



Naka Ward promotes the Naka Ward Multicultural Coexistence Promotion Action Plan to help non-Japanese residents build ties in the local community. This newsletter is published by Naka Ward in English and Chinese to provide foreign nationals with useful information on topics such as municipal administration, social programs and rules for everyday living.

Naka Ward Town News
English Chinese



Not Filing Your Taxes Will Cause You Trouble!



Start Preparing Now.

It's Too Late If You Wait Until There Is a Problem!

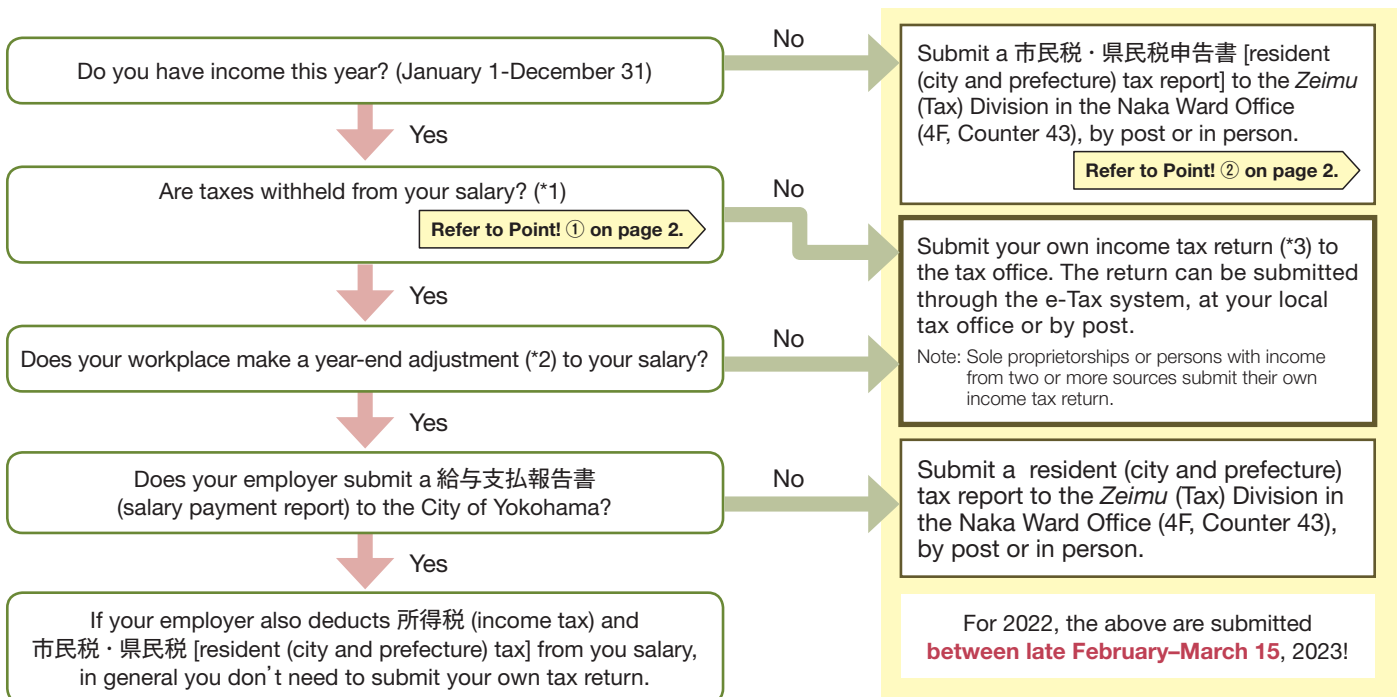
Inquiries

**Zeimu (Tax) Division, Naka Ward Office
(4F, Counter 43)**

35 Nihon-odori, Naka-ku, Yokohama 231-0021
TEL: 045-224-8191 FAX: 045-224-8213

About Tax Declarations

Let's look at common examples to determine whether a return or report needs to be filed. The requirement to file depends on your individual circumstances. For more information, consult with the Zeimu (Tax) Division in the Naka Ward Office (4F, Counter 43).



Explanation of Japanese Terms

Tax withholding (源泉徴収 *gensen choshu*) *1

Your employer calculates the provisional income tax amount according to prescribed methods and deducts that tax amount from your salary in advance. The deducted amount is paid to the tax office by your employer.

Year-end adjustment (年末調整 *nenmatsu chousei*) *2

At the end of the year, your employer recalculates the official amount of income tax by adjusting the amount that has already been withheld from your salary based on any applicable deductions such as insurance premiums.

Income tax return (確定申告 *kakutei shinkoku*) *3

If income tax is not withheld from your salary or you run your own business as a sole proprietor, you must calculate and declare the amount of your income tax. If your employer does not make a year-end adjustment, it means that deductions for insurance (including for National Health Insurance premiums), etc. have not yet been made. Submitting an income tax return with these deductions may change the amount of income tax you pay.

