

# MINATO MONTHLY

Published by Minato City

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Minato City Web



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WANTED



## “Akasaka Aoyama Meet up Project” Foreign Participants Wanted

This project is for people of various nationalities to think and exchange opinions about the attractions of Akasaka and Aoyama area.

In 2023, Japanese and foreign nationals think about solutions for festival and Bon Odori through group work and actual experience.

Wanting foreign nationals who are interested in community events.

\*The courses will be conducted in Easy Japanese, but multilingual Pocketalk will be available at the venue.

**Eligibility:** Foreign nationals living, working, or studying in the Akasaka and Aoyama area who can participate on every program.

If its exceed the capacity, residents have priority and participants will be decided by lot.

**Capacity:** 15 people

**Application:** 6/2 to 16

For more information about the application, visit the Minato City Web.



\*Program may change due to rough weather.

Date	Program	Place
Early July	Communication between participants	Akasaka Regional City Office
Early August	Learn about festival, Bon Odori and practice Bon Odori	Akasaka Regional City Office
8/25 & 8/26	Participate at the Bon Odori in Akasaka area	Akasaka Sacas
Late October	Introducing community events and hearing impression from participants	Akasaka Regional City Office

CITY SERVICE

## Do You Know Minato Call?

**Minato Call**  
CITY INFORMATION SERVICE

Minato City Call Center provides information about City Hall services and guidance on public facilities and event schedules every day from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. in English and Japanese.

Fax is also available.

Tel: 03-5472-3710

Fax: 03-5777-8752

Information about the services, municipal facilities, and events in Minato City.  
Minato City's call center, English/Japanese

**Minato Call**  
**03-5472-3710**

8 a.m.-8 p.m. Open year-round

FAX 03-5777-8752

## Population of Minato City

AS OF 5/1, 2023

**Total: 264,696**

**Japanese Residents: 244,174**

Male: 114,102 /

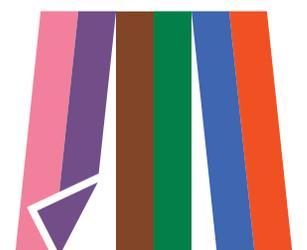
Female: 130,072

**Registered Foreign Residents: 20,522**

Male: 10,486 /

Female: 10,036

MINATO CITY



Minato Monthly is delivered with The Japan Times/International New York Times on the first of each month. It is also available at municipal facilities, post offices and subway stations (Akabanebashi, Akasaka, Akasaka-mitsuke, Aoyama-itchohome, Azabu-juban, Daimon, Gaien-mae, Hiroo, Kamiyacho, Mita, Nogizaka, Omotesando, Roppongi, Shimbashi, Shiodome, Shirokanedai and Shirokane-Takanawa) in Minato City. The articles appearing in the **Minato Monthly** are also found on the Minato City Web: [www.city.minato.tokyo.jp](http://www.city.minato.tokyo.jp)

**Minato Monthly home-delivery service:** For free delivery of Minato Monthly to foreign resident's homes in Minato City, contact Minato Call or Minato Monthly by e-mail at [kuminkoho@city.minato.tokyo.jp](mailto:kuminkoho@city.minato.tokyo.jp). Please write "Minato Monthly" in the subject line.

**Minato Call**  
CITY INFORMATION SERVICE  
03-5472-3710

## SUPPORT SERVICE

## Exemption System for National Pension Plan Premiums

An exemption system is in place for the National Pension Plan, designed for people having difficulties paying the premiums. There are four types of exemptions available: 25%, 50%, 75% and full.

Other systems are available for students and people aged 49 and under if their own or their spouse's income, or in the case of a student their own income in the previous year from the year of the application is lower than the criteria. The exemption period will not reflect the amount of pension benefits. An applicant may apply for an exemption up to 25 months retroactively.

### Income criteria

If the income of each person, her/his spouse or the head of her/his household in the previous year from the year of the application is lower than the designated amount, that person is deemed eligible for the exemption system. The criterion varies by the number of household members. The exemption system includes special cases such as unemployment, disasters and other reasons.

### Eligibility period

The period of the exemption is included in the eligibility period to receive the Basic Pension for the Elderly, the Basic Disability Pension, and the Basic Survivors' Pension.

### Calculation of the annuity of the Basic Pension for the Elderly

Compared to cases in which the premiums are fully paid, in cases when payment exemptions apply, the amount of the pension benefits will be calculated with the below stated ratio in the chart, compared to those who paid premiums fully.

Types of exemptions	Calculation ratio for the exemptions admitted after April 2009	Calculation ratio for the exemptions admitted before March 2009
Full	1/2	1/3
75%	5/8	1/2
50%	3/4	2/3
25%	7/8	5/6

**Note:** If a person does not pay her/his premiums for the partially exempted period, this period will be excluded in the calculation of his/her pension benefits.

### Deferred premium payments

Premiums unpaid due to the exemption system can be paid in arrears within 10 years after the exemption period.

