



topic Information

Spotlight: The Allure of the Deaflympics

From November 15 (Sat.) to 26 (Wed.), the Deaflympics, the international multi-sport event for deaf and hard-of-hearing athletes, will be held. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Deaflympics and the first-ever competition held in Japan. Discover the highlights and excitement of the Deaflympics, so let's all join together and celebrate this great event!

What are the Deaflympics?

The term *Deaflympics* is a combination of the words Deaf + Olympics. "Deaf" in English means unable to hear. The Deaflympics is an international Olympic-style competition for athletes who are deaf or hard of hearing, and the Games bring together more than 3,000 athletes from 70 to 80 countries around the world.

Deaflympics Athletes Hearing

To compete in the Deaflympic Games, athletes must have a hearing loss of more than 55 dB in the better ear without hearing aids or cochlear implants. Decibels (dB) measure the loudness or intensity of sound; the higher the number, the louder the sound. A loss of 55 dB is roughly the point where normal conversation cannot be heard, while typical hearing is a loudness level or hearing threshold of 25 dB or less.

How the Deaflympics Differ from the Olympics!

The rules for each sport are the same as in the Olympic Games; however, the visual cues provided to athletes set the Deaflympics apart because the athletes cannot hear whistles, starter pistols, or verbal instructions during competition.

For athletics, a device



TOKYO 2025
 25TH SUMMER DEAFLYMPICS

TOKYO 2025 DEAFLYMPICS
 Games Emblem



©Japanese Federation of the Deaf

called the starting lamp signals the start with lights instead of sound. Linked to the starter pistol, the lamp gives athletes a visual cue by using red for "On your marks," yellow for "Set," and green for the starting gun.

In volleyball, players communicate using sign language, speechreading or sign language interpreters*, instead of voices, and the athletes showcase advanced teamwork through eye contact.

*Speechreading is a method of understanding speech by observing the speaker's lip movements and facial expressions.

In soccer, all referees carry flags, and the head referee controls the game using both a whistle and visual signals. In international competitions, five referees in total, including the head referee and assistant referees who use flags to communicate the status of the game from multiple directions to the players.

Deaflympics and Sign Language Awareness Panel Exhibition is Now Open

A panel exhibition is being held to promote the understanding of sign language and features an overview of the Tokyo 2025 Deaflympics marathon course that runs through Shimbashi and Shiodome, as well as a profile of the athlete Takada Hiroshi.

Exhibition Period

Until 11/26 (Wed.)

Venue

Minato City Sports Center

Sign Yell

Cheering in sports has traditionally relied on voices and auditory cues. In the field of deaf sports, however, spectators have been limited in how they could communicate encouragement to athletes. "Sign Yell" was developed so that all people, regardless of hearing ability, could convey their support to deaf athletes.

Grounded in the visual perception of the world and in Japanese Sign Language (JSL), Sign Yell was created in collaboration with deaf group and deaf athletes.

Inquiries

Lifelong Learning Sports Promotion Section,
 Sports Promotion Planning Subsection
 TEL 03-3578-2834



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About sign yell

topic Information

Mr. Urata Mikio Appointed New Deputy Mayor



Deputy Mayor
 Mr. Urata Mikio (66)

With the approval of the City Assembly at the third regular meeting of the Minato City Council in 2025, the city appointed Mr. Urata Mikio deputy mayor effective October 16, succeeding Mr. Nozawa Yasuhiro.

Professional Background

Director of Administrative Reforms, General Management Department, Director of Personnel Section General Management Department, (concurrently serving as director of Administrative Reforms, General Management Department), Director of Personnel Section, General Affairs Department, (concurrently serving as director of The Staff's Capabilities Promotion Subsection, General Affairs Department), Director of Personnel Section, General Affairs Department, (Senior Director), Director of the Office of the Mayor, Planning and Management Department (Senior Director), Director General of Land and Facility Utilization, Director General of Shibaura Regional City Office (concurrently serving as Director General of Child and Family Support Department), Director General of Shibaura Regional City Office (concurrently serving as Director General of Public Health and Welfare Support Department), Director General of Planning and Management Department, Superintendent of Education, Board of Education

topic Information

Mr. Shingu Hiroaki Appointed New Superintendent of Education



Superintendent of Education
 Mr. Shingu Hiroaki (63)

With the approval of the City Assembly at the third regular meeting of the Minato City Council in 2025, the city appointed Mr. Shingu Hiroaki Superintended of Education effective October 12, succeeding Mr. Urata Mikio.

