

MINATO MONTHLY

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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 2024, 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, participants will be decided by lot.

Capacity: 15 people

Application: 6/7 to 20

*Program may change due to rough weather.

Date	Program	Place
Mid July	Communication between participants	Akasaka Regional City Office
Early August	Learn about festival, Bon Odori and practice Bon Odori	
8/30	Participate at the Bon Odori in Akasaka area	Akasaka Sacas
Late October	Introducing community events and hearing impression from participants	Akasaka Regional City Office



FESTIVAL

Gender Equality Festival at Libra 2024



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: 6/29, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and 6/30, 10 a.m. to 4:50 p.m.

Place: Gender Equality Center “Libra,” 1F & 2F of Minato Park Shibaura

Lecture

Life is Free to Live : Wisdom for Living through an Era of Change

Speaker: KOJIMA Keiko, Essayist, Talent

Date & time: 6/28, 7 to 8:30 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

Inquiries: Libra, Tel: 03-3456-4149



Photo taken by SUZUKI Aiko

HEALTH & SAFETY

Heat Stroke Prevention

Every year, after the end of the rainy season from July to August, the number of heat stroke patients tends to increase rapidly. Senior citizens, children, people with chronic disease should be especially cautious.



How to prevent heat stroke

- Use air conditioners or curtain to cool down the room temperature.
- Use hats and parasols to avoid sunlight when outside.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Have a balanced diet and exercise regularly.
- Wear loose-fitting clothes at night, keep adequate room temperature and drink water.

If you experience heat stroke

Move to a cooler place immediately and drink water or a sports drink to regulate your body temperature and restore your body’s water and salt levels. Alert someone near you about your condition and if you don’t feel better, visit a hospital as soon as possible.

Heat stroke prevention pamphlet

Heat stroke prevention pamphlet can be downloaded from the Minato City web, and also available at municipal facilities and Minato Public Health Center.



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-itchome, 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

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. Please write “Minato Monthly” in the subject line.

Minato Call
CITY INFORMATION SERVICE
03-5472-3710

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.



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.

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

BENEFITS

Minato City's Flat-Rate Tax Deduction Supplementary Benefits

In light of the increased burden from rising living costs due to inflation, among other factors, an amount of ¥40,000 per dependent family member, including the taxpayer and their spouse, will be deducted from individual resident tax for FY2024 and income tax for 2024. For those who are not expected to be deducted, the difference will be paid out as a benefit.

Eligibility

Persons who are residing in the City as of 1/1, 2024, and who are not expected to be deducted because the total, comprising ¥30,000 for income tax and ¥10,000 for individual resident tax per dependent family member, including the taxpayer who is subject to the income-based portion of individual resident tax and their spouse, exceeds the income-based portion of individual resident tax for FY2024 or the estimated income tax amount for 2024.

Application Forms

The application forms will be sent to eligible persons from early July.

Inquiries: Minato City Flat-Rate Tax Deduction Supplementary Benefits Call Center, Tel: 0120-577-200



COMMUNITY EVENT

Shiba Fureai Festival

The 19th 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: 6/15, 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT

2024 National Health Insurance Premium Statements and Payment Slips

National Health Insurance (NHI) premium statements and payment slips based on the income during the year 2023 will be sent to heads of households on 6/14.

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 2023.

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.

Measures to reduce insurance premiums for insured persons before and after childbirth

Insured persons are exempted from insurance premiums in the prepartum and postpartum period. Application is necessary to receive the insurance premium reduction. Bring along Maternal and Child Health Handbook, and apply at the counter.

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, Rakuten Pay). You can also pay through the counter services of Regional City Offices or Minato City Hall.

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

ENERGY

Promoting the Adoption of Electricity from Renewable Energy

There are many benefits available when switching the electricity in your home or business to 100% renewable energy, and keep using it.

Benefits for residents

Issuance of ¥20,000 city gift certificate

Benefits for businesses and future entrepreneurs

1. Issuance of ¥20,000 city gift certificate
2. 0% interest burden effective when receiving business startup funding or environmental measures funding

Some conditions must be met to apply. Confirm the Minato City web for more details.

Supervising Subsection: Global Environment Subsection

Population of Minato City

AS OF 5/1, 2024

Total: 267,389

Japanese Residents: 245,341

Male: 114,701 / Female: 130,640

Registered Foreign Residents: 22,048

Male: 11,290 / Female: 10,758

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