



TAITO CITY LIFE NEWS

2023.12 Vol. 33

Published by: Human Rights and Diversity Promotion Section, General Affairs Division, Taito City Office

4-5-6 Higashi-Ueno, Taito-ku 110-8615, Tel: 03-5246-1116

https://www.city.taito.lg.jp/kurashi/foreigner/jigyoannai/life_news.html

Please note that the content of the articles in this issue may change depending on the status of COVID-19 infections. We appreciate your understanding.

The City Office offers multilingual interpretation services via tablet devices. Please inquire about this at the service window you visit for procedures.

The hours these services are available differ depending on the language.

<https://www.city.taito.lg.jp/kurashi/foreigner/sodan/sodan.html>

Supported languages: English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Nepali, Filipino (Tagalog), Thai, French, Russian, Hindi, Indonesian, Khmer and Burmese.



Please check the hours these services are available here



Come Visit the Libraries!

Books in English, Chinese and Korean Also Available

The library has a collection of books written in English, Chinese and Korean. You can also borrow books about Japan or Japanese-language learning materials.

Additionally, the Central Library distributes free pamphlets written in English, Chinese and Korean, such as pamphlets about Japanese-language classes, disaster prevention maps (for earthquakes), etc.

Visit whenever you like!



To search for books →

How to Use the Library

You need a library card to borrow items

You'll need a library card to borrow and reserve books, CDs and DVDs. You can get a card if you live, work or go to school in Taito City or live in one of the special wards of Tokyo (the twenty-three special cities in Tokyo).

Please come to the library counter with some personal identification that can verify your address (residence card, health insurance card, etc.). If you are working or going to school in Taito City, you will also need to bring a document that confirms your employment or student status.

Number of items and period you can borrow:

	Number of items	Lending period
Books and magazines	Up to fifteen	Two weeks
CDs	Up to three	Two weeks
DVDs and videos	Up to two	One week

For more information, please visit the library website or read the *Handbook for Foreign Residents: Everyday Living in Taito City*.



Central Library Asakusabashi Branch (International Section)

Inquiries:

Central Library, **Tel:** 03-5246-5911

Open Monday to Saturday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

(except for the year-end/New Year's holidays, the third Thursday of each month, and special maintenance periods)

Libraries that have foreign-language books

Library	Address	Phone no.
Central Library	3-25-16 Nishi-Asakusa (Lifelong Learning Center 1F, 2F)	03-5246-5911
Central Library Asakusabashi Branch	2-8-7 Asakusabashi (Asakusabashi City Residents' Hall 2F, 3F)	03-3863-0082
Central Library Yanaka Branch	5-6-5 Yanaka (Yanaka Disaster Prevention Community Center 3F)	03-3824-4041
Negishi Library	5-18-13 Negishi (Tokyo Metropolitan Housing Negishi 5-chome Apartment 2F)	03-3876-2101
Ishihama Library	1-35-16 Hashiba 3F, 4F	03-3876-0854

Points to keep in mind to avoid becoming infected or infecting others with COVID-19

Wash your hands when you return home



Open windows and doors



Wear a mask if you are coughing



More information about COVID-19 is available here:



COVID-19 Vaccinations

2023 Autumn Vaccinations Ready

Residents six months of age or older who have completed the initial vaccination can receive one dose. A vaccination ticket is required.

If you do not have a vaccination ticket, please apply for one through the city website. For more information, please visit the city website.

Taito City website



MHLW website



Note: Notifications and other information are also available in foreign languages.

Reservation procedure

☆ If you wish to make a reservation, please scan the code at right.



Inquiries: COVID-19 Response Office, **Tel:** 03-3847-9431

About the Taito City Consumer Life Center

Ask for advice in these situations!

- I encountered a problem or felt something was off when signing a contract or shopping.
- If you are billed for something you didn't purchase
- If an accident occurs when using a product

● Who can use this service?

Anyone who lives, works or goes to school in Taito City

● Consultation days and hours

Monday to Friday (excluding national holidays and the year-end/New Year's holidays)

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

● Consultation procedures

Call or come to the Taito City Consumer Life Center

Tel: 03-5246-1133

Location: Taito City Office 9F, Service Counter No. 7

- Consultation is free of charge. All matters are kept strictly confidential.