Professional Background

Director of School Affairs Section, Secretariat of the Board of Education, Director General of Planning and Management Department, Director of Collaboration Project Section, Azabu Regional City Office, Director of the Office of the Mayor, Planning and Management Department Director of the Office of the Mayor, Planning and Management Department (Chief director), Director General of Secretariat of the Board of Education, Education Promotion Department, Director General of General Affairs Department, Director General of Akasaka Regional City Office (concurrently serving as Director General of Environment and Recycling Support Department), Director General of Akasaka Regional City Office (concurrently serving as Director General of Public Health and Welfare Support Department)

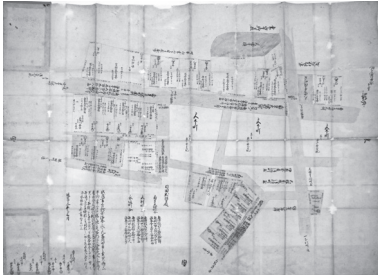
topic Information

Newly Designated Cultural Properties of Minato City for FY2025

Since the enactment of the Cultural Property Protection Ordinance in 1979, Minato City has designated several cultural properties each year. For this fiscal year, two properties related to the history of Minato City have been newly designated cultural properties: a set of old documents and a set of historical records.

1. Tangible Cultural Property – Old Documents: *Kokenzu* of Minami-Higakubo-chō, Miyamura-chō, and Nagasaka-chō (1 item)

A *kokenzu* is a pictorial register that records information on each town lot, including frontage, depth, area (in tsubo), price (*koken-kin*), *komadaka* (price per unit frontage), landlord's name, and caretaker's name. This particular document was created in March 1744 and depicts all of Minami-Higakubo-chō and parts of the adjoining Miyamura-chō and Nagasaka-chō, which correspond to the present-day area around the Toriizakashita intersection. Compared with the towns within the Edo Castle area, extant *kokenzu* of the peripheral towns that developed from farmland into urban districts with the expansion of the city are rare. This map is a valuable resource for conveying information about outlying towns and town lots to the present day.



2. Tangible Cultural Property – Historical Records: Keio University Mita Speech Society Materials (11 items)

The Mita Speech Society was established on June 27, 1874, within Keio University and was led by Yukichi Fukuzawa and others who were dedicated to the development and practice of public speaking and methods of debate. This society broadly promoted the significance of speeches in which individuals conveyed their ideas to a wider audience and debates where participants exchanged and deepened oral opinions. The society became a source of inspiration for the Freedom and People's Rights Movement. Moreover, the society contributed to Japan's modernization as a new form of media by providing many people with access to Western thought, the latest academic research, and critiques of Japanese politics and social conditions. The *Keio University Mita Speech Society Materials* consist of 11 volumes created and preserved by the society that cover the period from its founding in 1874 to November 11, 1938. These materials, which allow us to glimpse the activities of the society, are valuable not only for Minato City but also for the study of modern and contemporary Japanese history.



Inquiries

Minato City Secretariat of the Board of Education, Education Promotion Department, Library and Cultural Assets Section, Cultural Assets Subsection
TEL 03-6450-2869

topic Recruit

Call for Participants and an Audience: *Speech Contest*

We are sponsoring a speech contest for people with connections to Minato City (regardless of nationality). Join the youth (high school and university students in Tokyo) to discuss the future of the world!

Eligibility

Minato City residents, workers, or students

Date & Time

1/11 (Sun.) 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Venue

Libra Hall (1F Minato Park Shibaura)

Capacity

Participants: Approximately 10 (selection required)

Audience: 100 (Applications will be accepted in the order they are received)

Application

Please submit your application via the online form by Monday, November 10. The selection results will be reported by email.