**Inquiries:** National Pension Subsection, Tel: 03-3578-2662 to 2666  
Minato Pension Office, Tel: 03-5401-3211

## ANNOUNCEMENT

## 2023 National Health Insurance Premium Statements and Payment Slips

National Health Insurance (NHI) premium statements and payment slips based on the income during the year 2022 will be sent to heads of households on June 14.

### Calculation of insurance premiums

Annual health insurance premium amount is calculated based on the number of the enrolled health insurance members and the total income amount of the household in the year 2022.

### Reduction of insurance premiums

For households whose total annual income earned between January and December of the previous year is below designated levels, the per capita amount of their NHI premiums are reduced by 70%, 50%, or 20%. Whether a household qualifies for a reduction will be determined by total household income. Therefore, residents are required to declare the income of all household members, even in cases when there is no income.

### Reduction measure for involuntary termination of employment

People who have lost their jobs due to corporate restructuring or other reasons may be eligible for NHI premium reduction.

### Eligibility:

- 1) People who have left their jobs due to business reasons on the part of their employers, such as bankruptcy or labor reduction.
- 2) People who have left their jobs due to reasons stipulated under the Employment Insurance Act, for example the expiration of their employment contract. Applicants should bring their Certificate of Eligibility for Employment Insurance to apply to the City Office.

### Mailing of payment slips

Please pay the annual insurance premiums with the payment slips that will be sent in mid-June. There are two types of payment slips: one divided in ten installments from June to March of the following year and one for a lump-sum payment for twelve months. Those who are paying premiums by bank transfer or deducted by Special Collection will only receive the premium statements.

### Payments

You can pay your insurance premiums by banks, credit unions, credit cooperatives, the Japan Post Office Bank, convenience stores, Mobile Regi or by using your smartphone (LINE Pay, PayPay, au PAY, d Pay, J-Coin Pay). You can also pay through the counter services of Regional City Offices or Minato City Hall. Please note that payments cannot be made at convenience stores or via mobile payment if the amount shown on a single premium payment slip exceeds ¥300,000.

### Notification of premium changes

Eligibility Subsection will review health insurance premiums when residents join or withdraw from the NHI or when there are changes in the amount of income.

**Supervising Subsection:** Eligibility and Premium Subsection

## SOCIAL WELFARE

## Minato Council of Social Welfare —Membership Fees and Donations—

The Minato Council of Social Welfare plays an active role in promoting community welfare toward the realization of a community where everyone can live with peace of mind. Membership fees and donations from local people are one of the financial resources that support the Minato Council of Social Welfare's activities.

### Membership fees

Members are people who agree with the objectives of the Minato Council of Social Welfare and pay a membership fee. Membership application forms can be downloaded from the Minato City Council of Social Welfare website at <https://minato-cosw.net/>



### Membership Categories and Annual Fees

Categories	Annual Fees
Individual	¥1,000 per payment
Group	¥3,000 per payment
Corporate	¥5,000 per payment

### Donations

Donations are welcome, including sales from events, portions of funds raised by schools and businesses, and social contributions from businesses.

**Inquiries:** Minato Council of Social Welfare  
Tel: 03-6230-0280, Fax: 03-6230-0285



10, 2023 will be the 70th anniversary of the Minato Council of Social Welfare

## COMMUNITY EVENT

# Shiba Fureai Festival

The 18th annual Shiba Fureai Festival provides opportunities for residents to deepen community exchange. People who live, study, work in Shiba area will participate and conduct community Fureai Market and Concert.

**Date & time:** 6/10, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

\*Light rain or shine, cancelled in case of rough weather.

**Place:** Municipal Shibakoen

## Community Fureai Market

The market will feature food stalls, and reports of the outcomes of various activities.

## Community Fureai Concert

A concert featuring music and dance performances by community groups.

**Supervising Subsection:** General Administration Subsection of Shiba Regional City Office

**Inquiries:** Minato Call,

Tel: 03-5472-3710

Visit the Minato City web for more information.



## FESTIVAL

# Gender Equality Festival at Libra 2023



There will be seminars and presentations of the outcomes of activities run by registered organizations, sales of handicrafts, cafe, and more.

Everyone is welcome.

**Date & time:** 6/24, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 6/25, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**Place:** Gender Equality Center "Libra," 1F & 2F of Minato Park Shibaura

## Lecture

Aiming for a "mixed up society" that does not exclude anyone

**Speaker:** AZUMA Chizuru, Actor

**Date & time:** 6/23, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Libra Hall

**Capacity:** First 200 people

\*Childcare available, 1 year old to preschool age.

\*Sign language interpreter available.