Inquiries: Consumer Desk, Residents' Counseling Section,

Tel: 03-5246-1144

About Children Halls

Children halls are facilities for kids under the age of eighteen and their parents/guardians that offer playrooms and library rooms. They're fun places to spend time together.

Opening hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed on Sundays and national holidays (excluding May 5).

Name	Location	Telephone
Senzoku Children Hall	3-20-6 Senzoku, Taito City	03-3874-1714
Tamahime Children Hall	2-22-13 Kiyokawa, Taito City	03-3874-6571
Taito Children Hall	1-11-5 Taito, Taito City	03-3832-8493
Ikenohata Children Hall	2-3-3 Ikenohata, Taito City	03-3823-6644
Matsugaya Children Hall	4-15-11 Matsugaya, Taito City	03-3841-6734
Imado Children Hall	1-3-6 Imado, Taito City	03-3876-1656
Kotobuki Children Hall	1-4-5 Kotobuki, Taito City	03-3844-8602
Yanaka Children Hall	5-6-5 Yanaka, Taito City	03-3824-4043

Inquiries: After-School Affairs Subsection, Child Care Section, **Tel:** 03-5246-1235

Children Division, Taito City Social Welfare Corp., **Tel:** 03-5603-2229

Inquiry hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. except for Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays and during the year-end/New Year's holiday period (unless otherwise stated)

Ask Questions 24/7!

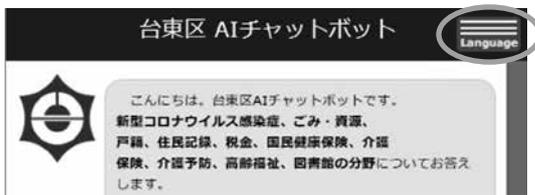
▶ Try the AI Chatbot

How to Use

- (1) Click the mark at the bottom right of the Taito City website.



- (2) Click the "Language" button on the upper right of the page that opens. Choose your preferred language.



- (3) Ask a question.

Languages available: English, Chinese (simplified and traditional), Korean, Vietnamese, Filipino (Tagalog), Nepali, Thai, French, Burmese, Uzbek, Indonesian, Russian, Mongolian, Ukrainian

Inquiries: Public Relations Section

Tel: 03-5246-1023

Please Have a Look at the Taito City Newsletter



Various notifications from the Taito City Office are written in the Taito City newsletter.

The newsletter can be viewed in various languages, such as English, Chinese (simplified and traditional),

Korean, Thai, and Indonesian if viewed from the city website or smartphone application "Catalog Pocket."

Note: To read via Catalog Pocket, search for "Taito City" after scanning the two-dimensional code and downloading the app.

Inquiries:

Public Relations Section

Tel: 03-5246-1021



Android



iOS

Taito City's Website Is Viewable in Various Languages

The Taito City website can be viewed in 109 languages.

Languages: English, Chinese (simplified and traditional), Korean, French, Indonesian, Malay, Thai, etc.

▶ Procedure

1. Click the "Foreign Language" button on the upper right side of the website

"Foreign Language" button



2. Choose a language

Inquiries: Public Relations Section, **Tel:** 03-5246-1021

View the Taito City Official YouTube Channel

The public relations programs (news) and other videos the city produces are streaming on YouTube. You can display subtitles using YouTube's automatic translation function:



- (1) Click on the caption button on the bottom right of the video.



- (2) Click on the button, click on "Subtitles/CC," and then select "automatic translation" and choose a language.



Notes:

1. Only English-language translations are available when playing videos on smartphones and the like.
2. Since the channel uses YouTube's automatic translation function, the translation may not be accurate.
3. Depending on the video, the automatic translation function may not be available.