Inquiries

Minato UNESCO Association (Tuesday to Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except public holidays)
TEL 03-3434-2300



Speech Contest

topic Information

Human Rights Week: December 4 to 10



Everyone is inherently born with human rights, which are rights that allow people to live with dignity as human beings as a legacy built by humanity throughout history. In Japan, the week leading up to December 10 is designated Human Rights Week. During this period, awareness-raising activities are carried out to promote the realization of a peaceful and prosperous society where all people can coexist with mutual respect.

Human Rights Week Commemorative Lecture and Film Screening

Eligibility

Anyone

Date & Time

12/11 (Thu.) 1:30 p.m. to 5:10 p.m.
(Door opens at 1:00 p.m.)

Venue

Libra Hall (1F Minato Park Shibaura)

Event Detail

Commemorative Lecture (60 minutes)

Lecturer:

Ms. Terumi Akutsu (Director, Counseling and Support Office, Victim Support Tokyo Metropolitan Center)

Theme

What We Can Do for Victims – Considering Secondary Victimization of Crime Victims

Film (123 min)

HOPE

Capacity:

180 (Applications will be accepted in the order they are received)

*Childcare available (for five children, ages 4 months to preschool. Please request at the time of application.)

Fee

Free of charge

Application

- **By phone:** November 5 (Wed.) to December 4 (Thu.), through Minato Call (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., from 3:00 p.m. on the first day).
TEL 03-5472-3710
- **By fax:** Send your name, phone number, and whether you require temporary childcare or sign language interpretation to the General Affairs Section, Human Rights and Gender Equality Subsection.
FAX 03-3578-2976
- **Online:** Applications can also be submitted through the application form.



Application form

Inquiries

General Affairs Section, Human Rights and Gender Equality Subsection
TEL 03-3578-2027

Do Not Struggle Alone – Feel Free to Consult Us

Nighttime Human Rights Hotline

In conjunction with Human Rights Week, a nighttime telephone consultation service on human rights (legal matters) will be available. Lawyers will provide advice on human rights violations and legal issues in daily life.

Date & Time

12/8 (Mon.) 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Consultation time

Approximately 10 minutes per person

Phone number

03-6722-0127

Inquiries

Consultation Office, Tokyo Metropolitan Human Rights Plaza
TEL 03-6722-0124 or 03-6722-0125

topic Recruit

Enrollment for April 2026
Simultaneous Recruitment of
Children for City-Operated
Kindergartens

Eligibility

Three-year-olds: Born between April 2, 2022, and April 1, 2023

Four-year-olds: Born between April 2, 2021, and April 1, 2022

Application Requirements

The child and guardian must reside in Minato City, and the guardian can drop off and pick up the child.

*For more details, please see the application guidelines.

Distribution of Application Guidelines and Forms

Available for download from the Minato City website from Tuesday, November 11, onward. Also distributed at each city-operated kindergarten (Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), the School Affairs Section (7th floor of the City Office), and Counter Services Subsection (Residents Support Section) of each Regional City Office, or Daiba Branch Office.

*Closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays.

Application

Online applications: Tuesday, November 11, 8:30 a.m. to Friday, November 21, 5:00 p.m. Please visit the Minato City website for more information.

Recruitment of Children for City-Operated Kindergartens

In person:

Submit the application form to the city-run kindergarten you wish to enroll in. (Hours: 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.) or to the School Affairs Section of City Office from Tuesday, November 11, to Friday, November 21.

*If submitting to a kindergarten, please contact the kindergarten in advance.

*Hommura Kindergarten will be closed from April 2026, so it will not accept applications.

By mail:

Send the application to the following: School Affairs Section, Educational Affairs Subsection, Minato City Office, 〒105-8511 Must arrive by Friday, November 21.

Rolling Applications After the Simultaneous Recruitment Period

City-operated kindergartens will begin accepting in-person applications for enrollment from 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 4.

