

GUIDE to living in KIKUYO TOWN



April 2023
Kikuyo Town

CONTENTS

1. Introduction of Kikuyo Town	1
2. Business Guide for Kikuyo Town Hall	2
3. Procedures at Kikuyo Town Office	
(1) Resident registration and certificate of residence	7
(2) Notification of family register (birth, death, marriage, divorce)	9
(3) Seal registration and certificate of seal impression	11
(4) National Health Insurance and Late-Stage Senior Citizen's Health Care System	12
(5) Nursing care insurance system	14
(6) Pension	16
(7) Taxes	18
(8) Child Medical Expense Subsidies	21
4. Things you can consult in the Kikuyo Town Office	
(1) Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Child-Rearing (Maternal and Child Health Handbook)	23
(2) Admission to Daycare Centers and Certified Kindergartens ..	24
(3) Admission and Transfer to and out of Elementary and Junior High Schools	26
(4) Start and end of Water Usage	27
(5) How to Dispose of Garbage	28
(6) Health checkups and vaccinations	32
(7) Municipal Housing	35
(8) Taxes	36
(9) Japanese Language Classes	37
(10) Everyday Etiquette and Problems in the Community	38
(11) Unemployment, illness, or other hardship	39
(12) Suffering violence from a partner or a lover... ..	40

CONTENTS

5. Public facilities and transportation available in Kikuyo Town

(1) Library and Hall	43
(2) Gymnasium and Fitness Gym	44
(3) Community Centers	46
(4) Town bus “Carropi” and shared taxi services	50

6. Useful information for daily life in Kikuyo Town

(1) When you are sick or injured	52
(2) In the Event of an Incident, Accident or Fire	54
(3) Prepare for Natural Disasters, and When a Major Disaster Occurs	56
(4) Finding a home and using electricity and gas	59
(5) Acquiring My Number Card	60
(6) Issuance of Certificates at Convenience Stores	61
(7) Status of Residence and Period of Stay	62
(8) Employment and Job Search	63
(9) How to Use Public Transportation	64
(10) Driver's License and Traffic Rules	65

Welcome to Kikuyo Town!

Hello, foreign residents!

Are you anxious about starting your life in Kikuyo town? We imagine it must be difficult coming to a new place with differences in language and culture. We also understand that you will probably have many questions about how to use procedures and services, and various other rules and manners.

To ease any anxiety, we created this guidebook. It contains a variety of useful information for your life in Kikuyo Town.

We hope that this guidebook will help you understand procedures and how to access various services necessary for daily life. The guidebook provides an overview of the local system and how to search for different services, so please use it to confirm contact and consultation information.

Currently, more than 500 foreign residents from 28 countries are living in Kikuyo Town, and the foreign population is expected to continue to increase.

Kikuyo is promoting the development of a town where everyone (Japanese and foreign residents alike) can live safely and securely. If we treat each other with respect, follow the rules, and cooperate, we can make a great community together.

We hope that everyone can live comfortably and pleasantly in Kikuyo Town and enjoy time with family and friends.

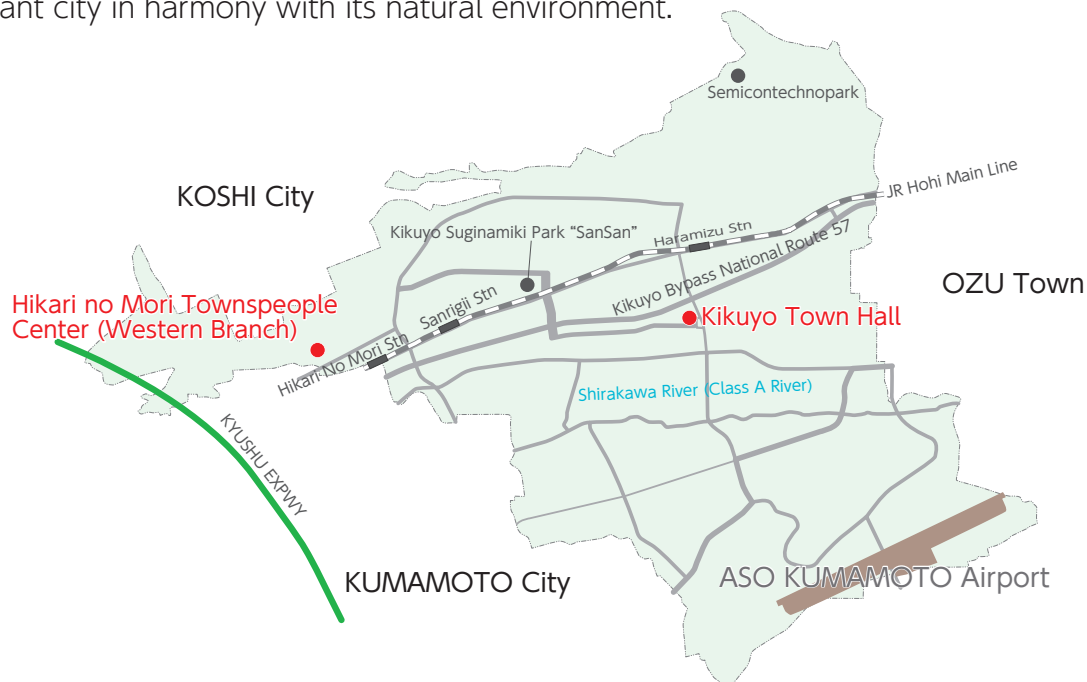
April 2023

1. Introduction of Kikuyo Town

Here is an introduction to Kikuyo Town where you will live!

(1) Overview of the Town

Kikuyo Town is located northeast of Kumamoto City, 11.8 km from east to west and 9.4 km from north to south, with a total area of 37.46 km². The urban area, including residential and commercial facilities, is surrounded by abundant water and greenery, making it a vibrant city in harmony with its natural environment.



(2) Population and number of households <as of March 31, 2023>.

【Population】 43,673 (Male 21,506 / Female 22,167) people

【Number of households】 18,992 households

(3) Town Emblem and Town Mascot



The letter "K" in the katakana character is used to write Kikuyomachi (Kikuyo town). It represents a bird of peace and a growing city.

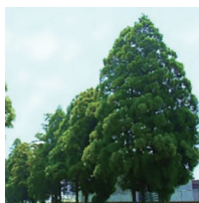


The mascot character is based on the town's specialty, carrots, and is called "Caroppi".

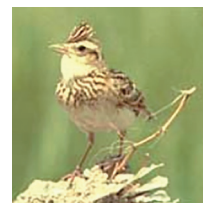
(4) Town Flower • Town Tree • Town Bird



Town Flower :
Chrysanthemum



Town Tree : Cedar



Town Bird : Skylark

Contact information for the section in charge

General Policy Planning Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-2112 ✉ sogoseisaku@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

2. Business Guide for Kikuyo Town Hall

(1) Kikuyo Town Hall (Main Office)

The Kikuyo Town Hall handles various procedures necessary for the daily life of foreign residents. The office consists of three buildings: the main building, an annex, and the Disaster Prevention Center. A general information desk is located immediately after entering the main entrance of the main building of the office. If anything is unclear, please feel free to contact us.

【Address】 2800 Kubota, Kikuyo-machi, 869-1192

【Telephone】 096-232-2111

【Business Hours】 Weekdays (From Monday to Friday) 8 : 30-17 : 15

【Services Available】 Please refer to the table “ Services provided by the Main Office of the Town Hall” on the next page for more details.



Municipality
Government Office
Guide Map HP



Kikuyo Town Hall Main Entrance



Disaster Prevention Center

■ Sunday opening of the office (only for issuing certain certificates)

Because some people cannot come to the office on weekdays, some of the reception services are open on Sundays. We issue some certificates and take custody of documents to be submitted*.

※ Please note that address changes such as moving in, moving out, or relocating cannot be accepted.

【Available Dates】 Every Sunday (Excluding the holiday period from December 29 through January 3.)

【Opening Hours】 9 : 00-13 : 00

【Available Venue】 Town Hall Main Office 1st Floor

At the counter of Municipality Division

【Services Available】 Please check the QR code on the right.



Sunday opening of the office HP
(Available Services etc.)

■ Establishment of an consultation service for foreign residents

In May 2023, a Foreign Resident Consultation Counter will be opened on the first floor of the Town Hall. Chinese and English-speaking interpreters will be available to assist foreign residents with various procedures and advice on daily life. More details will be announced on the Kikuyo Town website after the opening.

【Available Services】 Plans to support all office operations



〈Available Services at the Town Hall〉

Divisions in charge	Name of Sections	Main services
General Affairs Division	General Affairs and Legislation Section	General administration, documents, legislation, parliamentary affairs, general affairs
	Personnel and Secretariat Section	Personnel, staff recruitment, compensation, benefits, secretarial
	Information Management Section	Computer systems, security measures
	DX Promotion Section	Digitalization of operational process of the town office
Crisis Management and Disaster Prevention Division	Fire and Traffic Section	Fire brigade, fire fighting, traffic safety
	Disaster prevention and safety Section	Disaster and disaster prevention measures, vacant house measures
General Policy Planning Division	Policy Planning Section	Town government planning, statistics, public relations, international exchange
	Community Development Section	Public transportation, tour buses, local development
Finance Division	Building Management Section	Government building management, property management, competitive bidding administration
	Finance Section	Budget, finance, local allocation tax, municipal bonds
Human Rights Education and Enlightenment Division	Human Rights Education and Awareness Section	Human rights education and awareness, human rights protection
	Promotion of Gender Equality Section	Promotion of Gender Equal Society
Municipal Division	Municipal Section	Resident registration (resident registration), seal registration, pension, application for "My Number"[individual number] card, issuance of certification
	Family Registration Section	Family registration (birth, death, marriage, divorce)
Tax Division	Tax Collection Section	Collection of municipal tax, collection management
	Inhabitant Tax Section	Imposition of inhabitant tax, National Health Insurance tax and corporate inhabitant tax
	Property Tax Section	Imposition of property tax and light motor vehicle tax
Environmental Life Division	Environmental Life Section	Global warming prevention measures, rabies prevention, Garbage collection, recycling promotion
Health and Insurance Division	Health Promotion Section	Health checkups - medical examinations, vaccinations, health counseling and health education
	Maternal and Child Health Section	Issuance of maternal and child health handbooks, Health Checkups and Consultation for Infants, Visiting all households with infants
	National Health Insurance and Pension Insurance Section	National health insurance, late-stage medical care for the elderly, subsidies for children's medical expenses, pension

Divisions in charge	Name of Sections	Main services
Nursing Care Insurance Division	Nursing Care Insurance Section	Imposition and collection of long-term care insurance premiums, certification of long-term care needs, subsidies for home modification for the elderly
	Nursing Care Prevention Section	Community comprehensive support centers, admission to nursing homes for the elderly, support for preventive care for the elderly
Welfare Division	Regional Welfare Section	Needy, public assistance, special child support allowance, medical expense subsidies for the severely physically and mentally handicapped
	Disability Welfare Section	Disability welfare, medical care for services and supports for persons with disabilities, daycare support for children with disabilities
	Children's General Consultation Section	Counseling for children, measures against withdrawal, measures against suicide
Child-rearing Support Division	Nursing Care Section	Entrance and exit from daycare centers, imposition, and collection of user fees
	Child-rearing Support Section	Childcare for school children, child allowance, child support allowance, medical expense subsidies for single parents, child abuse prevention
	Musashigaoka Children's Center	Activities of the Children's Hall (in the Seibu Community Center)
Agricultural Administration Division	Agricultural Administration Section	Agriculture, livestock and forestry promotion, agricultural pest control
	Agricultural Land Management Section	Agricultural land accumulation and intensification, maintenance of agricultural roads and facilities
Commerce and Industry Promotion Division	Commerce and Industry Promotion Section	Commercial and industrial support, business attraction, tourism promotion
	Business Location Support Section	Development of industrial parks, support for business location
Construction Division	Construction Section	Road planning in general, new construction and reconstruction of roads, flood prevention
	Maintenance and Management Section	Maintenance, management, occupancy, collection of rental fees for municipal housing, maintenance of town roads and bridges
City Planning Division	City Planning Section	Determination of urban planning, district planning, seismic retrofit projects for houses and buildings
	Land readjustment section	Rezoning projects, surveying and design
	Public Park Section	Maintenance of parks
Sewer Division	Engineering Section	Sewerage planning, maintenance and management of public sewers, agricultural community drainage, and stormwater control ponds
	Operations Section	Imposition and collection of user fees, management of water meters
Accounting Division	Accounting Section	Cashiering, fund management

Divisions in charge	Name of Sections	Main services
School Affairs Division	General Affairs Section	Teachers' and staffs' service, acquisition and management of educational equipment, appointment and dismissal of school and town-funded employees, and other personnel affairs
	School Education Section	School education, educational consultation, school enrollment administration for students, school enrollment assistance, dispatch of junior high school students overseas
Facility Maintenance Section	Facility Section	Development and maintenance of school facilities
Lifelong Learning Division	Lifelong Learning Section	Social education, promotion of cooperative activities in local schools, coming-of-age ceremony
	Cultural Promotion Section	Promotion of culture and art, protection, and designation of cultural assets
Sports Promotion Division	Sports Promotion Section	Sports promotion, maintenance, and management of the municipal gymnasium
	Gymnasium Section	Management of the gymnasium
Congress Secretariat		Council operation, council public relations, auditing
Agriculture Committee		Permission and notification under the Agricultural Land Law, mediation of agricultural land
Election Commission		Elections, voter education, preparation of voter lists

(2) Hikari no Mori Townspeople Center (Western Branch)

At the Hikari no Mori Townspeople Center, Western Branch Office, various procedures necessary for daily life can be performed. It also handles various notifications and issues various certificates.