Inquiries: Public Relations Section, **Tel:** 03-5246-1041

Service Counters Open on Second Sundays for Partial Services

Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: Taito City Office 1F

Services available:

- Matters related to family registry notifications
- Issuance of residence records, personal seal registration certificates, and family registry certificates
- Matters related to notifications of moving in/out and National Health Insurance enrollment
- Matters related to personal seal registration and annulment
- Payments for taxes or health insurance premiums and matters related to motorcycle registration
- Matters related to various childrearing allowances and medical subsidies for children
- Matters related to applications for and issuance of Individual Number cards
- Matters related to applications for and issuance of special permanent resident certificates
- Consultation on tax payments and health insurance premiums
- Matters related to issuance of residence tax (tax exemption) certificates
- Matters related to issuance of a *Mother and Child Health Handbook*
- Sales of one-month ticket, coupon tickets and one-day ticket for the Taito City Circular Route Bus, Megurin

Find a Hospital

You can search for hospitals through Himawari, a service run by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. They will tell you the location, telephone number, hours and medical departments of the hospital.

◇ **Telephone**

Languages: English, Chinese, Korean, Thai and Spanish

Hours: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Tel: 03-5285-8181

◇ **Internet** (English, Chinese and Korean)

URL: <https://www.himawari.metro.tokyo.jp/>



You can also access the website by scanning this code.

Taito City Night & Holiday Children's Clinic

Medical treatment is available for children fifteen years of age or younger for sudden illnesses that can be handled without hospitalization.

Location: Inside Eiju General Hospital, 2-23-16 Higashi-Ueno, Taito-ku

Tel: 03-3833-8381

Note: Please come to the emergency reception desk on the first floor.

Hours:

- Monday through Saturday (except on national holidays and during the yearend/New Year's holidays): 6:45 to 9:45 p.m. (treatment from 7 to 10 p.m.)
- Sundays, national holidays, *Obon* holidays (August 14-16), and during the year-end/New Year's holidays (December 29 to January 3): 8:45 a.m. to 9:45 p.m. (treatment from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)

Note: Since you may be directed to a specialized medical facility, please be sure to call in advance.



You can also access the website by scanning this code.

Some Service Counters Have Extended Hours on Wednesdays

Extended hours: Until 7 p.m.

Available service counters:

Taito City Office (4-5-6 Higashi-Ueno, Taito-ku)

1F: ○ Family Registration Residents' Service Section

2F: ○ Nursing Care Insurance Section

○ Senior Citizens' Welfare Section

○ Handicapped Welfare Section

○ National Health Insurance Section

3F: ○ National Pension Subsection, Residents' Affairs Section

○ Collection Section ○ Tax Administration Section

6F: ○ Child-Rearing & Youth Support Section

○ After-School Affairs Subsection ○ Child Care Section

Residents' Offices

○ Seibu (West) Residents' Office (3-1-30 Shitaya, Taito-ku)

○ Nambu (South) Residents' Office (1-10-12 Kotobuki, Taito-ku)

○ Hokubu (North) Residents' Office (4-48-1 Asakusa, Taito-ku)

Those Who Want to Study Japanese

There are volunteer clubs in Taito City that provide support for people studying Japanese.

Please visit the city website for more information:

https://www.city.taito.lg.jp/index/kurashi/foreigner/jigyoannai/Volunteer_J.html



The list of volunteer clubs is available in Japanese, English, Chinese and Korean.

Inquiries: Human Rights & Diversity Promotion Section, **Tel:** 03-5246-1116

Consultation about Life in Japan

▶ Foreign Residents' Consultation Center

If you have any problems or concerns, please feel free to consult the Foreign Residents' Consultation Center.

You can talk to a consultant directly on the following days.

Language	Days	Hours
Chinese	First, second and third Thursdays	10 a.m. to noon
English	First and third Thursdays	10 a.m. to noon
Korean	First and third Thursdays	2 to 4 p.m.

Location: Residents' Consultation Office (Taito City Office 1F)

Inquiries: Residents' Consultation Office, Residents' Counseling Section

Tel: 03-5246-1025

National Health Insurance

❑ Who must enroll in National Health Insurance?

- Foreign residents who will be living in Japan for more than three months are also required to join a public insurance program such as National Health Insurance. If you are not covered by any public insurance, please contact us immediately. (Depending on your status of residence, you may not be able to enroll in National Health Insurance.)