Inquiries

School Affairs Section, Educational Affairs Subsection
TEL 03-3578-2779

City-Operated Kindergartens

*See in the margin for the phone number



Recruitment of Children for City-Run Kindergartens



About city-run kindergartens

topic Recruit

Enrollment for April 2026
Shibaura Island Kodomoen
- Four-Year-Olds (Type 1 Certification)

Applications are now open for enrollment in April 2026 for 4-year-olds at Shibaura Island Kodomoen under Type 1 Certification (Standard Educational Hours).

Eligibility

Four-year-olds: Born between April 2, 2021, and April 1, 2022

Available spots

10 (selected by lottery)

Application Requirements

- 1.Residents of Minato City
- 2.Those who will move into Minato City by the end of March 2026

*Only those who do **not** require childcare may apply under **Type 1 Certification** (Usage hours: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.). If childcare is needed, please apply under Type 2 Certification.

*Before- and after-school childcare is available. For details, please refer to the application guidelines.

*Applications cannot be submitted concurrently with city-operated kindergartens.

Required Documents

- 1.Early Childhood Education Application Form
- 2.Consent Form
- 3.Proof of residence:

For current Minato City residents:

A document verifying your address

For those planning to move into the city:

A copy of the housing contract or equivalent

*The application guidelines and required forms can be downloaded from the Minato City website. They are also available at the Nursery School Section, Childcare Facilities Support Subsection (7th floor, City Office), Shibaura Island Kodomoen, or at the Residents Support Section, Health and Welfare Subsection of each Regional City Office.

Application

Please submit your application by Friday, November 21 (must arrive by this date), either by mail or in person.

By mail:

Send to: Nursery School Section, Childcare Facilities Support Subsection, Minato City Office, 〒105-8511

In person:

Submit to the Nursery School Section, Childcare Facilities Support Subsection (7th floor, City Office), Shibaura Island Kodomoen, or the Residents Support Section, Health and Welfare Subsection of each Regional City Office.

*Closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays.

Lottery Results:

The results of the lottery will be posted on the Minato City website around 3:00 p.m. on Monday, December 1.

Inquiries

Nursery School Section, Childcare Facilities Support Subsection
TEL 03-3578-2445



topic Tax & Finance

National Pension System

All residents turning 20 must enroll in Japan's National Pension plan

Everyone living in Japan, including foreign residents, aged between 20 and 59 must enroll in the National Pension System. After enrolling, if you fulfill the necessary criteria you will receive the Basic Pension for the Elderly. If you were to become disabled due to an injury or illness, you would receive the Basic Disability Pension. If you were to pass away, your spouse and/or children would receive the Basic Survivors' Pension. If you are not a Japanese citizen and leave Japan without receiving a pension, you can claim a lumpsum withdrawal refund within two years after your departure if you have paid at least six months of the premium payment period.

Enrollment is unnecessary if you are:

- Enrolled in an employee pension plan
- A dependent spouse of a person enrolled in an employee pension plan
- A citizen of a country which has concluded a social security agreement with Japan and thus exempt from enrolling in Japan's National Pension plan
- Person with medical stay or long stay visa for sightseeing and recreation

Payment method / payment slips

Once you have submitted your notification of enrollment, the Pension Office sends you payment slips. Please make the payments at banks, convenience stores, or any other applicable locations. Credit card and bank transfer payments are also acceptable. Premium discounts are available if you opt for advance lump-sum payment.

Exemptions

Exemptions systems are available for anyone having difficulties paying the premiums.

Inquiries

Japan Pension Service, Minato Pension office
TEL 03-5401-3211

Section in charge

National Health Insurance and Pension Section, National Pension Subsection



Japan Pension Service Website

topic Tax & Finance

Minato City Furusato Nozei Program (Hometown Tax Program)
- Support Minato City through Your Donations -

About the Minato City Furusato Nozei Program (Hometown Tax Program)

Under the concept of *supporting the hometown where you were born and raised or the community that has helped you and providing an opportunity to think about how taxes are used and the role of the community*, this program allows both residents and nonresidents to support Minato Ward through donations. Starting in October 2025, in order to further promote city branding and stimulate local revitalization, Minato City has begun offering experience-based gifts for donors, which are provided on the premise that donors will visit the city.

*Residents of Minato City are not eligible to apply for donations that include gifts.