Tax withholding slip (源泉徴収票 *gensen choshu hyo*) *4 (p.2)

This document shows the amount of salary you received from your employer and the amount of income tax, etc. you paid to the tax office through your employer. Employers are required by law to provide their employees with this document in December or January.

Point! 1 If you receive a salary, make sure you receive a tax withholding slip (see page 1,*4) from your employer by the end of January. Also be sure to confirm the contents on the slip!

If you have earned salary income, get a tax withholding slip from your employer and make sure to check the following.

- (1) Amount paid
- (2) Amount paid after employment income deductions
- (3) Total amount of income deductions
- (4) Amount withheld at source

Also check information about dependents and social insurance deductions. If anything is unclear, please check with your employer. Also check whether or not your employer has submitted a salary payment report to Yokohama City.

If this salary payment report has not been submitted, you need to submit a resident (city and prefecture) tax report to the *Zeimu* (Tax) Division in the Naka Ward Office (4F, Counter 43), by post or in person between late February and March 15, 2023.

Point! 2 If you had no income, inform Naka Ward Office of that fact!

If you had no income between January and December 2022, you need to go to the *Zeimu* (Tax) Division in the Naka Ward Office (4F, Counter 43) and submit a resident (city and prefecture) tax report between late February and March 15, 2023.

If you don't submit your report...



- ➔ You will not be able to get the resident taxation (tax exemption) certificate or tax payment certificate needed to renew your Residence Card.
- If you do not file for your dependent family members, the deduction for dependents will not apply.

Don't throw these documents away (examples)



- Tax withholding slip
- Notice of National Health Insurance premiums, etc. already paid for the year
- Deduction certificates for social insurance premiums and national pension premiums
- Deduction certificate for life insurance premiums
- Deduction certificate for earthquake insurance premiums
- Copies of the remittance slips for funds sent to family members overseas and documents related to family relationships

If you don't submit your report...



- ➔ A tax exemption certificate cannot be issued and you will be unable to do various welfare-related procedures correctly.
- If you are enrolled in National Health Insurance, the insurance premiums cannot be calculated correctly.

Payment of municipal taxes

There are several ways you can pay your Yokohama City taxes! When your payment slips arrive, please pay by the due date shown on each one.

Main Methods of Payment for Individual Resident Taxes and Property Taxes

● At a convenience store

Payment slips with a barcode can be paid at a convenience store.



● Options for bank/post office payments

1. Direct debit: Payments are automatically deducted from a designated account on the due date. Apply to your bank, etc. to arrange direct debit from your account.
2. Bring the payment slip to the counter to pay.
3. Pay-easy: Using internet banking or an ATM, pay using the Pay-easy option from the menu.



● By smartphone

Using an applicable app,* pay by reading the barcode on the payment slip.

* Apps: PayPay, LINE Pay, PayB, FamiPay, au PAY



● By credit card

Payment can be made through the Yokohama City Tax Payment Site. A system usage fee will be charged according to the payment amount.



Paying your municipal taxes (in Japanese)

When you don't pay by the due date, you will be sent a written demand for payment.

If you still do not pay:

- Delinquency measures, including asset seizure, will be set in motion.
- The penalty for late payment is calculated beginning the day after the payment deadline.
- You may not be able to obtain a tax payment certificate.

When you cannot pay due to disaster, illness, etc., please consult with the *zeimu* (tax) Division.

Inquiries: Zeimu (Tax) Division, Naka Ward Office (4F, Counter 42)

Caution: If you immediately need a tax payment certificate, 1) pay the taxes at a financial institution, 2) get a receipt for the transaction and 3) bring the original receipt to the *Zeimu* (Tax) Division in the Naka Ward Office (4F, Counter 46).

Tax Certificates

There are three ways to obtain a resident taxation (tax exemption) certificate, tax payment certificate (for individual resident taxes, property taxes).

● Apply at the ward office/Administrative Service Counter

Bring personal identification and apply at the tax certificate counter in the Naka Ward Office (4F, Counter 46).

● Apply by post

Mail the application form with the fee (postal money order or ordinary money order) and a stamped self-addressed envelope. The application form is available on the Yokohama City website.



Application method for various tax certificates (in Japanese)

● Apply via your smartphone

Get your My Number Card (*5) ready and apply through the dedicated site.



(in Japanese)

My Number Card (Individual Number Card)*5 is convenient for obtaining a certificate of taxation

My Number Card can be used for online applications and other administrative procedures. It can also be used as proof of identity.



Vaccinations for seniors before the start of flu season

Seniors and people with weakened immune systems can become seriously ill with the flu. Also, get your flu vaccination to avoid the risk of a double punch from the flu and Covid-19.

