

1. About tax returns at the Tochigi Tax Office

The tax return for 2020 will be filed at the Large Hall of Tochigi Chamber of Commerce in Katayanagi-cho from February 16th to March 15th, 2021.

If foreign residents who are paying taxes in Japan are sending money to relatives in their home country, there is a system in place to reduce taxes depending on the number of relatives.

Near the time of filing taxes at your company, you would normally have your taxes calculated by applying for the "deduction for dependents abroad". However, if you do not inform your company that you are sending money abroad, you will have to file your tax return yourself.

In order to apply for this, you must submit "relative relations documents" and "remittance documents".

"Relative relations documents" are proof of the place of residence of the dependent relatives and their relationship to you. For example, a copy of the family register, a birth certificate, a marriage certificate, and a copy of your passport.

"Remittance documents" show that you have sent money to a relative living abroad through a financial institution. For example, a foreign remittance request form, a proof of remittance, and a credit card statement.

If these documents are written in a foreign language, a Japanese translation must be attached.

For this year's tax return, in order to avoid crowds at a tax filing venue, a "venue information slip" distributed inside the venue or a numbered ticket issued in advance is required.

Also, please cooperate with the infection prevention measures such as wearing a mask and disinfecting your hands.

2. About My Number card becoming available as a health insurance card

From March 2021, you will be able to use your My Number Card as a health insurance card. If you have already applied for a health insurance card, you can use your My Number card at medical institutions or pharmacies without a health insurance card.

However, it is limited to medical institutions and pharmacies that have introduced "online qualification confirmation". You can also continue to use your traditional health insurance card as before.

In order to use My Number Card as a health insurance card, you need to apply in advance. To apply for a health insurance card, log in to My Number's site "Myna Portal" from your computer or smartphone and complete the procedure online.

Additionally, the Health Insurance Division has a dedicated computer at the counter to apply to use your My Number card as a health insurance card.

Available times are from 8:30 am to 5:15 pm on weekdays.

All you need to apply is your My Number Card and the 4-digit pin number you set when you obtained your My Number Card.

3. About COVID-19 infection prevention measures

We must continue to be careful about COVID-19 in the new year.

In Tochigi City, we ask citizens to thoroughly implement basic infection prevention measures such as wearing masks, ventilation, avoiding crowds, and washing hands.

We also want to raise awareness of 5 situations with a higher than normal risk of infection.

These are: social gatherings with alcohol, meals with a large number of people, conversations without masks, communal living in small places, at work in break rooms, smoking areas, changing rooms and you must also be careful when changing locations.

Even on your commute to work, wear a mask and avoid conversation.

Infection is spreading all over Japan so please try to avoid unnecessary and unessential outings as much as possible.

Lastly, the Tochigi City International Center has decided to cancel the annual "Japanese Speech Contest" and "Tochigi International Festival" this year.

Thank you for your understanding.

Announcement:

Attention please. Important announcement from Tochigi City regarding COVID-19. To prevent spreading the Corona Virus, only go out if it's necessary or urgent, for example for work and basic necessities.