Use of Donations

You can choose how your donation will be used from the options listed in the table. Please consider donating to the area you would like to support.

Support Donations for Organizations

To further promote community revitalization through the activities of public-interest

How Donations Are Used

①Support the City's Initiatives by Sector	Industry, Regional Development, and Tourism
	Disaster Prevention and Public Safety
	Health, Welfare, and Well-Being
	Environment
	Childcare and Education
	Urban Development / Community Planning
②Support the General City Administration	Internationalization / Global Exchange
	③Donate to the Minato Partners' Fund
	④Donate to the Cultural and Arts Promotion Fund
	⑤Donate to the Minato City Scholarship Fund
	⑥Support Donations for Organizations

organizations in Minato City, a portion of the donations will be used to support these organizations. Donors can specify the organization that they wish to support from among eligible organizations with main offices in the city. The city will then provide a subsidy to the designated organization, covering up to 70% of the donation amount.

Image of How Support Donations Work



Eligible Organizations

- Organizations such as school corporations or public interest foundations that conduct public-interest activities recognized for tax benefits
- Other organizations that are reviewed by the City for their activities, financial status, and confirmed to be engaged in public-interest activities

Application

Please visit the Minato City Website for more information.

Inquiries

Regarding the Overall Program: Planning Section, Planning Subsection
TEL 03-3578-2528

Regarding Gifts/Rewards:

Industry Promotion Section, Tourism Policy Subsection
TEL 03-6435-4673



About Minato City Furusato Nozei Program

List of City-Operated Kindergartens

Akabane Shibaura 03-3452-0246
03-3452-0574

Takanawa 03-3447-3356
Shirokanedai03-3443-5666

Sanko Konan

03-3444-4233
03-3471-7347

Azabu Nanzan

03-3583-1858
03-3408-4785

Nakanochi Seinan 03-3405-7619
03-3402-0758

Nijinohashi 03-5500-2577

topic Information

Minato City Half Marathon 2025

This event is fun for everyone, from children to seniors, not only for runners but also for those cheering them on.

Event Date

11/16 (Sun.) (rain or shine)

Half Marathon

- Start Time: 8:40 a.m. (wave start in four blocks)
- Start Location: Around Shiba Park
- Finish Location: Tokyo Tower

Youth Run

- Start Time: 8:30 a.m.
- Start Location: Around Shiba Park
- Finish Location: Tokyo Tower

Fun Run

- Start Time: 9:10 a.m.
- Start Location: Around Shiba Park
- Finish Location: Shiba Park (North side of Minato Library)



MINATO City Half Marathon 2025

Minato City Half Marathon 2025 RUNRUN Festival

Event Overview

- Stage Events (Start Ceremony, Awards Ceremony, Guest Runner Talk Show, Lottery for Runners, and other events)
- Photo and Message Boards
- Local Food Trucks from Municipalities Collaborating with Minato City
- Sponsor Booths
- Acupuncture Care Station
- Cheer Performances: Japanese Taiko Drums, Bon Dance
- Additional Cheer Performances: Event DJ, Cheerleading Teams, and other performances



Mr. SUGIYAMA Haryy



Ms. YASUDA Misako



Ms. INAMURA Ami



Ms. TAKADA Chiaki



Ms. TANI Mami



Mr. Ganbale Yusuke

Guest Runners

Half Marathon

- Mr. SUGIYAMA Haryy (Celebrity)
- Ms. YASUDA Misako (Actress)

Youth Run

- Ms. INAMURA Ami (Celebrity)

Fun Run

- Ms. TAKADA Chiaki (Paralympic Athletics Athlete)
- Ms. TANI Mami (Paralympic Triathlon Athlete)

Supporters

- Mr. Ganbale Yusuke (Comedian)

Traffic Regulation Notice

From approximately 7:30 a.m. to 11:35 a.m.