Eligibility: Persons aged 65 and above*

Period: Until Dec. 31 (Sat)

Location: Cooperating Yokohama City medical institutions**

Cost: 2,300 yen

* Please bring something to verify your age, name, and address, such as a residence card.

** Some medical institutions require advance reservation, so please phone first to check.

** Please contact Naka International Lounge (1F, Naka Ward Office Annex, TEL: 045-210-0667) to get information about the cooperating medical institutions in English/Chinese.

<Fukushi Hoken (Health and Welfare) Division, Naka Ward Office, TEL: 045-224-8332>

Beware of tuberculosis

Tuberculosis (TB) is an airborne infection caused by inhalation of the tubercle bacillus, which usually causes inflammation in the lungs. It is said that 1 in 10 infected people will develop the disease. Tuberculosis is not a disease of the past. It is still a serious infectious disease in Japan, where 40 people develop symptoms and 6 people die each day. In 2020, 16 out of every 100,000 people in Naka Ward developed TB. If you have symptoms such as phlegm and cough, mild fever, sense of fatigue, and weight loss that persist for more than two weeks, please visit a medical institution as soon as possible.

<Fukushi Hoken (Health and Welfare) Division, Naka Ward Office, TEL: 045-224-8332>

Class for Pregnant Chinese Speakers Living in Naka Ward (with interpreter)

Are you worried about raising your child in Japan due to language and cultural barriers? Are you confused by different childbirth and childcare customs between Japan and your home country? Join other Chinese-speaking mothers with the similar concerns to think about and discuss matters of pregnancy, birth and childraising in Japan.

Date/Time: Dec. 8 (Thu), 10 a.m.–12 p.m. **Cost:** Free

Gather at Naka Ward Office on the first floor near the *Sogo Annai* (information desk) by 9:45 a.m. (Event venue: Nonbirinko, a Naka Ward childcare support center)

Eligibility: Pregnant Native Chinese speakers and their families living in Naka Ward (Event capacity: 10 persons)

Start of applications: October 11 (Tue) Please apply by e-mail.

E-mail: na-purema@city.yokohama.jp (Use the 2D barcode.)

Include your name, the name of your local district, your phone number, your due date, and the number of people who will participate in the class.

<Kodomo Katei Shien (Children and Families Support) Division, Naka Ward Office,

E-mail: na-purema@city.yokohama.jp>



Enrolling your child in daycare from April 2023

Daycare centers take care of children when their parents are working, sick, etc. and cannot look after their child at home during the day. Children can be enrolled from 57 days old through pre-school, but the age of the children accepted varies according to facility.

▶ **Applications to enroll from April 2023**

Period: Oct. 12 (Wed) – Nov. 2 (Wed)

Note 1: Send by post, postmarked no later than Nov. 2 (Wed).

Note 2: If you applied for FY2022 but were not accepted, you will need to reapply for FY2023.

<Kodomo Katei Shien (Children and Families Support) Division, Naka Ward Office, TEL: 045-224-8172>

Naka International Lounge Japanese Language Classes

Small group classes for those learning Japanese for the first time.

1. Beginner Japanese Class (10 lessons in total) **Fee:** 2,000 yen

2. Second-Term Japanese Class (30 lessons in total) **Fee:** 6,000 yen

Eligibility: In principle, persons living, working or studying in Naka Ward

How to apply: By phone or e-mail

* Please check the website for details.

<Naka International Lounge (English, Chinese support available) TEL: 045-210-0667, E-mail: nakalounge@yoke.or.jp>

All about Neighborhood Associations

What is a Jichikai/Chonaikai (neighborhood association)?

These associations are made up of neighborhood residents, and their purpose is to deepen exchanges in their own community and solve problems that arise there.

In addition to fun events such as festivals and athletic meets, neighborhood associations carry out important activities that support day-to-day community life, such as disaster prevention, crime prevention and cleaning activities. Activities are funded through a member fee.

Why not join your neighborhood association to help create a safe and secure community with your neighbors?

Note: Joining your jichikai/chonaikai is not mandatory.

<Chiiki Shinko (Community Promotion) Division, Naka Ward Office, TEL: 045-224-8131>



International Service Staff
Naka Ward Office, Counter 22 (2nd floor)
English 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

International Service Staff provide assistance with matters such as guidance on Naka Ward Office activities, interpretation at various ward office counters and support for filling out certificate applications. Stop by if you would like assistance.

Help Me Know
Q&A



What is the deduction for medical expenses (医療費控除 iryohi kojo)?

When you spend 100,000 yen or more on medical costs between January 1 and December 31 (5% or more of your total income when your total income is less than 2 million yen), you can claim a deduction for medical expenses on your income tax return. You'll need to file an income tax return to take advantage of any tax reduction or tax refund that may apply.



