

【For Licensed Nursery Schools (public and private), Minato City Nursery Facilities, and Small-scale Childcare Services】



Minato City Open-Nursery Attendance Program for All Children Notification on Daycare Use from April through September, 2026

This program offers a new experience to children currently being raised at home and who do not attend educational or daycare facilities. The goal is to promote growth of all children in Minato City through regularly scheduled daycare. To participate in this program, please read the information below and complete application procedures.

1 About the program

The daycare program will be carried out as follows.

Use frequency	Children attend two scheduled days of daycare a week (with a limit of 24 hours per month).
Days available	Choose from Monday through Friday (fixed days each week) *Excluding national holidays and the New Year holidays (Dec.29 th – Jan.3 rd) *The days of the week cannot be changed during period of use.
Daycare time	Choose between 9 AM ~ 5 PM (fixed time each day) *The scheduled time can be changed after consultation with the individual facility
Period of use	From April 1 (Wed.) to September 30 (Wed.), 2026 *Each use period is 6 months
Facilities offering the program	23 facilities, including public and private daycare centers and preschools *See the list of facilities on a separate page: List of Facilities Participating in Minato City Open-Nursery Attendance Program for All Children
Extended daycare	Extended daycare time is not included in the program. Children must be picked up at the end of scheduled times.
Fees	The program is free of charge.
Other	Children are asked to stay at home if they are not feeling well. Children who require medical assistance cannot be accepted into the program as facilities are not prepared to provide such care.

2 Children meeting all of the following conditions are eligible to participate

- (1) Born **between April 2, 2023 and October 1, 2025 (6 months of age)**
- (2) Able to begin participation in April 2026
- (3) **As of April 1, 2026**, a child is **not attending** a kindergarten, licensed nursery school or certified childcare centers (kodomo-en), locally run or corporate-run daycare center.

*Applicants must be registered as residents of Minato City and currently residing there at the time of application.
Applicants outside Minato City will be accepted only if there are vacancies.

3 How to Apply (eligibility and use application) ***Please submit applications online if possible**

(1) Online application

Access the online application form at the following URL or by reading the QR code. Input the necessary information.



*When sending a photograph of a document, make sure it is clear enough to read.

【URL】 <https://logoform.jp/form/Mt5V/1163629>

After sending the form, you will receive an email confirming completion. Please keep the email until the lottery date. The receipt number on that email is not the number that will be used in the lottery. If a lottery is held, please find the lottery number corresponding to your receipt number on the Minato City website.

(2) Mailed or hand-delivered application

Mail in the required documents or bring them to the stipulated office.

Required documents	(1) Application provided by the city for Minato City Open-Nursery Attendance Program for All Children (2) Confirmation form provided by the city for the 2026 Minato City Open-Nursery Attendance Program for All Children *Documents (1) and (2) can be downloaded from the Minato City website
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Office receiving applications	Mail to: Minato City Open-Nursery Attendance Program for All Children, Childcare Facilities Support Subsection, Nursery School Section, Child and Family Support Department, Minato City, 1-5-25 Shiba-koen, Minato-ku, Tokyo 〒105-8511
Office hours	Monday through Friday (not including holidays) 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

4 How daycare program users are selected

【Licensed Nursery Schools (public) and Minato City Nursery Facilities】

A lottery to determine successful applicants will be held if applicants exceed the number of spaces available. Locations of lotteries will be announced ahead of time on the Minato City website. A short waiting list will be made in case there are openings.

【Licensed Nursery School (private) and Small-scale Childcare Services】

Minato City will hold lotteries to decide the order of daycare applicants and send the list to each facility. Each facility will use the list to schedule daycare for each child, after which the city will make the final decision and notify applicants. Final decisions of daycare use will be sent out to all applicants.

Lottery results will be released on the Minato City website on the day lotteries are held, after which results will be sent out to all applicants. Telephone queries on lottery results will not be accepted.

5 Applicant reception periods, lottery dates, lottery result dates

Reception of applications mailed in and received online	Reception of hand-delivered applications	Lottery and result announcement dates
January 26 th (Mon.) to February 17 th (Tue.), 2026	January 26 th (Mon.) to February 20 th (Fri.), 2026	March 5 th (Thu.), 2026

*Facilities for which lotteries are held will be announced separately on the Minato City website.

*Day care will be scheduled after final decisions on applicants are made. Please note that lottery results are not final decisions.

6 Termination of use

Use of the service shall be terminated if any of the following circumstances occur:

- (1) The child begins regular attendance at a kindergarten, licensed nursery school, certified childcare center (kodomo-en), community-operated childcare service, or corporate-operated daycare facility.
- (2) The child relocates outside Minato City
- (3) The child fails to attend the daycare for a continuous period of more than one month. However, if the child does not use the service for up to one month from the 1st day of the month, the child may resume use of the daycare upon returning from the break).