**Application:** Call or visit Libra's website, or come directly to Libra.

For more information, please visit the Libra website: [www.minatolibra.jp](http://www.minatolibra.jp)

**Inquiries:** Libra, Tel: 03-3456-4149



## RESIDENT SERVICE

# Free Delivery Service of Minato Monthly

We will deliver the Minato Monthly to resident's home in Minato City free of charge. Contact or send a fax to Minato Call or email to [kuminkoho@city.minato.tokyo.jp](mailto:kuminkoho@city.minato.tokyo.jp) Please write "Minato Monthly" in the subject line and please let us know your name, address, zip code, and email address.

**Supervising Subsection:** Public Relations Subsection

## RESIDENT SERVICES

# School Indoor Swimming Pools Open to the Public

The following school swimming pools are open to residents and workers in Minato City year-round. Please use the facilities to maintain your health.

## Operating hours

School	Operating hours (Weekdays)	Operating Hours (Weekends)
Konan, Hommura ES	Thu and Fri 5 to 8 p.m.	Sat, Sun, and an opening day coinciding with a holiday 10 a.m. to noon, 1 to 3 p.m., and 6 to 8 p.m.
Onarimon JHS	Tue to Fri 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.	3:30 to 5:30 p.m., and 6 to 8 p.m.
Takamatsu, Koryo and Akasaka JHS	Thu and Fri 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. *Except for 2nd Fri for Takamatsu JHS	3:30 to 5:30 p.m., and 6 to 8 p.m.
Odaiba Gakuen Koyo JHS	Thu and Fri between 7/21 and 8/31, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. and 3:45 to 5:45 p.m.	Sat and Sun only, 10 a.m. to noon, 1 to 3 p.m., 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.

\*ES: elementary school, JHS: junior high school

**Note:** Please confirm the exact opening schedule at each swimming pool, municipal facilities, or Minato City Web before you go. The schedule may change due to school events.

## Fees

Fee for two hours: ¥500 for adults, ¥100 for elementary, junior high and high school students.

Free admission for preschool children, 65 years old and over and people with disabilities residing in Minato City. The first and third Sundays are admission free days for Minato City residents. The second and fourth Saturdays are admission free for elementary, junior high and high school students residing in Minato City.

A registration card is required for high school students and above. If you don't have a registration card, bring your ID that proves your residence or workplace in Minato City. A card will be issued on the reception.

## Notes for usage of Minato City swimming pools

- Please wear swimsuits and caps.
- Do not bring flotation rings and other swimming aids
- Children under 3 and toddlers wearing diapers may not enter the pools.
- Children grade 3 of elementary school and under must be accompanied by an adult when swimming. An adult may accompany up to 2 children.
- Junior high school students and under using the pool facilities at night must be accompanied by an adult.

**Inquiries:** Sports Promotion Subsection, Tel: 03-3578-2751



## HEALTH

# June is HIV Testing and Consultation Month

HIV infection weakens the immune system, which causes AIDS. Early stage detection and early treatment are essential to prevent the spread of infection.

Conduct HIV checkup 60 days or more from the date of possible infection or 90 days or more for on that day checkup.

For more information, visit the Minato City web.

**Inquiries:** Public Health and Disease Prevention Subsection, Tel: 03-6400-0081

VACCINATION

# Spring Vaccination Program from 5/8, 2023

The COVID-19 Vaccination program in Spring 2023 started from 5/8.

### Eligibility

Residents who received first and second vaccination and received their last vaccination more than three months ago.

Also one of the following must apply.

1. 65 years and older
2. 5 to 64 years with an underlying condition, or people assessed by a doctor to be at high risk of developing serious illness
3. Medical workers, people working at elderly facilities/facilities for people with disabilities

### Vaccination vouchers

Vaccination vouchers has been sent sequentially from April 24.

Vaccination vouchers are issued based on applications for those who are under 64 years old, those which the City is unable to ascertain if they have underlying conditions based on their disability certificates, medical workers, etc.

Vaccination vouchers are not sent to those who have not used their vouchers after the third vaccination. You can use the vaccination voucher that you already have.

### Mass vaccination venues

Place	Eligibility	Vaccine	Day
Fudanotsuji Square, 5-36-4 Shiba	Residents 12 years old or older	Omicron-adapted Pfizer Omicron-adapted Moderna	Thur-Sat
Minato Public Health Center, 1-4-10 Mita	Residents 5 to 11 years old	Omicron-adapted Pediatric Pfizer	Wed

Reservation necessary for mass vaccination.



Minato Public Health Center



Fudanotsuji Square

### Individual vaccination

Vaccinations are available at about 120 medical institutions in the City. For reservation and more information, call directly to the medical institution.

WELFARE

# Minato City Barrier-free Map

An online barrier-free map designated for senior citizens, disabled people, and people accompanied with an infant, is available. This map contains details of barrier-free facilities such as parks, stations, toilets, and other public places in Minato City. You can see the map from PC, smartphone, or mobile phone in English and Japanese. Please take a look.

URL: <https://www.city.minato.tokyo.jp/hofukukanri/kenko/fukushi/shogaisha/hibakusha/bf-townmap.html>

Supervising Section: Health and Welfare Section



Image from the website