【Address】 2-1-1 Hikarinomori, Kikuyo-machi, 869-1108

【Telephone】 096-237-6555

【Business Hours】 Weekdays (From Monday to Friday) 8 : 30-17 : 15

【Available Services】 Family Register, Resident Registration and Residence Certificate, Seal Registration and Certification, Burial and Cremation Permits,



Various Certificates, Notification of National Pension, Notification of National Health Insurance, Social Welfare Affairs (A single-parent family, Child, Elderly, Disabled), Collection of Municipal Taxes and Insurance Premiums, Procedures for Motorized Bicycles, etc.



Western Branch
Office HP

Contact information for the section in charge

General Affairs Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-2111 ✉somu@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

3. Procedures at Kikoyo Town Office

- (1) Resident registration and certificate of residence
- (2) Notification of family register (birth, death, marriage, divorce)
- (3) Seal registration and certificate of seal impression
- (4) National Health Insurance and Late-Stage Senior Citizen's Health Care System
- (5) Nursing care insurance system
- (6) Pension
- (7) Taxes
- (8) Child Medical Expense Subsidies



3– (1) Resident registration and certificate of residence

(1) Resident registration

If you have an address in Kikuyo Town for more than 3 months with the status of residence under the Immigration Control Act, you must register as a resident at the Kikuyo Town Office (Municipal Division or Western Branch Office) within 14 days from the day you start living in the town.

For each case requiring resident registration, please refer to the following table for what is required for the procedure.

Matters requiring resident registration	What is required for the procedure
When moving in from overseas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residence card ※1 ※1 If a residence card has not been issued, a passport stating that a residence card will be issued at a later date is valid. Passport (required for all) Documents showing the relationship of the person moving in (for documents filled out in a foreign language, a Japanese translation with the translator's name and signature is required).
When moving in from a municipality outside the town	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moving-out certificate (issued by the city, ward, town or village where you have been living) Residence card "My Number" [Individual number] card (if you have one)
When moving within the town	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "My Number" [Individual number] card (if you have one) Notification of approval of cohabitation (if there is already someone living at the new address) Documents with the address issued by the town ※2 (if you have one) ※2 National health insurance card, long-term care insurance card, physical disability certificate, etc.
When moving to a municipality outside the town	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residence card "My Number" [Individual number] card (if you have one)

(2) Certificate of residence

After registering as a resident, the following certificates can be obtained.

Certificate type	Contents to be certified / Fee	What is required for the procedure
Certified copy of residence certificate *1 ※1 Certificate for all household members	This document certifies that the applicant lives in Kikuyo Town (registered address, name, date of birth, sex, previous address, etc.). If you wish, you can also prove your residence certification code, "My Number" [individual number], nationality, status of residence, period of stay, and residence card number. <Commission fee> 300 yen per copy	Identification documents (residence card, "My Number" [individual number] card, passport, etc.)
Extract of residence certificate *2 ※2 Certificate of individuals in the same household		

Certificate type	Contents to be certified / Fee	What is required for the procedure
Certified copy of certificate of items entered in the certificate of residence * ¹ ※1 Certificate for all household members	This document certifies a partial excerpt of information from the resident registration. <Commission fee> 300 yen per copy	Identification documents (residence card, “My Number” [individual number] card, passport, etc.)
Extract of certificate of residence * ² ※2 Certificate of individual members of the same household		

Contact information for the section in charge

Municipal Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-4914  chomin@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

3– (2) Notification of family register (birth, death, marriage, divorce)

A family register registers a person's kinship from birth to death. In the following cases, it is necessary to report your family register to the Kikuyo Town Office (Municipal Division or Western Branch Office).

Type of notification	When	What is required for procedure
① Birth notification	Within 14 days from the date of birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birth certificate (issued by hospital, etc.) • Maternal and Child Health Handbook
② Death notification	Within 7 days of learning of death	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Death certificate (prepared by hospital)
③ Marriage registration	When you get married	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (For marriage) Documents certifying the required conditions for marriage as stipulated by the laws of your country or region (issued by embassy or consulate in Japan or in your own country) • Identification documents (Residence card, “My Number” [Individual number] card, passport, etc.) • Certificate of nationality (passport, etc.) • Copy of family register (for Japanese nationals)
④ Divorce notification	When you get divorced	

(Supplementary information) Documents written in a foreign language must be translated into Japanese with the translator's name and signature.


After registered in the family register, certificates can be issued to publicly certify births, deaths, marriages, divorces, kinship, etc.

Certificate type	Contents to be certified	What is required for request
Certificate of all matters registered in the family register (Copy of family register) ※ ¹ ※ ¹ Certificate for all family members	This document certifies the name, date of birth, parents' names and relationship with them, birth, death, marriage, divorce, and other information of the person listed in the family register.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification documents (residence card, “My Number” [Individual number] card, passport, etc.) <p>※ If the “applicant” and the “person listed in the family register” are different, documents showing the relationship between the two must be presented.</p> <p>〈Commission fee〉 450 yen per copy</p>
Certificate of personal matters registered in the family register (extract of family register) ※ ² ※ ² Certificate for one person		
Certificate of acceptance ※ ³ ※ ³ Only the person who has filed the application can make a request.	This document certifies the completion of acceptance of a birth, death, marriage, or divorce registration when it has been submitted and accepted by the town office.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification documents (residence card, “My Number” [Individual number] card, passport, etc.) <p>〈Commission fee〉 350 yen per copy</p>

Certificate type	Contents to be certified	What is required for request
<p>Certificate of the matters stated in the notification form^{※4}</p> <p>※4 A request may be made only under special circumstances.</p>	<p>This document certifies the contents of a birth, death, marriage, or divorce registration form when it has been submitted and accepted by the town office.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification documents (residence card, “My Number” [Individual number] card, passport, etc.) <p>〈Commission fee〉 350 yen per copy</p>

Contact information for the section in charge

Municipal Division, Kikuyo Town Office


☎096-232-4914  chomin@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

3– (3) Seal registration and certificate of seal impression

(1) Seal registration

Seals to be used for contracts and legal procedures are registered. The procedure is carried out at the Kikuyo Town Office (Municipal Division or Western Branch Office).

Foreign nationals may register a seal under the alphabetical name listed in the Basic Resident Registry (registered as a resident). If your name is also written in katakana in the Basic Resident Registry, you can register your seal with the name read in katakana.

Seal Registration Method and Fee	What is required for procedure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The person who registers the seal must complete the procedure at the counter on his/her own. <p>〈Commission fee〉 300 yen per case</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seal to be registered Identification documents ※ (Residence card, “My Number” [Individual number] card, passport, etc.) ※ With a face photo <p>(Seal that cannot be registered)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rubber stamps or easily deformable seals The size of the impression that fits into a square with 8 mm in length on each side or does not fit into a square with 25 mm in length on each side Blurred seal impression

(2) Certificate of seal impression

Upon registration of a seal, the following certificates can be obtained.

Certificate type	Contents to be certified and fee	What is required for request
Certificate of seal registration	<p>This document certifies the registered seal.</p> <p>〈Commission fee〉 300 yen per copy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seal registration card (blue plastic card)



Contact information for the section in charge

Municipal Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-4914 ✉chomin@town.kikuyo.lg.jp




3– (4) National Health Insurance and Late-Stage Senior Citizen's Health Care System

All registered residents in Japan must be covered by one of the following public medical insurance plans. If you are not covered by workplace health insurance, you must go to the Kikuyo Town Office (Health and Insurance Division) to apply for National Health Insurance and pay the National Health Insurance tax.

When you join the National Health Insurance system, you will be issued an insurance card, and if you present your insurance card when you receive medical treatment at a medical institution, you will be partially reimbursed for your medical expenses.

Those aged 75 or older are covered by the Late-Stage Senior Citizen's Health Care System.

〈Three public health insurance plans〉

<p>① Health Insurance</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ This insurance is for people who work for a company, etc., and the procedure must be completed at the place of employment. ■ Please ask your employer for more information.
<p>② National Health Insurance</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Those who are not enrolled in “ ① Health Insurance ” are required to enroll in National Health Insurance. ■ You must complete the enrollment procedures at the town office (Health and Insurance Division) and pay the National Health Insurance tax*. <p>※ For National Health Insurance Tax, please check page 18.</p>
<p>③ Late-Stage Senior Citizen's Health Care System</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ People aged 75 or older are eligible to join. ■ People who are aged 65 or older and have disabilities are also eligible to join. ■ You must complete enrollment procedures at the town office (Health and Insurance Division) and pay premiums for late-stage medical care for the elderly.

〈Subsidy and Refund Procedures〉

Members of ② National Health Insurance and ③ Late-Stage Senior Citizen's Health Care may be eligible to receive subsidies or refunds if they go through the procedures in the following table at the town office (Health and Insurance Division). Identification (driver's license, passport, residence card, etc.) and an insurance card are required for the procedure.


Cases of procedure	Documents required for the procedure
When a child is born	Written agreements with hospitals, receipts, bank books
When a family member dies	Funeral gift certificates, bankbooks

Cases of procedure	Documents required for the procedure
When the money paid to the hospital is too high	Receipts, bank books
With corsets and other therapeutic orthotics that a physician deems necessary	Doctor's note, receipts, bankbook

〈How to pay premiums〉

Premiums can be paid by direct debit from a bank account reported in advance, or at a bank, post office, convenience store, or at the town office using a payment slip sent by the town.

Contact information for the section in charge

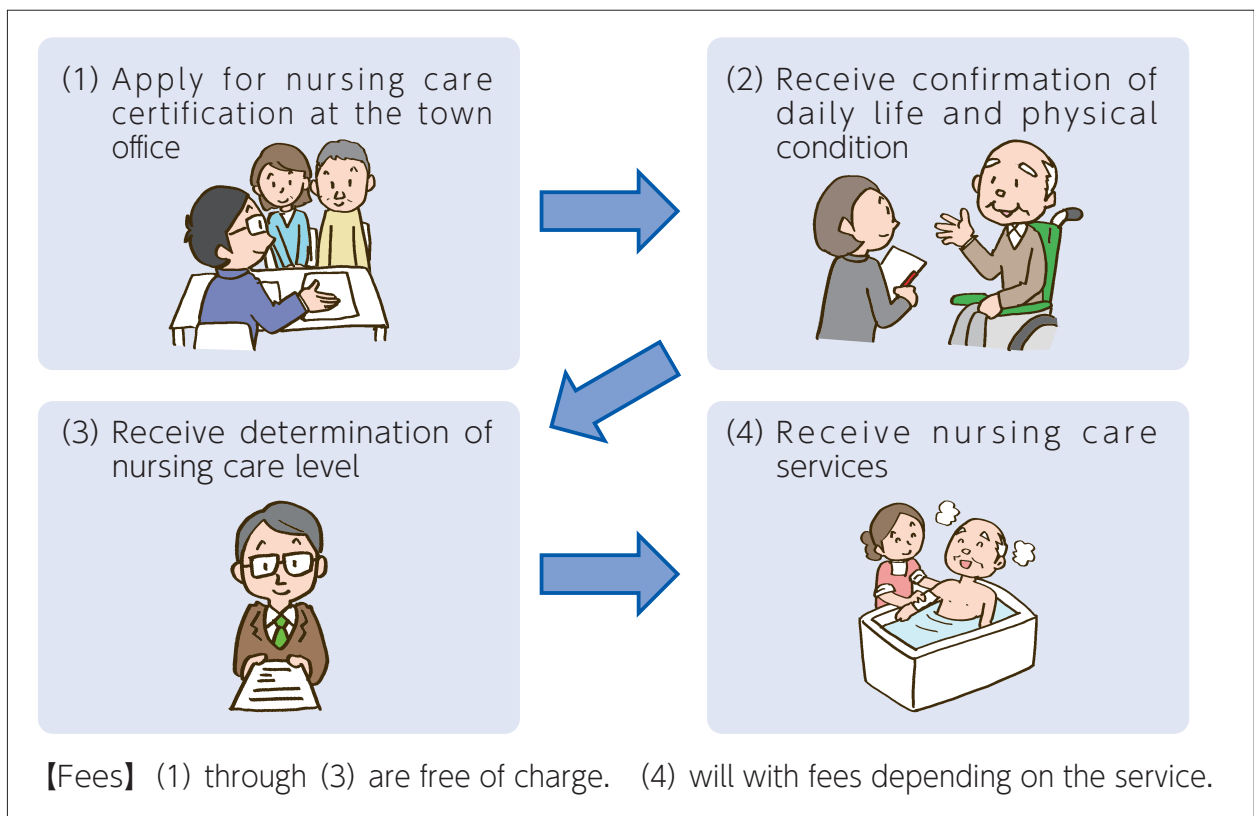
Health and Insurance Division, Kikuyo Town Office
☎096-232-4914  chomin@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

3– (5) Nursing care insurance system

Registered residents of Kikuyo Town aged 65 years and older * can receive nursing care services appropriate for their physical and mental conditions by applying for nursing care certification at the Kikuyo Town Office (Nursing Care Insurance Division) when they need nursing care due to illness or injury.

* Residents aged over 40 years old may also be eligible, depending on the cause of the need for nursing care.

〈Procedure Flow〉



(Example of care services)

- Home caregivers come to the house and help with bathing.
- Install handrails in the hallways of the house.
- Spend time at the facility during the daytime or other times when family members are not present.