7 Special notes

(1) When applying for the program, be careful about the following
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A separate application is required for each child. 2. A child can only apply to one daycare facility. 3. Please indicate desired daycare times in units of hours. 4. Changes to the application details, such as the desired facility, days and time of use, cannot be made after the application period has passed. 5. If for some reason multiple applications are submitted for the same child, only the one submitted last shall be considered. 6. Minato City is not responsible for any accidents resulting in mailed-in applications that are undelivered or delivered after the deadline. 7. Confirmation cannot be sent out after receipt of mailed-in applications, so please use a method of delivery that allows the sender to confirm delivery. 8. Set your computer or other device to accept email from this domain: @city.minato.tokyo.jp 9. If lotteries are required, separate ones will be carried out for each class (grade). 10. If applications are submitted for both of a set of twins for which participation of both is desired, the two will be given a single lottery number as long as there are two or more places available. If only one of the twins is able to participate in the program, each one will be given a separate lottery number if such participation is desired.
(2) Special notes for conditional acceptance
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The final decision on daycare use will be made following an interview and health check. If the child is judged to be unsuited to be in a group setting, the initial acceptance may be revoked. 2. If, after the application process, the child is found to not fulfill all of the required conditions, the initial acceptance shall be revoked.

8 Frequently asked questions

Q1. My children have experienced short-term daycare at a Licensed Nursery School / Kindergarten. Are they still eligible for this program?
A1. They are eligible if day care has been short-term only.
Q2. Can we go see the daycare facility ahead of time?
A2. Please contact the individual facilities about this.
Q3. My children go to an international school. Are they still eligible for this program?
A3. Most international schools are certified for daycare. Only users of uncertified facilities are eligible.
Q4. When applying for this program, are we unable to choose daycare 1, 3 or 4 times a week?
A4. The choice available is basically twice a week for 3 hours a day. Some facilities offer care once a week, but 3 or 4 times a week are not options.
Q5. Can we change the days we go to the facility after the term begins?
A5. No, days cannot be changed after the term begins.
Q6. Can we change the times we go to the facility after the term begins?
A6. Times can be changed if the facility has openings at those times. To make a change, confirm the possibility with the facility you use, and inform them by the 15th of the month beforehand that you plan to make the change.
Q7. If my child is absent for a day and has hours leftover at the end of the month, can they make up the hours on the next day they go or during the following month?
A7. No, they cannot make up missed hours.
Q8. The length of the term is 6 months, but can a child go for a period of just 1 month?
A8. Please plan to use the entire 6 months of day care. The only acceptable reason to quit is that the child is set to enter a full-time daycare or preschool.
Q9. Are lunch and snacks provided?
A9. Both lunch and snacks are provided, but they are given at the same times as other children at the facility. If the times your child goes includes lunch and/or snack times, they will receive them (or baby food, as needed). As with other children, your child can be provided meals that meet allergy and religious restrictions, but you can also send them to day care with a homemade lunch.
Q10. The term begins in April. Can I apply for my child who will be 6 months old in May?
A10. You cannot apply for your child because they do not meet the required conditions.
Q11. Can I apply for my child if they have initial acceptance at a preschool or daycare center for April 1, 2026?
A11. No, you cannot. You can apply if you are in the process of applying to a preschool or daycare center for April 1, 2026, but your application for this program will be revoked as soon as you receive initial acceptance to any other facility.
Q12. What will happen if I apply multiple times using multiple application methods?
A12. Please apply only once per child. If, for some reason, multiple applications are received for one child, the most recent one will be considered valid.
Q13. If my child gets a contagious disease, will they require a doctor's report and a form filled out by a parent, just like other children in the facility?
A13. Yes, they will be required.
Q14. Can I ask about the number of applicants before a lottery?
A14. This information cannot be given out.
Q15. Will there be another application period held during the 2026 school year?
A15. There will be an application period in July for the October 2026 thru March 2027 term.

<Process up to daycare use>

1



Visit
daycare
facility

- It is possible to visit the daycare facility your child will attend ahead of time. Contact the facility directly to arrange a visit.

2



Application

- Before the deadline, get all of the necessary documents together and mail or hand-deliver them, or submit them online. Please note that applications sent by mail must arrive by the deadline.
- As necessary, a person in charge will confirm with applicant's information on attendance at a kindergarten/nursery school, and so on.

3



Lottery and
result
announce
ment dates

- If applicants exceed the number of places available, a lottery will be held. The location of the lottery will be announced ahead of time on the Minato City website.
- Lottery results will be announced the day they are held on the Minato City website.

4



Initial
acceptance

Applicants Who Receive Initial Acceptance

- Successful applicants will be notified of their initial acceptance by mail.

Applicants Who Are Not Accepted At This Time

- All applicants will be informed of the application results by mail.
- Applicants placed on the waiting list will be notified by telephone should a position become available.

5



Interview
and health
check

- Please contact the daycare facility where your child has received initial acceptance to schedule an interview and health check. Try to get these done by at least 10 days before daycare begins. Daycare use will be revoked if they are not completed by the date stipulated by the facility.
- Even after initial acceptance, daycare services may be cancelled depending on the results of the interview and health check.

*For facilities other than licensed nursery schools (public) and Minato City nursery facilities, please inquire at the individual facilities to find out the implementation.

6



Beginning
day care

- Please take your child to the daycare facility assigned to them on the first scheduled day.

Contact: Childcare Facilities Support
Subsection, Nursery School Section of the
Child and Family Support Department,
Minato City
1-5-25 Shiba-koen, Minato-ku, Tokyo
〒105-8511
TEL: 03-3578-2429



Minato City official website
About the Minato City Open-Nursery Attendance
Program for All Children