room for Non-Native Children on April 6 (Mon)

Iruma International Friendship Society will offer a tutoring session for students whose mother tongue is not Japanese. The next class is scheduled on **April 6 (Mon)** at 9:00 a.m. with a special focus on arithmetic which many students feel is their weak point. And of course some fun times with tea and sweets. The venue is the assembly house of Iruma Ekimae Plaza (5-minute walk from Iruma-shi Station). **TUITION IS FREE!**

Registration and Inquiries: International Friendship Society ☎04-2964-1111 ext. 2147
✉i-society@city.iruma.lg.jp

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.

| Date | Internal Medicine | | | Surgery | | |
|---------|-------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| | Name of hospital | Address | Tel. | Name of hospital | Address | Tel. |
| April 5 | Seibu Iruma Byoin | Noda 3078-13 | 04-2932-1121 | Toyooka Daiichi Byoin | Kurosu 1369-3 | 04-2964-6311 |
| 12 | Iruma Heart Byoin | Koyata 1258-1 | 04-2934-5050 | Harada Byoin | Toyooka 1-13-3 | 04-2962-1251 |
| 19 | Kaneko Byoin | Araku 680 | 04-2962-2204 | Toyooka Seikei Geka Byoin | Toyooka 1-7-16 | 04-2962-8256 |
| 26 | Kobayashi Byoin | Miyadera 2417 | 04-2934-5121 | Toyooka Daiichi Byoin | Kurosu 1369-3 | 04-2964-6311 |
| 29 | Seibu Iruma Byoin | Noda 3078-13 | 04-2932-1121 | Harada Byoin | Toyooka 1-13-3 | 04-2962-1251 |

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.

CHANGES EXPECTED TO CITY OFFICE OPERATIONS

City Administrative Fees: Fees for copies of resident registration certificates (juminhyo), tax certificates, road width certificates, etc. will be increased to 300 yen at the City Office and Chiku Centers from June 1.

Hours for Counter Service and Telephone Inquiries at City Office: Counters at the City Office which currently open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. will be changed to from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. from July 1. Hours for telephone inquiries will change accordingly.

Facility Usage Fees: Fees for the hall of the Sangyo Bunka Center and all the rooms of AMIGO! Will be increased, while fees will be charged for use at each Chiku gym from October usage.

Iruma City is working to create a "city office you don't have to visit" by digitizing various administrative procedures. Procedures can be handled using our official LINE account, and online applications can be submitted using your MY Number Card. Take advantage of these services. **Inquiries:** Kikaku-ka (Section for Planning)

DESIGN OF SEAL REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE TO BE RENEWED

From April on, newly issued seal registration certificates will be changed from the current notebook type to a card type. Please note that your notebook type seal registration certificate can still be used. **Inquiries:** Shimin-ka (Section for Citizen Affairs)



NEW TENANTS BEING ACCEPTED FOR PREFECTURAL APARTMENTS

Application forms will be handed out until April 21 at the Toshi Keikaku-ka in the Iruma City Office and Chiku Centers. Applications are accepted by postal mail or through website (<https://kenjyu-moushikomi.saijk.com/top>).

Inquiries: Ken'ei Jutaku-ka, Saitama Prefecture ☎048-829-2875

Shimin-ka Opening on Saturdays:

April 11 & 25, 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 etc.)

EVENTS THIS MONTH

AMIGO! SPRING ART FESTIVAL

April 11 (Sat) from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at AMIGO! Spring art event featuring an art exhibition, craft workshops, live performance, café, as well as goods sales. Events are basically free or for affordable fees. See AMIGO!' website for the details: <https://i-amigo.net/harufes2026top/> **Inquiries:** AMIGO! ☎04-2931-3500

ATAGO SHRINE 'OTORO' FESTIVAL

April 18 (Sat) and 19 (Sun) from noon to 9:00 p.m. at Atago Shrine in Toyooka and along Machiya-dori. This is the spring festival for Atago Shrine which has a 700-year history. Machiya-dori and a part of Hanamizuki-dori will be closed to traffic during the festival celebrations. Bus routes passing along these roads will be changed for the two days of the festival. **Inquiries:** Mr. Okuma ☎04-2962-4265

NEW TEA LEAVES FESTIVAL

May 2 (Sat) between 8:45 and 11:30 a.m. around the west entrance of the city office building. Celebrate the new season of green tea! Free give-away of nursery tea tress and green tea bags, demonstration of hand-rolling tea processing, serving of freshly brewed tea and sales of packed tea. **Inquiries:** Nogyo Shinko-ka (Section for Agriculture Promotion)



IRUMA TEA FESTIVAL

May 3 (Holiday) between 9:15 and 5:00 p.m. along Kagiya Sakaemachi-dori. The whole street changes to a festival site. Events include sales of new tea leaves, a hero show for children, performance of school bands and much more. **Inquiries:** Festival Committee ☎090-1880-4385

SEPARATE LITHIUM ION BATTERIES FROM OTHER GARBAGES

In Iruma, there have been more cases where lithium ion batteries caught fire or produced smoke in the collected garbage. When you need to dispose of those batteries, return them to the shops you bought. In case you cannot find where to return, put them into a transparent plastic bag separately and dispose of them as Toxic waste. **Inquiries:** Sogo (General) Clean Center ☎04-2934-5546

CITY COMMENCED THE FY2026 BUDGET FOR THE YEAR OF 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF MUNICIPALITY



Iruma City has commenced implementing its budget for the 2026 fiscal year.

Although resident tax revenue is expected to slightly increase, that was not substantial enough to cover the ever-increasing social security expenses and soaring prices. Therefore, the City will make maximum use of municipal bonds for projects that could be financed by them, and address any shortfalls by transferring funds from the Fiscal Adjustment Fund. The amount drawn from the Fund has exceeded 1.5 billion yen for four consecutive years.

| Breakdown of Revenue | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|---------|
| City tax | 22,576 M | (40.0%) |
| Transfer from Fund | 2,040 M | (3.6%) |
| Miscellaneous income | 1,046 M | (1.9%) |
| Fees | 679 M | (1.2%) |
| National treasury disbursements | 9,250 M | (16.4%) |
| City bond | 7,346 M | (13.0%) |
| Transfer tax & subsidies | 4,848 M | (8.6%) |
| Prefectural subsidies | 4,252 M | (7.5%) |

Independent financial resources

Dependent financial resources

| Breakdown of Expenditure | | |
|--------------------------|----------|---------|
| Welfare | 24,293 M | (43.1%) |
| Administration | 11,451 M | (20.3%) |
| Education | 5,984 M | (10.6%) |
| Sanitation | 4,076 M | (7.2%) |
| Civil Engineering | 3,973 M | (7.0%) |
| City Bond | 3,874 M | (6.9%) |
| Fire Fighting | 2,027 M | (3.6%) |
| Others | 739 M | (1.3%) |

Hence the budget for the general account for FY 2026

will be the largest ever, amounting to 56.4 billion yen. This includes security-related expenses such as subsidies for the establishment of private daycare centers, support for young carers and social support for infants attending daycare, as well as renovation of community centers, school consolidation, and construction of new government buildings.

Inquiries: Zaisei-ka (Section for Finance)

Information Desk for Foreign Residents

Located on the 2nd floor of the City Office. All consultations are kept confidential. **English: Every Tuesday and, by appointment, 2nd & 4th Friday, Spanish: Every Wednesday. 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.