Even if you do not apply for long-term nursing care, anyone aged 65 years or older who feels that they have lost their physical fitness should consult with the office. We may be able to refer you to preventive care exercises and other activities.

〈Nursing care insurance premiums〉


All persons aged 65 or older are required to pay long-term nursing care insurance premiums. Premiums should be paid either ① by direct debit from the bank account you have reported or ② with the payment slip sent by the town.

【Place of payment】 Convenience stores, banks, post offices, and town hall

*For details, please inquire at the town office (Nursing Care Insurance Division).

Contact information for the section in charge

Nursing Care Insurance Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-2508  kaigohoken@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

3– (6) Pension

(1) Public pension system

In Japan, people aged 20 to under 60 years old must enroll in the public pension system. Public pensions include the National Pension Plan and Employees' Pension Plan, and insured persons are divided into 3 categories.

〈Types of public pensions and categories of insured persons〉

Category	Insured person No. 1	Insured person No. 2	Insured person No. 3
Types of public pension		Welfare pension (Persons under the age of 70 working for companies or businesses)	
	National pension (basic pension) (All persons aged 20 to under 60 years old)		
(Eligible persons)	Self-employed, agriculture, forestry, fishing, part-time, unemployed, student, etc.	Working at companies, offices, etc.	Dependent spouse of insured person No. 2
Venue for enrollment procedure	Kikuyo Town Office (Health and Insurance Division)	Your workplace	Workplace of insured person No. 2
Items required for the procedure	Please check with the Health and Insurance Division before the procedure. • Documents showing the pension number (such as Pension Handbook, Basic Pension Number Notification) • My number card and passport for people who do not have a pension number	Please check with your workplace before the procedure.	Please check with the workplace of insured person No. 2 before the procedure.
How to pay insurance premiums	Select one of the following payment methods and complete the procedure at the Health and Insurance Division of the town. • Payment slip • Bank transfer • Credit card	Insurance premiums are deducted from salary.	Insurance premiums are deducted from the salary of insured person No. 2.
Others	There are special exceptions to the National Pension Insurance premiums, such as exemptions and payment deferral.		

〈Details of the public pension system and procedures〉

Please check the website by scanning the QR code on the right for details.



Public pension website
(available in 14 languages)

(2) Private pension

Private pensions include corporate pensions and iDeCo, where premiums are paid separately from public pensions, and benefits are provided in addition to public pensions. For more information, check our website by scanning the above QR code.

Contact information for the section in charge

Health and Insurance Division, Kikuyo Town Office
☎096-232-4912 ✉ kokuho@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

3– (7) Taxes

Taxes pay for public services such as health care, roads, education, and police. In order to support each other and build a better society together, we all need to fairly share this cost.



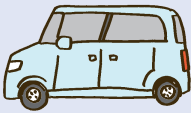
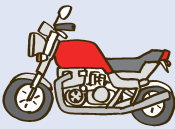
There are two types of taxes: national tax, which is paid to the national government, and local tax, which is paid to Kumamoto Prefecture and Kikuyo Town.

〈Major Taxes〉

Type	Items of taxation	Outline	Contact information
National tax	Income tax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■The government levies tax on individual income from January to December of the current year. ■If you work for a company or business, income tax is deducted from your monthly salary. ■Self-employed and other individuals must submit their tax returns to the tax office between February 16 and March 15. 	Kikuchi Tax Office ☎0968-25-2121
Local taxes	Inhabitant tax ^①	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■Kikuyo Town levies tax on individual income from January to December of the previous year for those who have addresses in the town as of January 1. ■Those who work for a company or business will have resident tax deducted from their monthly salary. ■Income from the previous year must be reported between February 16 and March 15 (not required for those who are self-employed or have filed a tax return, or whose company or business has submitted a payroll report to the town). ■Those who do not have the amount deducted from their salary will receive a payment slip by mail from the town around June, so please pay at a convenience store or at a bank counter. 	Kikuyo Town Hall Tax Division ☎096-232-4911 In charge of ① : Inhabitant Tax Section In charge of ② : Property Tax Section
	National Health Insurance Tax ^①	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■Kikuyo Town levies tax on individual income from January to December of the previous year for National Health Insurance subscribers. ■The taxpayer is the head of the household. The town will mail a payment slip around June, so please pay at a convenience store or at a bank counter. 	
	Property Tax ^②	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■The tax is levied on individuals and corporations that own land, houses, and depreciable assets (e.g., business machinery and equipment) in the town as of January 1. ■Persons operating businesses in the town are required to report their assets as of January 1 to the town by January 31. ■The town will mail a payment slip around May, so please pay at a convenience store or at a bank counter. 	

Type	Items of taxation	Outline	Contact information
	Light Motor Vehicle Tax ^②	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The town levies a tax on people who own light vehicles and motorized bicycles (motorcycles) as of April 1. ■ The town will mail a payment slip around May, so please pay at a convenience store or at a bank counter. ■ In the following cases, license plate procedures are also required (see Appendix). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① When acquiring a vehicle ② When moving in from out of town ③ When moving out of the town ④ When scrapping the vehicle 	<p>Kikuyo Town Hall Tax Division ☎096-232-4911</p> <p>In charge of ② : Property Tax Section</p>
	Automobile Tax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The prefectural government levies a tax on those who own a car as of April 1 (if the car is purchased after April 1, the tax is levied at a monthly rate). ■ The Prefecture will mail a payment slip, so please pay at a convenience store or at a bank. 	<p>Kumamoto Prefectural Motor Vehicle Tax Office ☎096-368-4020</p>

〈Vehicles subject to the Light Motor Vehicle Tax and license plate processing locations〉

Type of Vehicle		Place of procedure
Motorized bicycle (Motorcycle) 	Total displacement: 50cc or less to 125cc or less Three wheels or more: 50cc or less	Kikuyo Town Hall, Tax Division ☎096-232-4911
Small special motor vehicle 	Tractors, combines, and forklifts, etc.	
Light motor vehicle 	Three wheels	Kumamoto Prefecture Light Vehicle Inspection Association 16-3, Higashi-honmachi, Higashi-ku, Kumamoto City ☎050-3816-1758
	Four wheels or more Passenger and cargo (business and private use)	
Compact car 	Motorcycle (over 125cc and 250cc or less)	Kumamoto District Transport Bureau 4-14-35, Higashimachi, Higashi-ku, Kumamoto City ☎050-5540-2086
	Motorcycles (over 250cc)	

〈Other taxes (consumption tax)〉

A 10% consumption tax is imposed on purchases of goods and services in Japan. It is paid together with the payment for goods or services.

Contact information for the section in charge

Tax Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-4911  zeimu@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

3– (8) Child Medical Expense Subsidies

Kikuyo Town subsidizes medical expenses for children aged 0 to 18.

When you visit (or re-visit) a medical institution in Kumamoto Prefecture, submit your “Hikarikko Card” and “Health Insurance Certificate” at the counter of the medical institution to receive free medical care for your child. You can receive a “Hikarikko Card” by going through the procedures at the town office.

〈People eligible〉

Children aged 0 to 18 who are registered residents in Kikuyo town

※ Until March 31st of the first year after turning 18 years old



〈Subject medical expenses〉

Medical expenses covered by insurance

〈“Hikarikko Card” procedure〉

Please bring the child's “insurance card”, the parent's “bankbook” and “personal seal” to the town office.

〈How to receive children's medical expenses when the “Hikarikko Card” is not accepted.〉

If you are hospitalized or visit a medical institution outside Kumamoto Prefecture, please pay the medical expenses temporarily at the counter of the medical institution (you cannot use your “Hikarikko Card”).

Later, you can receive subsidies for medical expenses by going through the procedures at the town office.

- The procedure must be completed within one year from the following month following of when the medical treatment was provided.
- Please bring your “hospital receipt” and personal seal.
- Child medical expenses are calculated on a monthly basis.



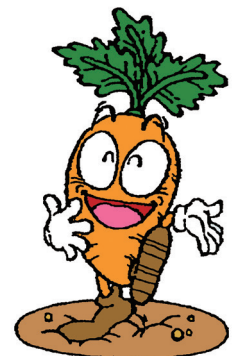
Contact information for the section in charge

Health and Insurance Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-4912  kokuho@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

4. Things you can consult in the Kikuyo Town Office

- (1) Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Child-Rearing
(Maternal and Child Health Handbook)
- (2) Admission to Daycare Centers and Certified Kindergartens
- (3) Admission and Transfer to and out of Elementary and Junior High Schools
- (4) Start and end of Water Usage
- (5) How to Dispose of Garbage
- (6) Health checkups and vaccinations
- (7) Municipal Housing
- (8) Taxes
- (9) Japanese Language Classes
- (10) Everyday Etiquette and Problems in the Community
- (11) Unemployment, illness, or other hardship
- (12) Suffering violence from a partner or a lover...



4– (1) Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Child-Rearing (Maternal and Child Health Handbook)

(1) When pregnant

- ① If you notice that you are pregnant, please visit a medical institution (obstetrics and gynecology).
- ② Receive a “Pregnancy Notification Form ”※¹ at a medical institution (OB/GYN) and report your pregnancy to the Kikuyo Town Office (Health and Insurance Division).
 - ※ 1 If you cannot receive it at a medical institution (OB/GYN), you can pick it up at the town office.
- ③ Receive the Maternal and Child Health Handbook ※² and the Pregnancy Health Examination Receipt at the town office.
 - ※ 2 The Maternal and Child Health Handbook (MCH Handbook) contains information on precautions to be taken during pregnancy and childbirth, and is used to record the baby's health checkups and immunizations. Please do not lose it.
- ④ By notifying the town office of your pregnancy, you can receive advice from public health nurses, midwives, and nurses to ensure a safe birth.



(2) When the baby is born

Please report the birth to the town office (Municipal Division or the Western Branch Office) ※³ within 14 days of the birth (for details, please refer to 3–(2) Family Register (9 page)).

- ※ 3 If the baby is delivered at a medical institution (OB/GYN) outside of the town, the birth can be reported to the municipality where the medical institution is located.

If you are concerned about your health or have problems raising your child after giving birth, you can consult with the Health and Insurance Division of the town office.



(3) Infant health checkups and childcare consultation

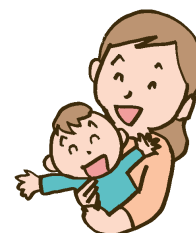
① Infant Health Examination

We provide “health checkups (physical measurements, medical examinations, health consultations, nutritional consultations, dental consultations, etc.)” at milestones in the growth of children. There are 3-4 month checkups, 6-7 month checkups, 1 year and 6 month checkups, and 3 year checkups, and those eligible for these checkups will be notified individually. In addition, we also offer seminars for one-year-olds.

② Childcare Counseling

“Sukoyaka Childcare Counseling” is held once a month for children under one year old. In the following cases, please do not worry alone, but feel free to consult with us.

- You have concerns about your child's development
- You have a problem with childcare
- You have concerns about baby food or teeth



Contact information for the section in charge

Health and Insurance Division, Kikuyo Town Office
☎096-232-4912 ✉kokuho@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

4– (2) Admission to Daycare Centers and Certified Kindergartens

The following table shows facilities that take care of children before elementary school age who need childcare because their parents are working, or for other reasons. Applications for admission and enrollment in the facility will be accepted through town's newsletter and website.

If you wish to enroll your child in a childcare center, please consult with the Kikuyo Town Office (Child-rearing Support Division).

Facility Classification	Child's age (Age as of April 1)	Office Hours (Monday-Friday)	Office Hours (Saturday)
Nursery school	0-5 years old	7 : 00-19 : 00	7 : 00-18 : 00
Certified childcare center (nursery portion)			
Small-scale nursery school	0-2 years old	7 : 00-19 : 00	7 : 00-18 : 00
Nursery school within an office		7 : 00-19 : 00 7 : 30-19 : 30 ※ Depends on the facility.	7 : 00-18 : 00 7 : 30-18 : 30 ※ Depends on the facility.
Family daycare center		8 : 30-16 : 30 9 : 00-17 : 00 ※ Depends on the facility.	—

〈Reasons for receiving childcare〉

In order to use a daycare center, etc., the parent or guardian must meet the following requirements.

- ☐ Working ☐ Pregnancy/Childbirth ☐ Disease/Disability ☐ Care/Nursing
☐ Job seeking ☐ Studying ☐ Disaster/Recovery

〈Costs for using daycare centers, etc.〉

For children aged 0 to 2 years old who use daycare centers, etc., monthly daycare fees must be paid (daycare fees for children aged 3 to 5 years old are free of charge).

The amount of the childcare fee is determined based on the parent's income.

In addition to the childcare fee, payments are required for lunch, extended day care, and educational materials.

〈Application procedures for admission to daycare centers, etc.〉

If you wish to use a daycare center, you will need to apply for admission, so please contact the section in charge below.

If there are no vacancies at daycare centers, etc., the child will not be able to use the daycare center, etc.

〈Other child care facilities〉


For children aged 3 to 5 who do not fall under the reason for receiving childcare, they may enroll in certified kindergartens (kindergarten portion) and kindergartens.

Please apply for admission at each facility. For contact information for each facility, please contact

- ① Certified kindergartens (kindergarten portion) in the town: Contact the Kikuyo Town Office (Child-rearing Support Division)
- ② Kindergartens: Neighboring municipal offices

Contact information for the section in charge

Child-rearing Support Section, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-2202  kosodateshien@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

4– (3) Admission and Transfer to and out of Elementary and Junior High Schools

(1) Admission

A “Letter of Admission” is sent around December to families who have children entering elementary or junior high schools in Kikuyo the following academic year (the following April). Families who move to Kikuyo after the “Letter of Admission” has been distributed should collect the letter at the School Affairs Division after completing all moving-in procedures at the Municipal Division of the Kikuyo Town Office.

