

1. Property Tax, City Planning Tax, Automobile Tax, and Light Motor Vehicle Tax

On January 1, those who own land, houses, etc. in the city pay property tax and city planning tax. Tax bills are mailed on May 1. The payment deadline for all installments and the first installment is May 31.

Those who own a car over 660cc pay the automobile tax and those who own motorcycles and light motor vehicles pay light motor vehicle tax. You will receive a notice on May 1 for automobile tax and May 2 for light motor vehicle tax. The payment deadline is May 31.

Take the payment slip to a convenience store, bank, or post office to pay the tax. If you can't pay, contact the Tax Department at City Hall for information on property and vehicle taxes. The vehicle tax is a tax payable to Tochigi Prefecture. Contact the Prefectural Taxation Office on the first floor of the Tochigi Prefecture Shimotsuga Government Office in Kanda-cho.

If you want to stay in Japan longer, the Tax Department will evaluate your tax payments. If you are behind on your taxes, you may not be able to extend your stay.

Please pay your taxes on time.

2. Temporary benefits for households with per capita resident taxation and additional benefits for children in low-income households

To ease the burden of rising energy and food prices, the government will provide 100,000 yen in fiscal 2023 as support for low-income households, targeting households that are taxed through the per capita resident tax.

A letter confirming eligibility for the grant was sent in early April. Please return the form with the required documents by June 28.

If you are a household taxed at the same rate as the resident and have a child born between April 2, 2005 and August 31, 2024 who is 18 or younger, you will receive 50,000 yen per child.

If you were eligible at the end of March, you should have received a letter confirming the payment requirements. Please return the form with the required documents by September 17.

If you have any questions, please contact the Tochigi City Temporary Benefits Call Center at 0282-21-2416.

3. Sunday counter for My Number Card

If you can't come to the office during the week, the Sunday counter is open once a month by appointment only for My Number Card procedures.

To use this service, please call to make an appointment. Applications can be made from the first day of the month two months prior to the desired date. For example, applications for the Sunday counter in August can be made from June 1.

The counter is open from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month. The location is the Citizen's Life Division on the second floor of City Hall. For those in the Ohira, Fujioka, Tsuga, Nishikata, and Iwafune areas, it's the Community Development Promotion Division of the general branch office of your area.

If your address is in the Tochigi area, go to the Citizen's Affairs Division of the Main Office. If your address is in the Ohira area, go to the Community Development Promotion Division of the Ohira General Branch Office.

Services include getting a My Number Card, resetting your PIN, and renewing or changing your electronic certificate.

New My Number Card applications are not accepted.

Services will close when capacity is reached.

4. The Children's Cafeteria

Have you heard of the children's cafeteria?

The children's cafeteria is a community that provides meals, playtime, learning support, and other services as a safe place for children. They are run by local residents, NPOs, social welfare programs, and others.

The Tochigi area has a children's cafeteria called "Tochikkokokage." It is held on the third Saturday of every month from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Kirara no Mori Tochigi Kura no Machi Gakushukan in Irifune-cho.

In the Ohira area, there is a children's cafeteria called Kodomo Cafe Minna no Ki. It is held on the first Saturday of every month at the Ohira West Community Center in Tomita, Ohira Town, from 4:00 to 7:00 pm.

There are also children's cafeteria in Tsuga, Iwafune, and Fujioka.

Each cafeteria is open to children and their guardians. The cost is about 100 yen for children and 300 yen for adults.

The children's cafeterias are open to everyone. Foreign residents are welcome, so please visit them if there is one near you.