Notice of Traffic Restrictions

Inquiries

Minato City Marathon Executive Committee Secretariat
TEL 03-5770-1400

Some Chiiibus Services and Bus Stops Will Be Temporarily Suspended

Table 1: Suspended Bus Services

Route Name	Suspended Trips
Tamachi	Tamachi Sta. East Gate: 7:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Roppongi Hills: 8:13 a.m. to 10:58 a.m.
Bus Depot Departure & Arrival	Shibaura Bus Depot: 7:20 a.m. to 10:05 a.m. Tamachi Sta. East Gate: 8:41 a.m. to 9:26 a.m.
Shiba	Shimbashi Sta.: 7:56 a.m. to 10:56 a.m. Minato Park Shibaura: 7:58 a.m. to 10:58 a.m.
Azabu-East	Minato City Hall Kita: 8:38 a.m. to 10:38 a.m. Roppongi Keyakizaka: 9:07 a.m. to 11:07 a.m.

Table 2: Suspended Bus Stops

Route Name	Suspended Stops	Suspension Time
Takanawa	5: Mita Sta. on the Mita Line 6: Shiba 5-chome 150: Mita Sta. on the Asakusa Line 151: Keio Univ. East Gate 152: Mita 3-chome 153: Mita 4-chome 154: Takanawa 1-chome	8:11 a.m. to 11:40 a.m.

*For detailed suspension times by bus stop, please check the Minato City website.
*The schedule may change depending on traffic restrictions on the day.

Inquiries for Chiiibus Customer Service

Fuji Express
TEL 03-3455-2213

Section in Charge

Community Transportation Section,
Community Transportation Subsection



Chiiibus, Minato City community bus service

topic Information

November is designated *Autumn Children-Centered Month* by the Children and Families Agency. As part of this initiative, the Orange Ribbon Campaign for the Prevention of Child Abuse is held.

Spread the word —be the voice for the child



We provide consultations for concerns related to home and school.

Minato City Counseling Hotline for Families with children (hours: Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except public holidays and year-end and New Year holidays) TEL 03-5962-7215

If you have concerns about childrearing, differences in family values, or your child's friendships, please do not try to handle them alone, reach out for support.

Inquiries

Children and Families Support Center, Consultation Support Subsection
TEL 03-5962-7213

If you suspect child abuse

Available
24 Hours

Minato City Child Abuse and Neglect Consultation Hotline
TEL 0120-483-710
Child Consultation Center Abuse Response Hotline
TEL 189

Physical Abuse

- Hitting, kicking, or lock someone out

Psychological Abuse

- Threatening a child verbally
- Ignore
- Using violence against family members in front of the child

Neglect

- Not providing meals
- Failing to take a child to the hospital when sick

Sexual Abuse

- Engaging in obscene acts with a child
- Exposing a child to sexual activity

Inquiries

Child Consultation Section, Child Welfare Subsection
TEL 03-5962-6500



Orange Ribbon Day @ minato 2025 - Strengthening Community Bonds to Protect Children -

Join us for a heartwarming event dedicated to preventing child abuse.

Date & Time

11/23(Sun.) 12:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Venue

Shiba Park

Eligibility

Anyone

Event Details

● Workshop

Time: 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

There are plenty of hands-on activities for adults and children to enjoy, including making orange gel candles, heart-themed art, and traffic safety keychains! Visitors can also enjoy balloon art and food booths. In between, there will be stage performances by children and local community members!

● Candle Night and Tokyo Tower Orange Light-Up

Time: 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Message candles will be lit that express the hopes and wishes for children. At 6:09 p.m., Tokyo Tower will illuminate in orange and display the Orange Ribbon and the Child Consultation Center Abuse Response Hotline "189" on the East side of the Main Deck. (toward Hamamatsucho Station)

Other Initiatives

During the campaign period, a variety of awareness-raising activities will be held at locations throughout the ward. Please visit the Minato City website for more information.

Inquiries

Children and Families Support Center,
Community Cooperation Subsection
TEL 03-5962-7211



Minato City Website

Multilingual Interpreter Call Service

A person who needs translating service, the operator who will interpret and Minato city staff can talk in group of three. Our system allows people to choose their preferred language in advance on their smartphone, and have an entire conversation on the phone with the staff in the various departments of City Hall, through an interpreter. This service is available in 13 languages.



Multilingual Interpreter Call Service