- Please ensure your child is carrying the “Letter of Admission” on the day of the school entrance ceremony.
- The school will inform you about the details of the entrance ceremony in late February or early March.



(2) Transferring to schools

Families who move to Kikuyo in the middle of the school year and would like to transfer their child to an elementary or junior high school in Kikuyo will have to apply for a “school transfer” at the School Affairs Division after completing all moving-in procedures at the Municipal Division of the Kikuyo Town Office.

- The procedure for transferring schools will be explained at the School Affairs Division.
- Please inform the School Affairs Division before you visit Kikuyo Town Hall for the procedures.



(3) Transferring out of schools

Families who move out of Kikuyo will have to apply for a “school transfer” at the School Affairs Division after completing all moving-out procedures at the Municipal Division of the Kikuyo Town Hall.

- The procedure for transferring schools will be explained at the School Affairs Division.
- Please inform the School Affairs Division before you visit Kikuyo Town Office for the procedures.



Contact information for the section in charge

School Affairs Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-4918  gakumu@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

4 – (4) Start and end of Water Usage

(1) Start using the water supply

To start using the water supply, contact the Ozu Kikuyo Waterworks Corporation by phone or by using the input form on the website for the following items ① to ④.

〈What to tell over the phone〉

- ① Name of water service subscriber (name on bill)
- ② Address where water service will be used (apartment name and even room number)
- ③ Beginning date of water service (please contact us before beginning use)
- ④ Contact information (if the applicant wishes to have the bill sent to a different address, please provide the address)

〈Examples of conversations〉

Subscriber : “I just moved here and want to use the water system.”

Waterworks Corporation :

“What is the name of the person subscribing for water service?”

Subscriber : “The subscriber's name is ●●●●.”

Waterworks Corporation :

“Please give me the address where you are using the water service.”

Subscriber : “Room XXX, Apartment YYYY, XX-XX, Kikuyo-machi”.

Waterworks Corporation :

“When will you start using the water service?”

Subscriber : “I would like to start using the water supply from xxxx day of xxxx month.”



- After notification of the start of use, Ozu Kikuyo Waterworks Corporation will mail documents to you, so please notify the post office of your address.



Start of water use
contact HP

(2) Stop using the water supply

If you wish to stop using the water supply, please contact us at least one week before you move out by phone or by filling out the form on our website with the following information: ① to ④.

〈What to tell over the phone〉

- ① Name of water service subscriber (name on bill)
- ② Address where water service will be stopped (apartment name and even room number)
- ③ Ending date of water service
- ④ Address where you will be moving (where refund fees will be sent)



End of water
use Contact HP

Contact Information for Startup and shutdown of water supply system

Ozu Kikuyo Waterworks Corporation Sales Department

(Reception Hours) Weekdays 8:30-17:15

☎096-293-7711 ✉eigyou@ookiku-water.or.jp

4 – (5) How to Dispose of Garbage

〈Rules for Garbage Disposal〉 ※ Violations will result in the garbage not being collected.

- ① Please separate garbage correctly and put it in the designated bags of Kikuyo Town. Designated garbage bags are available at supermarkets and convenience stores in town.
- ② Please put out your garbage at the garbage station designated by the community by 8:30 a.m. on the garbage collection day. Garbage collection days are determined by the district, so be sure to check the garbage calendar or the town website.

〈Garbage Collection Districts〉

Each administrative district in which you live has different garbage collection days. Be sure to check the collection district.

Collection district	Subject Administrative Districts	Combustible Garbage	Incombustible Garbage	Empty cans Empty bottles	Newspapers Flyers Magazines Books	Cloths Cardboards Milk cartons	Plastic bottles	Plastics	Oversized Garbage
			Specified items						4 types of home appliance
A	Sanrigi, Aobadai, Higashigaoka, Hikari no Mori 1-7 townships, Musashigaoka 1-8 townships,	Every week Tuesday, Friday	1st Wednesday of each month	3rd Monday of each month	4th Monday of each month	2nd Monday of each month	1st Monday of each month	Every Wednesday	2nd Thursday of each month
B	Okino, Shinyama, Kita-Shinyama, Sakainomatsu, Shinsei, Suginamidai, Hachikubo, Minami Hachikubo, Nijinomori, Hanatate, Minami Hanatate, Koyodai	Every week Tuesday, Friday	2nd Wednesday of each month	3rd Thursday of each month	4th Thursday of each month	2nd Monday of each month	1st Monday of each month	Every Wednesday	2nd Thursday of each month
C	Shimobaru, Tsukuregaoka, Asahigaoka, Miyanoue, Hibarigaoka, Midorigaoka, Ryokuyodai, Hikaridanchi, Ekimae, Shinmachi, Shinmachi-Nishi, Sanrigi-Kita	Every week Monday, Thursday	3rd Wednesday of each month	3rd Tuesday of each month	4th Tuesday of each month	2nd Tuesday of each month	1st Tuesday of each month	Every Wednesday	2nd Friday of each month

Collection district	Subject Administrative Districts	Combustible Garbage	Incombustible Garbage	Empty cans Empty bottles	Newspapers Flyers Magazines Books	Cloths Cardboards Milk cartons	Plastic bottles	Plastics	Oversized Garbage
			Specified items						4 types of home appliance
D	Totsugi, Babagusu, Magate, Karakawa, Iguchi, Domyou, Kamichudai, Debun, Chudai, Kawakubo, Tsuru, Ohoriki, Nakao, Minamigata, Baba, Yanagimizu, Nyudomizu, Kogabaru, Teppo Koji, Nagatsuka, Kamitsukure, Shimotsukure	Every week Monday, Thursday	4th Wednesday of each month	3rd Friday of each month	4th Friday of each month	2nd Tuesday of each month	1st Tuesday of each month	Every Wednesday	2nd Friday of each month

〈How to dispose of oversized garbage waste and four home appliances〉

- ① Reservation It should be made by phone or online at least 2 days before the collection date, preferably 1 week in advance.
Environmental Life Division ☎ : 096-232-2114
- ② Attach stickers Purchase an oversized garbage sticker from a retailer for 500 yen each. And, attach the required number of stickers. In case of the 4 types of home appliance, purchase a Recycling Ticket at the Post Office.
- ③ Put out the garbage Please put out the oversized garbage in front of the entrance of your house or apartment building by 8:30 a.m. on the collection day.

〈Websites for garbage disposal〉





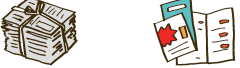




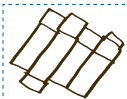

















← Garbage Collection calendar



← List of stores where designated garbage bags and stickers for oversized garbage are available

How to separate garbage

Type of Garbage	what can be disposed	Note
Combustible garbage (Red designated garbage bags)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●kitchen waste ●twigs ●Leather goods ●Rubber goods ●Plastic products (without plastic mark) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drain water from food wastes.
Incombustibles, small hardware, small waste home appliances (Yellow designated garbage bags)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Metal products ●Ceramics & Glass ●Small waste homeappliances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always write your name on the bag.
Specified items. (Transparent bag)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Discarded dry cell and button cell batteries ●Lighter, Long lighter ●Spray can, Cassette (Gas Cartridge) cylinder ●Mercury thermometer, Mercury sphygmomanometer ●Red ink pad 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate the bag for each item. • Spray cans for painting cannot be disposed.
Recyclables (Green designated garbage bags)		
Resource A Empty cans, Empty bottles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Aluminum can ●Steel can ●Empty bottle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash before disposal
Resource C Newspapers, Flyers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Newspapers ●Flyers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep from the rain.
Resource D Magazines, Books, Other paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Magazines, Books, Other paper ●Empty box ●Envelope 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep from the rain.
Resource E Cloths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Towels ●Used clothes ●Blankets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing that contains cotton or leather should be disposed with combustible garbage.
Resource F (Corrugated) Cardboards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Cardboard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep from the rain.
Resource G Milk cartons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Milk cartons ●Paper baggage  <div style="border: 1px dashed blue; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">  </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash, open, and dry before disposal^(*)
Resource H Plastic bottles (clear plastic beverage bottle)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Bottles with PET mark ●Soft drink bottles ●Seasoning bottles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispose caps and labels as Resource J.

Type of Garbage	what can be disposed	Note
Resources J Plastic containers, Food trays, Styrofoam	●Plastic containers  ●Food trays  ●Styrofoam 	• If stains cannot be removed, dispose as combustible garbage.
Oversized garbage ※ Reservations required. (Oversized garbage stickers)	●Bed  ●Chest of drawers  ●Desk  ●Sofa  ●Bicycle 	• Book in advance • Oversized garbage stickers required
4 types of home appliance ※ Reservations required. (Oversized garbage stickers, home appliance recycling tickets)	●TV  ●Air-conditioner  ●Refrigerators and freezers  ●Washing machine, Dryer 	• Book in advance • Oversized garbage stickers required • Need a home appliance recycling ticket.
Waste cooking oil, waste fluorescent tubes (Collected at each community center)	●Fluorescent tubes(uncracked)  ●Waste cooking oil 	

Contact information for the section in charge

Environmental Life Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-2114 ✉ kankyoseikatsu@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

4 – (6) Health checkups and vaccinations

1. Health checkups and medical examinations

(1) Comprehensive health checkups and cancer screenings

Comprehensive health checkup is a set of specific medical checkups focusing on metabolic syndrome and cancer screenings for the purpose of preventing lifestyle-related diseases.

You may also have multiple choices of cancer screening without taking the specific medical checkups.

Item		Target group	How to apply
Specific medical checkup		Members of the national health insurance for the aged 40-74 or the medical insurance system for the elderly aged 75 or older	
Cancer screening	Stomach cancer screening (bone fluoroscopy)	40-year-olds or older	<p>■ The Kikuyo Town Office will send an information letter to the eligible persons.</p> <p>■ Please complete the application procedure by mail or via the Internet.</p>
	Abdominal ultrasonography		
	Lung cancer screening		
	Colorectal cancer screening (stool examination)		
	cervical cancer screening	Women aged 30 or older	
	Breast cancer screening (echo)	Women in their 30s	
	Breast cancer screening (mammography)	Women aged 40 or older	
	Osteoporosis screening	Women aged 30 or older	
	Prostate cancer (PSA) test	Men aged 40 or older	

(2) Other medical examinations, etc.

Examination items	Target group	How to apply
Complete medical checkup	Members of the national health insurance for the aged 30 or older or the medical insurance system for the elderly aged 75 or older	<p>■ Please complete the application procedures at the town office (Health and Insurance Division).</p> <p>■ You can choose the health checkup institution and course you want.</p>
Cervical cancer screening at medical institution	Women aged 20 or older	<p>■ Women in their 20s do not need to complete the application procedure. A medical examination form will be sent from the town office.</p> <p>■ For women aged 30 or older, an information letter will be sent from the town office. Please complete the application procedure by mail or via the Internet.</p>
Dental and oral health examination	Members of the medical insurance system for the elderly aged 75 or older	<p>■ Please make an appointment with a commissioned medical institution in the town before visiting the clinic.</p> <p>■ You will need a medical examination ticket (distributed with your insurance card) when you visit the clinic.</p>

Examination items	Target group	How to apply
Periodontal disease examination	40, 50, 60, 70-year-olds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An information letter will be sent from the town office. Please make an appointment with a commissioned medical institution in the town before visiting the clinic.
Helicobacter pylori test	40-year-olds or older who have never been tested for Helicobacter pylori (subject to exclusions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please complete the application procedures at the town office (Health and Insurance Division) or by phone.

2. Vaccinations

(1) Vaccinations for children

Vaccinations are designed to build immunity (antibodies) against diseases and are one of the most effective means of protecting lives from infectious diseases. Please read carefully the instructions in the vaccination handbook and other materials distributed by the town, and vaccinate your child when he/she is in good physical condition.

〈Regular vaccinations〉

Name of vaccination (vaccine)	Target age	Vaccination method and cost
Rotarix	6 to 24 weeks after birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information will be sent from the town office when the time for vaccination is approaching.^{※1} ※1 Information on cervical cancer prevention is sent to students in their first year of junior high school and first year of high school. Please get vaccinated at designated medical institutions. Please bring your Maternal and Child Health Handbook and preliminary examination form^{※2} with you at the time of vaccination. ※2 The preliminary examination form will be sent home from the town office at the end of the month following the birth of the child. If you have moved in from another municipality or lost your form, please contact the town office (Health and Insurance Division). No cost for vaccinations^{※3} ※3 After the eligible age, the full amount must be paid.
Rotateq	6 to 32 weeks after birth	
Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b)	2 months to under 5 years old	
Pediatric streptococcus pneumoniae	2 months to under 5 years old	
Hepatitis B	Less than 1 year old	
Quadruple vaccine (diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, inactivated polio)	2 months to under 7 years and 6 months	
BCG	Less than 1 year old	
MR (measles-rubella combination)	1st term: 1 to under 2 years old 2nd term: one year before entering elementary school	
Varicella (chickenpox)	1 to under 3 years old	
Japanese encephalitis	1st term: 6 months to under 7 years and 6 months 2nd term: 9 to under 13 years old	
Dual vaccine (DT: diphtheria and tetanus)	11 to under 13 years old	
Cervical cancer prevention (HPV)	Girls from the first day of the school year in which they turn 12 years old to the last day of the school year in which they turn 16 years old	

〈Arbitrary vaccinations〉

Type	Target age	Vaccination method and cost
Influenza	6 months to under 13 years old (2 times) Children aged 13 years or older (1 time)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A notice will be posted in the public relations and on the website, so please complete the application procedures at the designated medical institution on your own. ■ Vaccination cost is 1,900 yen per dose

(2) Vaccinations for adults

Type	Target group	Remarks
Influenza	Adults under 65 years old (1 time) Adults 65 years and older (1 time)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A notice will be posted in the public relations and on the website, so please complete the application procedures at the designated medical institution on your own. ■ Vaccination cost is 1,900 yen for those under 65 and 1,400 yen for those 65 and older.
Pneumococcus for adults	65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100-year-olds who have never been vaccinated in the past	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Eligible persons will be notified individually. ■ Vaccination cost is 3,200 yen

Contact information for the section in charge

Health and Insurance Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-4912 ✉kenkohoken@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

4– (7) Municipal Housing

Municipal housing is built for people from the low-income who are having trouble finding affordable housing. There are requirements for moving in, and rent is divided into 8 categories, ranging from 7,900 to 53,100 yen according to income and family composition of the resident household. The rent is revised annually based on the financial situation, etc., of the household.