❑ Receive your health insurance card

- After you complete National Health Insurance enrollment procedures, the post office will deliver your health insurance card to your home. Please take delivery of your health insurance card directly from the mail carrier.
- Make sure to write the names of everyone living at the residence on your mailbox. If you live in an apartment/condominium, make sure that your room number is indicated on your mailbox.
- If you were not at home and could not receive your health insurance card, a delivery notice will be left in your mailbox. Please call the phone number written on the notice, or go to the post office to pick up your health insurance card.
- If you do not go to the post office during the holding period, your card will be sent to and held at the city office. Please make sure to pick it up there.

❑ Send a notification if there are any changes, such as:

- When you move residences or return to your native country
- When you enroll in the health insurance plan at your place of work

Inquiries: Eligibility Subsection, National Health Insurance Section
Tel: 03-5246-1252

❑ Pay your health insurance premiums

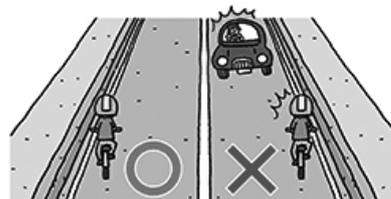
- After you complete enrollment procedures, payment slips stating your health insurance premiums will be mailed to your home. Please bring the payment slip with you and pay at a bank or convenience store by the deadline.
- If you are unable to pay your premiums for some reason, please consult the city office as soon as possible. If you do not pay, you may be unable to use your health insurance card, and your assets such as your savings and salary may even be seized. It may also affect your visa renewal status.
- You can pay National Health Insurance premiums via bank transfer. Please contact us if you would like to do so.

Inquiries: Health Insurance Premium Subsection, National Health Insurance Section
Tel: 03-5246-1256

Bicycle Riding Safety

▶ Please observe these rules and manners when riding a bicycle:

- As a rule, ride your bicycle on the road and not on the sidewalk. If you must ride on the sidewalk, ride slowly on the side closest to the road and give pedestrians the right of way.
- Stop at intersections and look right, left and back to confirm that conditions are safe.
- Use the left lane when riding on the road.
- Turn on your lights when riding at night.



▶ Do not:

- Use your smartphone or cellphone while riding
- Use earphones or headphones while riding
- Use an umbrella while riding
- Drink alcohol before riding
- Ride double
- Ride side by side



▶ Precautions

- Both adults and children should wear helmets.
- Enroll in bicycle insurance to protect yourself in case you get into an accident.
- Conduct regular inspections and maintenance to ensure that the bicycle you ride is safe.



Inquiries: Traffic Affairs Subsection, Traffic Affairs Section, **Tel:** 03-5246-1288

About Declaration of Resident Tax (special city tax and Tokyo metropolitan resident tax)

Your resident tax is the tax assessed by the city or municipality where you reside, and is the source of funding for administrative services the community conducts. All individuals having income of a certain level and above must pay tax.