If I put it on my year-end adjustment form at work, can I claim the medical expense deduction?

No, you can't. You need to file a separate income tax return on your own to claim it.

Tell me how to apply

Fill out a 医療費控除の明細書 (medical expense deduction statement), attach it to your tax return, and submit it to the tax office with jurisdiction over the return.



*For details about the medical expense deduction on your income tax return, please refer to the *Kokuzeicho* (National Tax Agency) website (in Japanese).



川ICA横浜 海外移住資料館

(JICA YOKOHAMA Japanese Overseas Migration Museum)

Go for a Visit

This museum opened in 2002 to introduce the history of Japanese emigration to North, Central and South America and the lives of people of Japanese descent (Nikkei) in these regions. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the museum's opening. On April 26, the museum reopened following renovations to provide a more comprehensive overview of the past and present Nikkei community.

An introduction to some of the exhibits!



A vegetable float made by Japanese farmers

This is a reproduction of a float decorated with locally grown vegetables by Japanese who came to the United States. The American flag (the Stars and Stripes) is depicted on the roof.



Settling new areas

A scene from Aliança, Brazil of land being opened up for settlement. A photo spot that makes it seem you were with the settlers as they cut down trees.



Nippon Maru, the last ship taking emigrants overseas

This exhibit shows the last emigrant ship to leave Osanbashi Pier in Yokohama to give an idea of what the ship was like and what emigrants brought with them.

The museum has been set up to make it accessible to all regardless of age, nationality or disability.

There are quizzes and storytelling with picture cards for children to enjoy.



Braille blocks



Braille text and tactile maps
Visually impaired visitors can touch these to get information on the exhibits



Audio guide
Smartphone is necessary



Facility information

Address: 2-3-1 Shinko, Naka-ku

TEL: 045-663-3257

Hours: 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

(entry until 5:30 p.m.)

Closed: Mondays

(but open when Monday is

a public holiday, and closed

the next day instead)

Admission: Free



(in Japanese)

Thoughts of a Foreign Resident Life and Culture in Japan

What Does Income Tax Filing Have to Do with Me?



Until recently, I had never really given much thought to filing my income tax return. Tax returns are the company's job, and I thought that all I had to do each year was submit the needed information for my year-end adjustment and pay any taxes according to what was written on the statement I received. As a result, I didn't know much about things like the tax system or the income ceiling for part-time jobs when a spouse wants to remain a dependent for social insurance (health, pension, etc.) reasons.

One day, a senior colleague at work told me, "In the first year you purchase a home, you can't get a tax refund unless you file a tax return for your mortgage deduction." Taking that opportunity, I decided to study how to fill out a tax return. When I searched the Internet with the keyword "kakutei shinkoku" (income tax return), there were more sites than I expected with information on how to fill out a tax return. By studying on my own and filling in each item according to the explanation, I was able to successfully file for the mortgage deduction. Without realizing it, I had come to understand the types of deductions

and the difference between income and taxable income through the process of filing tax returns. I also now understand why part-time workers are concerned about not exceeding a certain amount of annual income so they can stay as a dependent.

After that, I started telling my friends when I thought they should file their own tax returns. By submitting your own return as necessary, you will gradually come to understand the Japanese income tax system and can receive applicable tax exemptions, and properly pay your taxes/get a tax refund.

People tend to think you don't need to file a tax return when you have no income. But even with zero income, there are still cases when it is better to submit a resident (city and prefecture) tax report to the ward office. So it's important to acquire the correct knowledge beforehand, whether it's just a year-end tax adjustment through your work or submitting an income tax return yourself.

(Naka International Lounge Chinese Language Staff)

Good to Know! About Japanese Culture



オムライス

Omuraisu (Japanese rice omelet)

An egg omelet over stir-fried rice is classic Japanese soul food called "Omuraisu." It is commonly served in Japanese homes, but each household has its own style of making them. The Japanese term is a combination of the Japanese pronunciation of "omelet" and "rice."

Basic recipe:

1. Stir-fry some vegetables you like, such as finely chopped onion and chicken, green peas, etc.
2. Add cooked rice to the vegetables and season with ketchup, shape into an oval and transfer to a plate.
3. Cook the egg mixture, keeping it thin. Wrap the plated rice in the egg to complete. You can garnish the egg with ketchup, making a picture or words.

Experiment with different combinations to make an omuraisu unique to you!

An introduction to seasonal events and Japanese culture in terms of food, clothing and housing.



We are always looking for locations to distribute *Naka Ward Town News*. If you have many foreign visitors to your shop, clinic, organization, etc. and would like to make this newsletter available to them, please contact us at 045-224-8123 to arrange delivery.

The next issue will be published on January 1.