〈Eligibility (application requirements)〉

Persons who meet all of the following requirements are eligible to apply for municipal housing:

- ① Your address or place of work is in Kikuyo Town.
- ② You have relatives living together with you (Elderly and disabled persons may apply as single residents)
- ③ The monthly income of your household is less than the following criteria

General household (principle)	158,000 yen or less
Households having persons with physical disabilities or elementary school /preschool children, households where all members are 60 years old or older, etc (*Please discuss your household situation accordingly)	214,000 yen or less



- ④ You do not have tax arrears in Kikuyo Town or the municipality where you currently live
- ⑤ It is clear that you are currently having trouble finding affordable housing
- ⑥ There is no member of an organized crime group in your household

〈List of municipal housing〉

Housing complex name	所在地
Hikari danchi	846 Haramizu, Kikuyo
Kogabaru danchi	3509 Haramizu, Kikuyo
Chudai danchi	829 Kubota, Kikuyo
Baba danchi	4664, 4665, 4666-2, Haramizu, Kikuyo
Nyudomizu danchi	3963-1 Haramizu, Kikuyo
Aobadai danchi	2400 Tsukure, Kikuyo
Shimobarukita danchi	2816 Kubota, Kikuyo
Shimobaru danchi	2714, 2716-3 Kubota, Kikuyo
Haramizu danchi	2137 Haramizu, Kikuyo



Municipal housing
website

* For further information, please check the website via the QR code.


〈Sign-up process〉

- Information on vacant housing units is announced on the public relations and the website as soon as they are available.
- You must complete the application procedure if you wish to move in. For detailed information on the procedure, please get in touch with the relevant department mentioned below.



Contact information for the section in charge

Construction Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-2115  kensetsu@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

4 – (8) Taxes

〈Tax Payment Consultation〉

“Tax consultation” is available for inhabitant taxes, property taxes, light motor vehicle taxes, and national health insurance tax payable to Kikuyo Town.

If you have difficulties paying by the due date, please call or consult with the Kikuyo Town Office (Tax Division) as soon as possible.

For those who cannot come to the Kikuyo Town Hall during its opening hours (weekdays from 8:30 to 17:15) for tax consultation, an evening consultation service is available.



〈Evening Tax Consultation〉


By 9:00 p.m. on the last day of each month (or the preceding weekday if the last day of the month falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday)※.

※ Schedules are subject to change, so please call or e-mail the town office (tax division) in advance to confirm if you would like an evening consultation.



Contact information for the section in charge

Tax Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-4911  zeimu@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

4 – (9) Japanese Language Classes

We offer courses for foreigners living in Kikuyo Town to learn about Japanese culture and simple Japanese for daily life. Attend a course and make friends and colleagues.

〈Period of implementation〉

Please check the Kikuyo Town website for the period when the courses are held, which varies from year to year.



Town website

〈How to apply〉

Please contact the Kikuyo Town Central Community Center.

〈Location〉

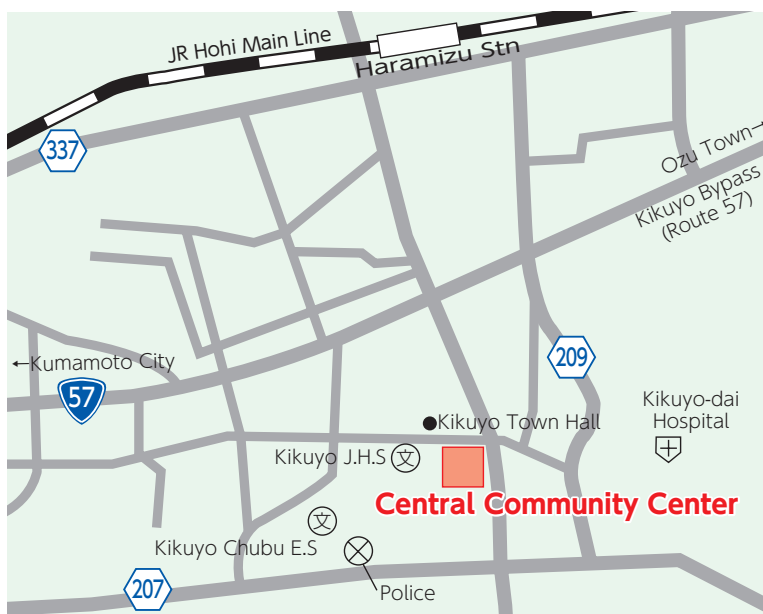
Kikuyo Town Central Community Center (2598 Kubota, Kikuyo Town, 869-1103)



(Image of the course)

〈Contents〉

- The students can learn simple Japanese language such as greetings, and things necessary for living in Kikuyo Town such as work, shopping, taking out garbage, and hospital care.
- The course will be taught in a group with interactions.



We also offer “Easy Japanese language classes” for Japanese people living in Kikuyo Town so that they can communicate with foreign residents in their daily lives in the community.

We will support foreign residents living in the town so that they can live safely in the community.

Contact information for the section in charge

Kikuyo Town Central Community Center

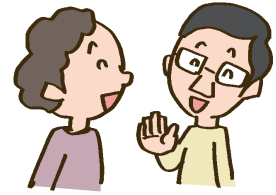
☎096-232-2116 ✉kominkan@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

4– (10) Everyday Etiquette and Problems in the Community

The rules and etiquette of everyday life differ between Japan and other countries. Learning Japanese rules and etiquette will help you live trouble-free in the community.

(1) Communicate with local people

Make an effort to interact with the people in your local community. For example, it is important to help each other in times of disaster. Make it a habit to greet and communicate with them regularly, such as saying “Good morning” and “Hello”.



(2) Do not disturb your neighbors (be careful of noise)

Houses in Japan are built close to each other, so loud noises can be a nuisance to the neighborhood. Avoid talking loudly, making loud noises, or listening to the TV and music at a high volume.



(3) Etiquette in shared spaces

Do not leave objects in shared spaces such as corridors and stairs of condominiums and apartments. During a disaster such as an earthquake or fire, your luggage may be in the way and prevent safe evacuation.

(4) Waiting and queuing

In Japan, the rule is to wait in line for your turn. If there are multiple bank ATMs or toilets, please line up and go to the available one after the other in front of you has finished. Cutting in line and using a facility first is against the rules.



(5) Do not make a racket or mess in public spaces

Public spaces include places that many people use, such as parks and libraries, and public transportation, such as buses and trains. When using public spaces, try not to disturb others, and do not make loud noises or throw away the garbage. Also, refrain from talking on your cell phone.

(6) Tobacco etiquette

As a general rule, smoking indoors is prohibited. Please use designated smoking areas if you wish to smoke indoors. Also, do not walk while smoking or throw away cigarette butts when smoking outdoors. Smoking outdoors in crowded areas or when it is windy is also dangerous.

(7) Keep the town clean

Garbage should not be disposed of outdoors. Please dispose of garbage on the designated date and place for your area. Let us all strive to preserve the cleanliness of Kikuyo.

(8) Carrying dangerous articles is prohibited

You cannot carry knives or other sharp or dangerous articles, even for your protection. Possession of such objects is punishable by law.

Contact information for the section in charge

Crisis Management and Disaster Prevention Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-2110 ✉ bousai@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

4– (11) Unemployment, illness, or other hardship

When unemployment or illness causes a sudden loss of income and assistance is needed to eat, dress, get around, or otherwise meet normal daily needs, assistance is available. Counseling is free of charge. Please do not hesitate to contact us for assistance.

(1) Kikuyo Town of Social Welfare

We provide counseling and support to people who are experiencing difficulties in their daily lives for various reasons.

Those who are experiencing difficulties in their daily life such as job, housing, living expenses, children/family, etc. should first consult with the Kikuyo Town Council of Social Welfare.

■ Food Bank Activities

We distribute food and basic necessities to those in need.



■ Children's Cafeteria

Groups and places that provide hot meals on an irregular basis to children and parents in need.



■ Livelihood and Welfare Fund Loans

The Kumamoto Prefectural Council of Social Welfare provides loans and necessary counseling and support so that low-income, elderly, and disabled people can lead stable lives. The program promotes self-reliance among the needy.

(2) Kikuyo Town Hall, Welfare Division

We provide counseling and protection to those in need to help them become self-sufficient in their daily lives. In order to receive public assistance, you must meet the eligibility requirements, so please first contact the Town Hall (Welfare Section).

■ Livelihood Protection

Provides necessary protection to those who are unable to live on their own income and assets, depending on the extent of their need, to ensure a minimum standard of health and cultural living and to promote self-sufficiency.

Contact information for the section in charge

Welfare Division, Kikuyo Town Office ☎096-232-4913 ✉fukushi@town.kikuyo.lg.jp
Kikuyo Town of Social Welfare ☎096-232-4832 ✉info@swkikuyo.or.jp

4– (12) Suffering violence from a partner or a lover...

(1) Violence from a partner or a lover

Domestic Violence (DV) is when a person in an intimate relationship, such as a partner or a lover, uses violence against you. Violence includes not only physical harm, but also emotional, economic, and sexual violence.

If you are experiencing violence and are concerned, do not suffer alone. In case of emergency, do not hesitate to call the police! (dial “110”)

〈Types and Examples of Violence〉


Physical Harm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throwing things • Throwing an object at a person • Pointing a knife at someone • Pulling hair, choking, etc.
Emotional Harm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shouting at the victim, making abusive remarks that deny his/her personality. • Not talking to you no matter what you say, or ignoring you for a long time. • Pretends to hit you or throw things to threaten you, breaks things. • Use force in presence of a child. • Threaten you by saying to hurt a child. • Monitoring phone calls and e-mails closely. • Restricting on friendships or outings, etc.
Economic oppression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not give money for living expenses • Always makes his/her partner pay for the date • Not returning money borrowed.
Sexual Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forcing sexual acts or naked pictures • Forcing them to watch pornographic videos or magazines even though they do not want to watch them. • Forcing abortion, not cooperating with contraception, etc.



〈Consulting Service〉

Consulting Organization	Reception Hours	Telephone No.
Kikuyo Town Sanrigi community Center	Weekdays 8:30-17:15	☎096-232-5536
Kumamoto Women's Consultation Center	Weekdays 8:30-17:15	☎096-381-7110
Ozu Police Station, Kumamoto Prefecture	Weekdays 8:30-17:15	☎096-294-0110

(2) Measures to protect victims from domestic violence, etc.


Support measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ In order to protect victims of domestic violence, stalking, child abuse, etc., the measures restricts perpetrators from obtaining a certificate of residence and a copy of the family register to find out the victim's address.■ In order to receive the measures, you must apply to the Kikuyo Town Municipality Government Office (Townspeople Section). Please contact the Townspeople Section first.
Other Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Assistance is available for foreign victims of domestic violence, including temporary protection and change of residence status. 

Contact information for the section in charge

Municipal Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-4914  chomin@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

Children's General Consultation Section, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-1117  kodomo-sodan@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

5. Public facilities and transportation available in Kikuyo Town

- (1) Library and Hall
- (2) Gymnasium and Fitness Gym
- (3) Community Centers
- (4) Town bus “Carroppi” and shared taxi services



5– (1) Library and Hall

The library is open to everyone. You can borrow books free of charge and read magazines and newspapers in the library.

The hall attached to the library also hosts events and other activities.

Library website



〈Using Procedure〉

- Before borrowing a book, please make a library card.
- When making a card, you will need an ID card ("My Number" [Individual Number] card, residence card, driver's license, etc.) with your name, date of birth and address on it.



How to get to the library and halls

〈Borrowing and Returning Books〉

Borrowing	Bring the book you wish to borrow to the counter and present your card.
Return	Bring your books to the counter. No card is required.

〈The number of books a person can borrow and the borrowing period〉

Subject	Number of items you can borrow	Borrowing period
Books, magazines, picture story shows ※ 1	Up to 10 items	15 days
CD, DVD	Up to 2 items	8 days

※ 1 Some books cannot be borrowed. The most recent magazines are not available for borrowing.

〈Facilities〉

	Library	Hall
Address	1438-1 Haramizu, Kikuyo Town (next to Suginamiki Park)	
Closed days	Tuesdays, third Wednesday of each month, and year-end and New Year holidays (December 29-January 3) ※ 2	
	※ 2 The library will also be closed on book inspection days. Please check our website.	
Opening hours	10 : 00-18 : 00 ※ 3 ※ 3 Thursday 10:00-20:00	10 : 00-22 : 00 ※ 4 ※ 4 Days with no events, etc. until 18:00
Facility Overview	Approximately 170,000 books	480 seats, can be used as a conference hall
Inside the buildings		

Contact information for the section in charge

Kikuyo Town Library ☎096-232-0404 ☐ office-003@kikuyo-lib.jp
Hall ☎096-232-7756

5– (2) Gymnasium and Fitness Gym

In Kikuyo Town, you can use physical education facilities and fitness gyms to enjoy sports and improve your health. It can be used for events and recreation as well as trainings at low cost.