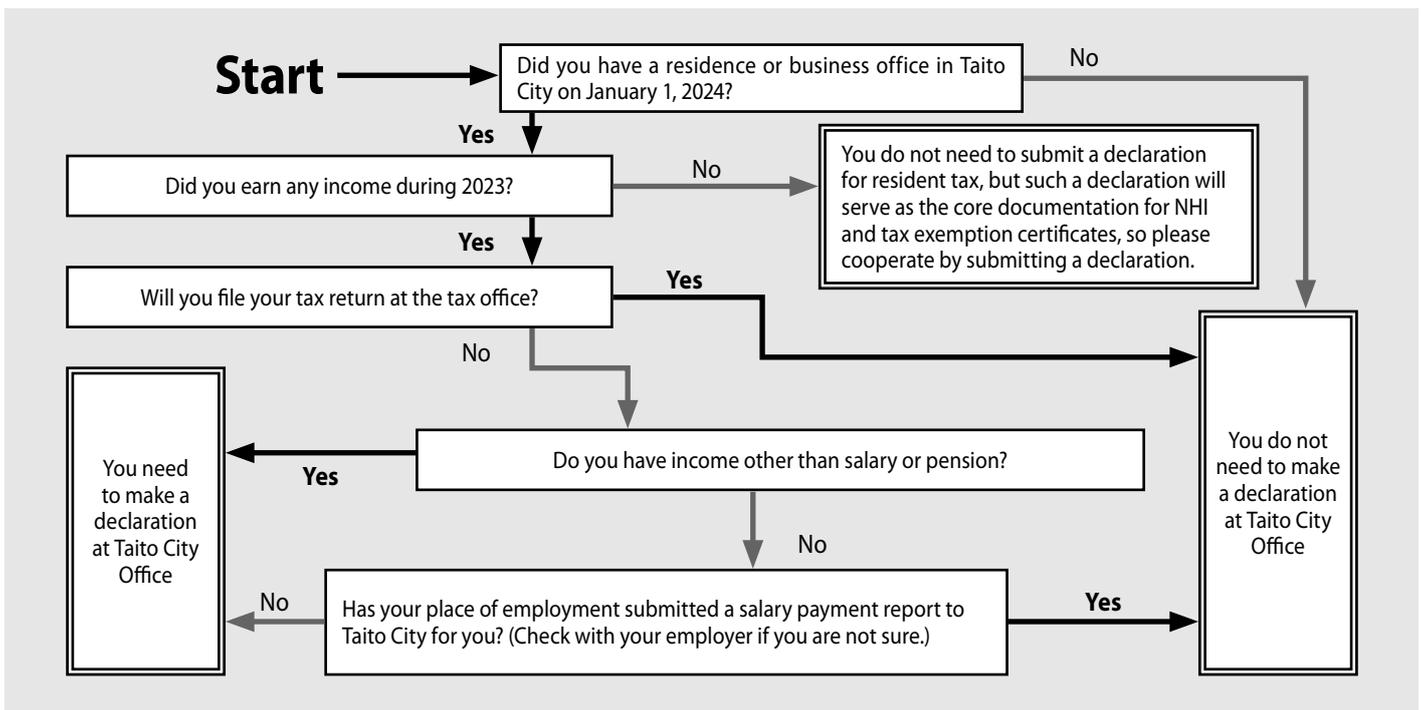
Every year by March 15, you must submit a declaration of your income to the tax office or city office for the period from January 1 to December 31 of the previous year to the city or municipality where you resided on January 1 of that year. Your resident tax is calculated on the basis of the income declaration

form you submitted.

Taito City sends a declaration form to individuals who may need to make a tax declaration to the city office. Please fill in the necessary information and submit or mail it to the Taxation Subsection. Please contact the number below if you do not receive a declaration form or have any other questions.

Please note that if you submitted a declaration of your income tax to the tax office, you are not required to submit a resident tax declaration.

★Individuals who need to submit a declaration Please use the below chart as a reference



Tax declarations are also accepted via postal mail. Please use the enclosed return envelope.

Inquiry: Taxation Subsection, Tax Administration Section, **Tel:** 03-5246-1103 to 1105

Enrolling in the National Pension Plan

The national pension plan supports those insured when they reach old age, or become disabled due to injury or illness, or and support their family after they die, as long as certain conditions are met. Residents eligible for the national pension are everyone between the ages of 20 and 59, including foreign residents, except for individuals enrolled in employee's pension programs at their place of employment. If the combined number of months for paid pension insurance premiums and insurance premium exemptions exceed 120 months (ten years), as a general rule the old-age basic pension begins from the age of 65.

Inquiries: National Pension Subsection, Residents' Affairs Section
Tel: 03-5246-1262

Note on the lump-sum withdrawal payment system:

To receive your old-age basic pension, you must have made insurance premium payments for a designated length of time as stated above. Foreign residents who return to their native countries without meeting their payment requirements may be able to receive a lump-sum payment if certain conditions are met, however.

Inquiries: Ueno Pension Office

Tel: 03-3824-2511

Japan Pension Service website: <https://www.nenkin.go.jp/service/pamphlet/kaigai/kokunenseido.html>



You can also access the website by scanning this code.

Inquiry hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. except for Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays and during the year-end/New Year's holiday period (unless otherwise stated)

▶ The next bulletin will be issued in March 2024.