〈Gymnasium〉



- Facilities can be reserved at two months before at the earliest.
- Please check the availability of facilities on the dedicated website or by calling the respective office.



Facility website

Facility Name	Usage Rules
<p>① Townspeople Gymnasium</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please apply at the Central Community Center (no phone calls are accepted). • Hours of operation: 8:30-22:00 (Closed on Dec. 28-Jan. 4) • Parking lot: 70 cars • The use categories are: full court, volleyball court (2 courts), basketball court (2 courts), badminton court (2 courts), table tennis court (6 courts) • Fees range from 160 to 420 yen per hour, depending on usage category.  <p>Citizens' Gymnasium website</p>
<p>② Hikari no Mori Townspeople Center Gymnasium ☎096-237-6577</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please apply at the center's office (no phone calls are accepted). • Hours of operation: 8:30-22:00 • Parking lot: approx. 100 cars • The use categories are: full court, volleyball court (1 court), basketball court (1 court), badminton court (2 courts), table tennis court (half of the gymnasium space) • Fees range from 160 to 420 yen per hour, depending on usage category.  <p>Hikari no Mori Townspeople Center Gymnasium website</p>
<p>General gymnasium (Preparing to open)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open in October 2023 (scheduled) • It can be used as a shelter in the event of a disaster. • Please check the website for more information after the opening. 

〈Fitness Gym〉

Facility Name	Usage Rules
<p>③ Health promotion facility Ninjim (Inside the Sanfurea General Exchange Terminal) ☎096-232-8690</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fitness center is open to everyone. • In addition to treadmills and aerobics, we have a variety of training machines. • The studio offers yoga and Pilates programs, which can be used from a single session. • Hours of operation: 9:30-22:30 (until 19:00 on Sundays and holidays) • Closed on Tuesdays (open if Tuesday is a national holiday) 

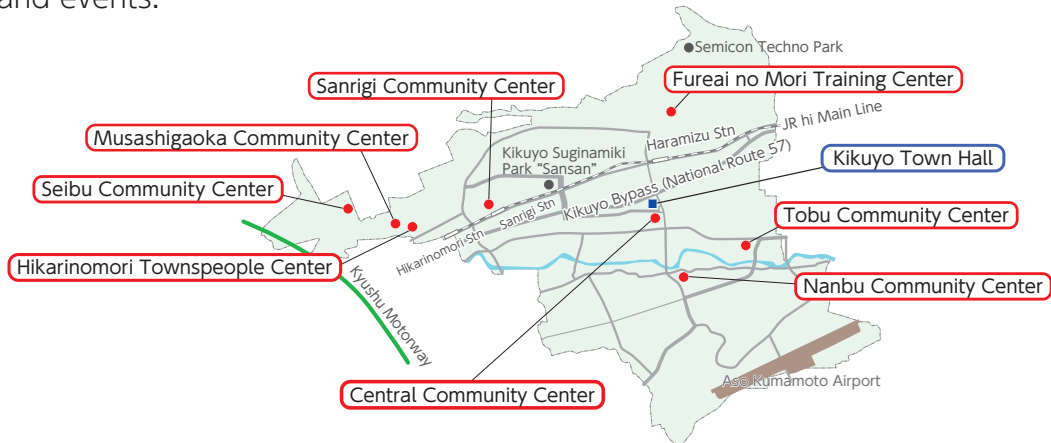
Contact information for the section in charge

Kikuyo Town Office

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ① Sports Promotion Division | ☎096-288-7877 | ✉ sports@town.kikuyo.lg.jp |
| ② Hikari no Mori Townspeople Center | ☎096-237-6577 | ✉ shisho@town.kikuyo.lg.jp |
| ③ Agricultural Administration Division | ☎096-232-4916 | ✉ nosei@town.kikuyo.lg.jp |

5– (3) Community Centers

Kikuyo Town has 8 facilities to promote lifelong learning and health promotion for the town's residents and to promote interaction among residents. The facilities can be used for training, meetings, recreation and exercise, and residents can participate in various courses and events.



■ Central Community Center (☎096-232-2116)

- Various lifelong learning courses are offered to the town's residents, including cooking, baking, oil and watercolor painting, yoga and dance.
- Participating in courses is a great way to make friends and colleagues while improving your health and creating a sense of purpose in life.
- Meeting rooms, Japanese-style rooms and kitchen are available for use (check the prices on the website).

【Opening hours】

Monday to Saturday, 8:30–22:00

Sundays and public holidays 8:30–17:30

(Closed from December 29 to January 3)

【Parking】 100 cars (free of charge)

※ Elevators are not installed in the building.



Central
Community
Center website



■ Nanbu Community Center

(☎096-292-3200)

- The facility promotes interaction among residents and revitalization of the community.
- Offers cooking, baking, picture letters and glass art courses
- Meeting rooms, Japanese-style rooms, kitchen and multipurpose halls within the facility are available (check the prices on the website).

【Opening hours】

Monday to Saturday, 8:30–22:00

(Closed on Sundays and public holidays, December 29 to January 3)

【Parking】 20 cars (free of charge)



Nanbu Community
Center Website



■Tobu Community Center (☎096-232-3803)

- This community center aims to improve welfare and raise awareness of human rights and is a base facility where residents can mutually interact.
- Offers courses in calligraphy, shamisen, yoga and exercises for health
- This center also offers consultation services related to daily life and projects to resolve human rights issues.
- Meeting rooms, community hall, multipurpose hall, Japanese-style rooms and kitchen within the facility are available (check the prices on the website).

【Opening hours】

Monday to Saturday, 8:30-22:00

(Closed on Sundays and public holidays,
December 29 to January 3)

【Parking】 20 cars (free of charge)



Tobu Community
Center website



■Fureai no Mori Training Center (☎096-233-1080)

- This center is located in Fureai no Mori Park, and residents can interact and promote hands-on activities for youth at this center.
- The building has been constructed extensively using natural materials such as wood, bamboo and grass, creating an atmosphere as if one is in a forest.
- Halls, meeting rooms, Japanese-style rooms and kitchen within the facility are available (check the prices on the website).

【Opening hours】

Monday to Saturday, 8:30-22:00

(Closed on Sundays and public holidays,
December 29 to January 3)

【Parking】 20 cars (free of charge)



Fureai no Mori
Training Center
website



■Sanrigi Community Center (☎096-232-5536)

- A facility that includes a “Working Women's Home”, “Regional Center” and “Recreation Facility”.
- “Working Women's Home” and “Community Centers” are places to conduct courses and build local communities. Men can also use these facilities.
- Offers courses such as cooking, mini-volleyball, tea ceremony and English. Also offers childcare services.
- Two tennis courts, Japanese-style room, lecture room, kitchen and light exercise room are available (check the prices on the website).

【Opening hours】

Monday to Friday, 8:30-22:00

Saturday 8:30-17:00

(Closed on Sundays and public holidays,

December 29 to January 3)

【Parking】 44 cars (free of charge)



Sanrigi Community
Center Website



■Hikari no Mori Townspeople Center

(☎096-237-6555 / Child-rearing Support Center ☎096-237-6575 /
Health Promotion Office ☎096-237-6577)

- A facility that integrates the “Western Branch Office”, “Child-rearing Support Center” and sports facility.
- Procedures related to change of residence, family register, resident registration, certificate of family register, seal registration, child benefits, national health insurance, medical care for the elderly, national pension and tax certification, etc., can be performed at the “Seibu Branch Office”.
- The “Child-rearing Support Center” can be used by pre-kindergarten children and their guardians for consultation regarding problems with raising children and exchange information.
- In addition to a gymnasium and health promotion room equipped with running equipment, etc., meeting rooms, common rooms, Japanese-style rooms, multipurpose rooms, and kitchen are available (check the prices on the website).

【Opening hours】

Sunday to Saturday, 8:30-20:00

(Closed from December 29 to January 3)

※ Western Branch Office is open up to 17:15 and closed on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays

【Parking】 Approximately. 100 cars (free of charge)



Hikari no Mori
Townspeople
Center Website



■Seibu Community Center (☎096-338-3443)

- A facility that includes a “Working Youth Home”, “Community center”, and “Children's Center”.
- “Working Youth Home” and “Regional Center” are places to conduct courses and build local communities. Residents of the town can use the facility for meetings and recreation.
- Offers courses such as cooking, Japanese language classes and calligraphy.
- “Children's center” is a playground for children.
- Meeting rooms, Japanese-style rooms, music room, kitchen and light exercise room within the facility are available (check the prices on the website).

【Opening hours】

Monday to Friday, 8:30-22:00

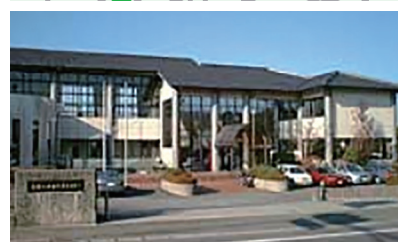
Saturday 8:30-17:00

(Closed on Sundays and public holidays,
December 29 to January 3)

【Parking】 44 cars (free of charge)



Seibu Community
Center Website



■Musashigaoka Community Center (☎096-232-5697)

- This facility promotes lifelong learning for residents and enhances cooperation between schools and local communities.
- Offers dance, ballet, floral art and knitting courses
- Library corner is available free of charge for reading and studying.
- Training rooms, common rooms and Japanese-style rooms within the facility are available (check the prices on the website).

【Opening hours】

Monday to Friday, 8:30-22:00

(Closed on Sundays and public holidays,
December 29 to January 3)

【Parking】 33 cars (free)



Musashigaoka
Community Center
Website



5– (4) Town bus “Carropi” and shared taxi services

In Kikuyo Town, the town bus “Carropi” can be used for transportation such as shopping and hospital visits and a shared taxi service.



Websites of Town buses and shared taxis

(1) Town bus “Carropi.”



- Fare : 100 yen
(elementary school students: 50 yen; pre-elementary school students: free)
- Operates along 4 routes. Please check the website for routes and schedule.

Central Circular Line(West)	Operates 6 days a week, Sunday through Friday, from the west to the central part of town
Central Circular Line(East)	Operates 6 days a week, Sunday through Friday, from the east to the central part of town
Seibu Line	Operates 3 days a week on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from the west to the central part of town
Nambu Line	Operates 5 days a week, Monday through Friday, from the east to the western part of town



Town bus schedule and route map (PDF : 2.7MB)

(2) Shared taxi



- Eligibility : Registered residents of Kikuyo Town
- Utilization : Registration procedures must be followed to obtain a user card before use. Please check the website for departure times and areas, etc.
- Fare : 300 yen
(elementary school students : 150 yen; pre-elementary school students : free)
- Operates 6 days a week, Sunday through Friday



How to use a shared taxi

Area you live	Pick up Location	Departure Time				
Suburban Area	Your Home or Designated Taxi Stand	9:00 -9:15	11:00 -11:15	13:00 -13:15	15:00 -15:15	17:00 -17:15
Town Area	Designated Taxi Stand	9:00 -9:15	11:00 -11:15	13:00 -13:15	15:00 -15:15	17:00 -17:15

【Note】

- ① Taxi cannot be used for transportation within the town area.
- ② Unlike regular taxis, passengers may ride with others who use the service simultaneously.

Suburban Area

記号	乗降場所名
M1	キャロップピア
M2	光の森産交
M3	菊陽病院
M4	さんふれあ前
M5	菊陽町図書館
M6	新町中央
M7	原水駅
M8	菊陽台病院
M9	菊陽町役場
M10	アウアンモール
M11	メガモール北
M12	カリーノ
M13	三里木駅
M14	菊陽ポウル
M15	光の森駅



300 yen

Town Area

記号	乗降場所名
K1	ふれあいの森
K2	古閑原入口
K3	熊本セントラル病院
K4	熊本市民センター
K5	馬場橋
K6	熊本リハビリテーション前
K7	きくちのまんま
K8	南部町民センター
K9	宮の下
K10	東熊本第二病院前
K11	新山西
K12	アンビー熊本
	自宅

300 yen

Town Area

*Taxi cannot be used within the town area.
(Please use the town bus Carropi.)

〈Special offers on town buses and shared taxis〉

【Tickets】 Six 100 yen tickets are available for 500 yen on the town buses and shared taxis. It can be used for both buses and taxis. Passengers save 100 yen.

【Transit】 When transferring to a town bus or shared taxi, the driver issues a transfer ticket when you get off. Transit fare is discounted by 100 yen (50 yen discount for elementary school students) after the transfer.

Contact information for the section in charge

General Policy Planning Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-2112 ✉sogoseisaku@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

6. Useful information for daily life in Kikuyo Town

- (1) When you are sick or injured
- (2) In the Event of an Incident, Accident or Fire
- (3) Prepare for Natural Disasters, and When a Major Disaster Occurs
- (4) Finding a home and using electricity and gas
- (5) Acquiring My Number Card
- (6) Issuance of Certificates at Convenience Stores
- (7) Status of Residence and Period of Stay
- (8) Employment and Job Search
- (9) How to Use Public Transportation
- (10) Driver's License and Traffic Rules



6– (1) When you are sick or injured

If you are experiencing symptoms of illness or injury, you should first visit a nearby clinic (family doctor).

After diagnosis, the doctor at the clinic will refer you to a hospital if specialized treatment or hospitalization is required.

Be sure to check the location of the medical facility and its emergency medical services.

〈What you need when you go to the doctor〉

- Health Insurance Card
- “Hikarikko Card”^{※1} (Child Medical Expense Beneficiary Certificate)(For children up to the age of 18)

※1 For a detailed explanation of the “Hikarikko Card,” see “3-(8) Child Medical Expense Subsidies” on page 21.

〈Medical Institutions in the Town〉

As listed on the next page.

〈In case of sudden illness during holidays〉

In case of sudden illness during holidays, you can see a doctor on duty at home during holidays.

You can check the on-call doctor on holidays at the public relations and Kikuchi-gun Medical Association websites.



Introduction of
holiday duty
doctors
Kikuchi-gun Medical
Association HP

〈In case of emergency〉

In case of an emergency, please call an ambulance by dialing “119”^{※2}.

※2 For details on how to call an ambulance, see “6– (1) In the Event of an Incident, Accident, or Fire” on page 54.



〈Night-time telephone consultation service for sudden illness of children, etc.〉

Telephone No. [#8000]^{※3}

※3 For dial lines, IP phones, and fiber optic phones, call, **☎096-364-9999**

【Consultation Hours】

Weekdays : 7:00pm to 8:00am the next morning

Saturday : 3:00pm to 8:00am the next morning

Sunday : From 8:00am to 8:00am the next morning

【Advisor】 Nurse

【Advisable matters】

- Advice on how to deal with sudden illness of children at night and first aid measures
- Information on available medical institutions, etc.




〈List of medical facilities in the town〉

Name of Medical Facilities	Location	Telephone No.
Kumamoto Central Hospital	2921 Haramizu	096-340-5001
Kumamoto Rehabilitation Hospital	760 Magate	096-232-3111
Higashi Kumamoto Daini Hospital	1923-1 Karakawa	096-232-3939
Kikuyodai Hospital	2984 Kubota	096-232-1191
Kikuyo Hospital	5587 Haramizu	096-232-3171
Jinseikai Clinic OZU	2973 Haramizu	096-232-9595
Souma Eye Clinic	2906-5 Haramizu	096-340-5520
Chiga OB/GYN Clinic	2951-1 Haramizu	096-232-9131
Yano Clinic	1611 Haramizu	096-232-5266
Honda Naika Ichoka Clinic	427 Babagusu	096-232-2021
Ikeda Urology and Internal Medicine Clinic	1166-1 Haramizu	096-233-1000
Kikuyo Akita Clinic	1156-13 Haramizu	096-232-8333
Kikuyochubu Clinic	868-5 Tsukure	096-232-1566
Tsukure Clinic	2528-5 Tsukure	096-285-3335
Hotta Eye Clinic	2802-1 Kubota	096-292-3455
YOSHIMOTO Pediatric Clinic	1156-2 Haramizu	096-233-2520
KAWANO CLINIC	3011-4 Tsukure	096-233-1717
Kikuyo Ladies' Clinic	2-8-23 Shinyama	096-213-5656
Shimomura Orthopedic Clinic	2232-1 Tsukure	096-232-5836
Takenaga Children's Clinic	2-12-15 Suginamidai	096-232-1110
Nagata EYE CLINIC	2420-5 Tsukure	096-285-1117
SAKAGUCHI GASTROENTEROLOGY CLINIC	2417-2 Tsukure	096-292-3800
Atopia Clinic	2422-4 Tsukure	096-349-2566
HARU INTERNAL MEDICINE DERMATOLOGY CLINIC	2377-1 Tsukure	096-232-8383
Otolaryngology MATSUOKA	2422-15 Tsukure	096-232-5011
Ihara Plastic Surgery Clinic	7-14-7 Hikarinomori	096-340-2560
KATO ORTHOPEDICS CLINIC	3-17-4 Hikarinomori	096-349-2255
Sakura Eye and Internal Medicine Clinic	7-33-1 Hikarinomori	096-340-2325
Clinic Hikarinomori	3-1-1 Hikarinomori	096-285-3466
Tani Otolaryngology Allergology Clinic	6-1-3 Hikarinomori	096-233-3387
Tabuchi naika junkankika	3-17-3 Hikarinomori	096-233-3588
Nakafusa Psychosomatic Medicine, Hikari no Mori	7-25-5 Hikarinomori	096-288-6802
HIKARINOMORI CRANIAL NERVE NEUROSURGERY	6-1-6 Hikarinomori	096-232-7711
Hikarinomori Mental Clinic	7-41-4 Hikarinomori	096-232-8102
Musashi Shimomura Medical Clinic	2-10-7 Musashigaoka	096-339-7561

Contact information for the section in charge

Health and Insurance Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-4912  kenkohoken@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

6– (2) In the Event of an Incident, Accident or Fire

If you or your family or friends are involved in an emergency such as an incident, accident, or fire, you must call the police, fire department, or emergency services. When the call is connected, do not panic; stay calm, and provide information about the situation at the scene and injuries sustained.

(1) In the event of an incident or accident 【Call the police : Call “110”】

If a crime or other incident or traffic accident occurs, call the police. Call “110” and stay calm when the call is connected and communicate as follows.



〈Example of reporting an incident or accident by calling “110”〉

- | (What to communicate) | (Example of how to communicate) |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ① Your name and your nationality.
※ Speak slowly and clearly in Japanese or communicate via a three-way call with an interpreter. | → “I’m Nguyen. I am from Vietnam.” |
| ② Whether it was an incident or a traffic accident. | → “A car and a bicycle collided near ○ ○.” |
| ③ Whether anyone is injured. | → A friend hit his head and is bleeding. |
| ④ Answer the questions asked by the police. | → 【Question】 When did the accident occur?
“It happened around (time)” |
| ⑤ Your contact information. | → “My phone number is
090-****-**** ” |

(2) In the event of fire 【Call the fire department : Call “119”】

If there is a fire in your home, call the fire department. Call “119” and stay calm when the call is connected and communicate as follows. Even if you find a fire outdoors, call the fire department.



〈Example of reporting a fire by calling “119”〉

- | (What to communicate) | (Example of how to communicate) |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ① Your name and your nationality.
※ Speak slowly and clearly in Japanese or communicate via a three-way call with an interpreter. | → “I’m Chin. I’m from Taiwan.” |
| ② Whether it is a fire or an emergency. | → “There is a fire.” |
| ③ Explain the situation at the scene. | → “The kitchen is on fire, and the fire is spreading to the ceiling.” |
| ④ The address (location) where the incident occurred.
※ If you do not know the address, tell the nearby landmark. | → “The address is Chin House, ○○, Kubota, Kikuyo-machi.”
“It happened around (time)” |
| ⑤ Your name and contact information. | → “My name is Chin ○○. My phone number is 090-****-**** ” |

(3) In the event of sudden illness or injury

[Call the fire department (emergency services) : Dial “119”]

If you or your family or friends suffer a sudden illness or severe injury requiring emergency care ^{※1}, call the fire department and call an ambulance. Call “119” and communicate as follows when the call is connected.



※1 Ambulance is used to transport people with symptoms of sudden illness or injury to hospitals on an emergency basis. If the symptoms of illness or injury are mild and do not require emergency care, do not use an ambulance and go to the hospital or clinic alone. Ambulances cannot be used as taxis.

〈Example of reporting a sudden illness or injury by calling “119”〉

- | (What to communicate) | (Example of how to communicate) |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ① Your name and your nationality.
※ Speak slowly and clearly in Japanese or communicate via a three-way call with an interpreter. | → “My name is Wang. I am from China.” |
| ② Whether it is a fire or an emergency. | → “It’s an emergency.” |
| ③ Who is involved in the incident and how. | → “My 70-year-old father suddenly collapsed and is unconscious.” |
| ④ The address (location) where the incident occurred.

※ If you do not know the address, tell the nearby landmark. | → “The address is Wang House, ○○ Kubota, Kikuyo-machi.”
“It happened around (time)” |
| ⑤ Your name and contact information. | → “My name is Wang ○○. My phone number is 090-***-***” |

(4) Points to note when reporting to the police or fire department (emergency services)

- ① If you use an ambulance, transportation to a medical facility is free, but the patient is responsible for the cost of treatment at the medical facility and transportation back home. Keep your health insurance card and necessary money handy.
- ② If you cause a traffic accident and injure the other person, call 119 and call an ambulance. Then call “110” and call the police.

Move the injured person to a safe place and give first aid until the ambulance arrives.

- ③ In the event of a traffic accident, if you have voluntary insurance, contact your insurance company.
- ④ Contact the Kumamoto Traffic Accident Consultation Center (**☎096-333-2295**) for consultation on a traffic accident. Consultation is available in Japanese on weekdays regarding claims for damages and settlements.



Traffic Accident
Consultation Center
Website

[Police] Ozu Police Station ☎096-294-0110 Muro, Ozumachi, Kikuchi-gun

[Fire Department]

Kikuchi Interjurisdictional Fire Department Headquarters, Minami Fire Station
☎096-232-9331 7-1 Haramizu, Kikuyo-machi, Kikuchi-gun

Contact information for the section in charge





Crisis Management and Disaster Prevention Division, Kikuyo Town Office
☎096-232-2110 ✉ bousai@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

6– (3) Prepare for Natural Disasters, and When a Major Disaster Occurs

Natural disasters such as heavy rains, typhoons, overflowing rivers and earthquakes may occur in Kikuyo town during the rainy season. Prepare for disasters by regularly checking the location of the designated evacuation centers on the disaster prevention map and storing water and food.

(1) Confirmation of Disaster Prevention Information

The following sites and email services provide weather and evacuation information necessary for disaster preparedness.

 <p>Japan Meteorological Agency (available in 14 languages)</p> <p>In addition to weather information such as heavy rain and typhoons, warnings and advisories, information on earthquakes, volcanoes and landslides are posted.</p>	 <p>KikuyoAnshin (Safety) Email</p> <p>Information is sent by email on the opening of evacuation shelters and evacuation information in and on crime prevention in Kikuyo town. Requires registration of email.</p>
 <p>Disaster Prevention Information Kumamoto (available in 11 languages)</p> <p>Disaster prevention and evacuation information, the opening of evacuation shelters and road regulations are posted for Kumamoto Prefecture.</p>	 <p>Kikuyo Disaster Prevention Map</p> <p>The map shows the locations of designated evacuation sites, evacuation centers, inundation areas and landslide warning zones.</p>

(2) Response to Typhoons and Torrential Rains

Typhoons often pass near Japan from August to October, and strong typhoons may approach and make landfall in the Kyushu region, including Kumamoto Prefecture.

Torrential downpours during the rainy season can last hours with heavy rain and lightning. A large volume of rain may fall over a small area in a short period, such as during the hot summer months.

When typhoons or torrential rains are expected, early preparation is required to minimize damage to the possible extent.

【When typhoons and torrential rains are expected】

- Check weather information frequently on TV and the Internet.
- Ensure that clotheslines and flowerpots, etc., are not blown away by the wind.
- Close the shutters and windows and lock them securely.
- Collect information on TV or the Internet, and if your home is unsafe or you feel you are in danger, evacuate to a designated evacuation site.



【During typhoons or torrential rains】

- Please evacuate to a safe place before the “Warning” is issued (before it becomes rainy or windy). There is no need to evacuate if your home is safe.
- Do not go out and stay away from dangerous places as there is a possibility of disasters, such as flooding and landslides.
- There is an increased risk of a major disaster when a “special warning” is issued. Take immediate life-saving action, such as moving to a safe place in your home.

(3) Response to earthquakes

Earthquakes frequently strike Japan, sometimes more potent than 5 on the Japanese seismic scale. Prepare for a major earthquake by storing supplies, securing furniture, and thinking about how you will act on a daily basis.

【Daily Preparations】

- Stock up on water and food, and pack underwear, clothing, glasses, storage solution for contact lenses and flashlights, etc., in a backpack or bag.
- Ensure that valuables such as bankbooks, health insurance cards, passports, etc., can be carried with you.
- Confirm the location of the designated evacuation centers and decide how to contact family and friends and where to meet.

【In the event of an earthquake】

- When an earthquake of intensity 5 or higher is expected to occur, the Japan Meteorological Agency will issue an “Earthquake Early Warning” that will be displayed on TVs and smartphones.
- If you are using a fire such as cooking, turn it off quickly and do not move until the major tremors subside. Protect yourself by hiding under a table; if there is nowhere to hide, protect your head with cushions or pillows.
- When the tremors stop, turn off all gas, oil heaters and other hazards that could cause a fire.
- Open the room doors or front door to create an escape route. Walking indoors is also dangerous if window glass, dishes, etc., are broken. Therefore, be sure to wear shoes.
- Remain calm, as aftershocks may occur once the major tremors have subsided.
- When evacuating, turn off the main gas valve and switch off the electric breaker before leaving the house. When leaving a condominium or building, evacuate using the stairs instead of the elevator.



(4) Other useful apps for disaster prevention and disaster management

Yahoo! Disaster Preparedness Bulletin App

Promptly notifies various disaster prevention information by push notifications to support early decision-making and evacuation actions. Receive emergency information from Kikuyo Town.



NHK Disaster Preparedness App

Disaster preparedness information such as weather warnings and seismic intensity bulletins can be received by push notifications, and various news from Japan and news in Kumamoto Prefecture can be viewed.



Kikuyo Town Official App

This app is linked to the website of Kikuyo Town. View the latest information the town sends and get notifications of emergency information, such as disaster prevention information.



Contact information for the section in charge

Crisis Management and Disaster Prevention Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-2110 **✉** bousai@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

6– (4) Finding a home and using electricity and gas

(1) Finding a home

In addition to Municipal housing, which is built for low-income residents in need of housing, there are other ways to find housing in Kikuyo Town, such as renting private apartments or buying a house.

〈Municipal Housing〉

- For more information on Municipal housing, please refer to “4– (7) Municipal Housing” on page 35.

〈Private rental housing〉

- Information about apartments and condominiums for rent in the town can be found on websites.
- In addition, real estate agents will be able to show properties of interest to residents.
- Before signing a contract, it is advisable to check the condition of the building and the rooms.
- When renting a house, in addition to the rent, a commission to the real estate agency is required, and it is necessary to prepare money equivalent to 3-4 months' rent at the time of signing the contract.
- When signing a lease, a guarantor may be required or it may be necessary to join a guarantee company.

(2) Usage of electricity and gas

Once a room has been selected, procedures for using electricity and gas are required. If you are moving into a rental apartment, contact the real estate agency where you signed the lease for the procedures for using electricity and gas.

(For details on water usage, refer to “4– (4) Start and end of Water Usage” on page 27.)



Contact information for the section in charge

(Municipal Housing) Construction Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-2115  kensetsu@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

(Private Housing) General Policy Planning Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-2112  sogoseisaku@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

6 – (5) Acquiring My Number Card

People registered as residents in Japan will have a "My Number" [Individual Number]. The proof for My Number is your My Number card with a photo of your face.

An application must be submitted for issuance to obtain a My Number Card.

The expiration date of the My Number Card is the same as the expiration date of the Residence Card, so renewal procedures are required before the Residence Card expires. Note that a re-issuance fee of 1,000 yen is required for procedures after the expiration date.

How to apply	<p>You can apply for the issuance of My Number Card by either method ① or ② below.</p> <p>① Read the QR code on the application form and apply from a smartphone ※ The application form with the QR code will be sent home in a white envelope by the government. ※ If the form does not arrive or is lost, it can be reissued at the information desk of the Kikuyo Town Office (Municipal Division).</p> <p>② Apply at the town hall</p>
How to receive	<p>After submitting the application, a My Number Card will be issued in approximately 1.5 months.</p> <p>When the card is ready to be issued, the town office (Municipal Division) will notify the applicant.</p> <p>When notified, visit the town office (Municipal Division) to collect the My Number Card.</p> <p>〈Documents required to collect the card〉</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ My Number Card Issuance Notice/Electronic Certificate Issuance Notice ■ Identification Documents (residence card, passport, driver's license, etc.)

〈Details of My Number Card〉

Please visit the My Number Card website using the QR code.



My Number Card Website
(available in 16 languages)



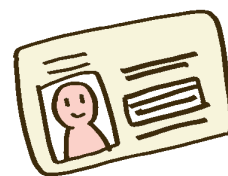
Contact information for the section in charge

Municipal Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-4914 ✉chomin@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

6 – (6) Issuance of Certificates at Convenience Stores

Those with a "My Number" [Individual Number] card can set their PIN for the "Digital Certificate for User Verification" to obtain certificates from a dedicated terminal at a convenience store.



〈Issuance of Certificates〉

Certificates issued	Issuance time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Certified copy of residence certificate/extract Fee: 300 yen ■ Certificate of seal registration^{※1} Fee: 300 yen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ※ 1 Only for those who registered their seal ■ Certified copy of Family register/extract^{※2} Fee: 450 yen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ※ 2 Only for Japanese nationals ■ Income certificate Fee: 300 yen ■ Certificate of taxation Fee: 300 yen ■ Certificate of income tax Fee: 300 yen ■ Vaccine passport^{※3} Fee: 120 yen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ※ 3 Can be issued to only those who were vaccinated in Japan. 	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">6 : 30-23 : 00</p> <p>※ 2 For the issuance of a certified copy/extract of the family register Between 8 : 30-17 : 15 Not issued on Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays</p>

〈Important Notes〉

- The card will be locked if applicants make a mistake in the PIN of their "My Number" Card 3 times during the issuance procedure. The card can be unlocked at the town office (Municipal Division).
- Certificates cannot be submitted at convenience stores for persons who are victims of domestic violence or stalking and are receiving support measures.



Contact information for the section in charge

Municipal Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-4914 ✉chomin@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

Tax Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-4911 ✉zeimu@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

6 – (7) Status of Residence and Period of Stay

Residence status and period of stay are indicated on their passport for foreign nationals entering Japan.

If you want to engage in activities other than those permitted under your status of residence or stay beyond your period of stay, you must complete the required procedures in advance. Violations may result in punishment or deportation.

(1) Status of residence

Status granted when entering Japan according to the purpose of entry or residence. Includes 29 types of activities that can be performed within the scope of this qualification.

(2) Period of stay

The period of stay is specified for each status of residence. You can stay in Japan within the period of your stay. You cannot stay in Japan beyond your period of stay.

〈Application for the status of residence and period of stay〉

Application for permission to the Immigration Bureau of Japan is required for the following procedures. Please check with the Immigration Bureau for details on the required documents.



Immigration Bureau
Website
(Various procedures)

Procedure	Summary
Extension of Period of Stay	If you want to extend your period of stay, apply to and receive permission from the concerned Immigration Bureau before your period of stay expires. A fee is required for the application process.
Change of status of residence	If you want to change your current status of residence, apply to and receive permission from the concerned Immigration Bureau. A fee is required for the application process. (example: An international student who graduates, finds a job and continues to live in Japan, or marries a Japanese national, etc.)
Obtaining the status of residence	When a child is born to a foreign couple in Japan and is not a Japanese citizen, an application must be submitted to the concerned Immigration Bureau within 30 days of birth to obtain the status of residence for the child. ※An application is not necessary if you are leaving Japan within 60 days.
Permission to engage in activity other than those permitted under the Status of Residence	If you want to engage in income-generating activities that are not covered under the current status of residence, you must apply to and receive permission from the concerned Immigration Bureau. (Example: When an international student takes a part-time job, etc.)

(3) “Special Re-entry Permission” system

Foreign nationals possessing a valid passport and resident card who wish to re-enter Japan within 1 year of their departure to continue their activities in Japan do not, in principle, need to obtain a re-entry permit. Present your resident card without fail when leaving the country.

Contact information for the section in charge

General Policy Planning Division, Kikuyo Town Office

☎096-232-2112 ✉sogoseisaku@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

6– (8) Employment and Job Search

(1) Employment

Discrimination against workers regarding wages, working hours, etc., based on nationality, religion, etc., is prohibited in Japan. Foreign nationals working in Japan have the same legal rights as Japanese nationals working in companies and establishments.

Knowing and understanding the laws and systems related to labor is important.

(2) Requirements for employment

A foreign national must have a status of residence that allows them to work, and the nature of work must be recognized under that status of residence.



(3) Job Search

Government agencies such as the Public Employment Security Office (Hello Work) and the Employment Service Center for Foreigners are available to provide consultation and referrals regarding employment.

In addition, a wide range of information on employment in the private sector is available on the Internet

Hello Work, Kikuchi ☎0968-24-8609

771-1 Waifu, Kikuchi-shi, Kumamoto 861-1331, Japan

Fukuoka Employment Service Center for Foreigners ☎092-716-8608

Elgara 12F, 1-4-2 Tenjin, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka-shi, Fukuoka 810-0001, Japan

(4) Problems with employment and working conditions

Those who are employed and are experiencing problems, such as unpaid salaries or wages, lack of benefits for overtime work, forced overtime, or being subjected to sexual harassment or power harassment should consult with the Labor Standards Inspection Office, a national agency, along with someone who understands Japanese (volunteers or interpreters).



Employment Service Center for Foreigners, Kikuchi Labor Standards Inspection Office ☎0968-28-2665

236-4 Dairinji, Kikuchi-shi, 861-1306

Contact information for the section in charge

General Policy Planning Division, Kikuyo Town Office

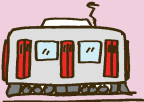










☎096-232-2112 ✉ sogoseisaku@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

6– (9) How to Use Public Transportation

Kikuyo Town has train stations and bus stops, allowing for transit by railway, bus or taxi. It is also close to Aso Kumamoto Airport, making air travel convenient.

Trains, buses, taxis and flights can be availed upon payment of the prescribed fares.

〈How to Use Public Transport Facilities〉

Category	Details
 <p>Train</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The JR Kyushu Hoho Main Line can be accessed from the following 3 stations: ① Hikarinomori Station ② Sanrigi Station ③ Haramizu Station Scan the QR code to check train schedules. Passengers heading to Kumamoto City should board trains in the “Toward Kumamoto” direction. Passengers heading to Ozu and Aso should board trains in the “Toward Higo-Ozu” direction. Fares can be paid by cash or IC card/smartcard.  <p>JR Kyushu website</p>
 <p>Bus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following companies operate bus routes throughout Kikuyo Town. ① Kyushu Sanko  (light blue bus stops) ② Kumamoto Dentetsu Bus  (yellow bus stops) Scan the QR codes to check route maps. Fares can be paid by cash or IC card/smartcard. Bus operation information and schedules can be checked via “Bus Kitakumasan” on a smartphone or computer. <p>Sanko Bus website → </p> <p> ← Kumamoto Dentetsu Bus website</p> <p>Bus Kitakumasan website → </p>
 <p>Taxi</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Call the taxi dispatch center (☎096-232-2206) to avail a taxi from any of the following companies: ① Kikuyo Taxi ② Oshiro Taxi ③ Kumamoto Cab ④ Kitakumamoto Taxi Fares can be paid by cash or using the barcode.
 <p>Flight</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following airlines operate flights from Aso Kumamoto Airport: ① ANA ② JAL ③ SNA ④ FDA Scan the QR code to check flight schedules. Aso Kumamoto Airport Liner from JR Higo-Ozu Station to the airport is available for passengers for free.  <p>Aso Kumamoto Airport Website</p>

〈Useful apps〉

- Downloading a transit information app onto your smartphone will be helpful for smoother transit with trains, buses and flights. (Examples of apps include NAVITIME Transit, Yahoo! Transit Guide, etc.)



Contact information for the section in charge

General Policy Planning Division, Kikuyo Town Office



☎096-232-2112 ✉ sogoseisaku@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

6 – (10) Driver's License and Traffic Rules

〈Driver's license〉

Driving a vehicle in Japan requires a Japanese driver's license.

You must either pass a driving test in Japan or take and pass a test to convert a foreign driver's license to a Japanese license.

License types and procedures	Details
International driver's license	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may drive a vehicle in Japan if you have an international driver's license issued by a country party to the Geneva Conventions. An international driver's license is valid for 1 year from the date of issuance, within which you are permitted to drive in Japan.
Foreign driver's license	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Driver's licenses issued in Switzerland, Germany, France, Belgium, Monaco, Taiwan and Estonia must have a Japanese translation of the foreign driver's license (issued by the consular office of your home country or the Japan Automobile Federation (JAF)). If you have this license, you are permitted to drive for 1 year from the date of entry into Japan within the validity period.
Converting to a Japanese driver's license  License conversion website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you can prove that you have stayed in a country that has issued you a valid foreign driver's license for 3 months or longer after the date of issuance, you may apply to convert it to a Japanese driver's license. <p>【Application Center】 Kumamoto Driver's License Center, Driver's License Examination Division ☎096-233-0116 Time: 11:00–12:00, 13:00–16:00 ※ Please book an appointment by phone before applying.</p> <p>【Items required for application】</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foreign driver's license Japanese translation of the foreign driver's license (issued by the consular office of your home country or the Japan Automobile Federation (JAF)) Certificate of residence (with nationality listed, without "My Number") Passport (confirming whether you have stayed in the country that has issued the license for 3 months or longer after the date of issuance) Two photographs (3.0 cm long x 2.4 cm wide) Application fee
Renewal of driver's license  License renewal information website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A driver's license is valid for 3 to 5 years (depending on age, driving history, and violations) The license must be renewed during the renewal period (from 1 month before your birthday in the year of expiration until the expiration date). The location for the renewal procedure, acceptance period, fees, etc., will be notified to you by post before the renewal period (If you do not receive a notice within the renewal period, please call the Driver's License Center (☎096-233-0110 and choose [6] for automated guidance)). <p>【Items required for renewal】</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Driver's license License renewal notice Application fee Resident card, special permanent resident certificate, passport, etc., that can confirm your status of residence

License types and procedures	Details
Other procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For procedures such as modification of details listed in your driver's license, suspension, or cancellation of your driver's license, etc., please get in touch with Ozu Police Station (☎096-294-0110) or Kumamoto Driver's License Center (☎096-233-0110).

【Subscribing to automobile insurance】



- As a preparatory measure, we recommend you sign up for motor vehicle liability insurance (mandatory vehicle liability insurance) and voluntary insurance to cover compensation in the event of an accident.


〈Traffic rules〉

In Japan, pedestrians keep to the right while vehicles such as cars and bicycles keep to the left. Pedestrians have the right of way. While you are in traffic, follow traffic signals, road signs, and any instructions given by the police.



Traffic rules for foreigners
Website (Metropolitan Police Department)


Category	Key rules
Pedestrians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pedestrians must walk on the sidewalk on roads with separate sidewalks and roadways. On roads that do not have a sidewalk or wide pedestrian walkway, pedestrians must walk on the right edge of the road. Follow the pedestrian traffic signals at intersections with signals. Raise your hand to indicate your intention to cross at a pedestrian crossing without signals. Check the right and left sides for safety before crossing the road. At night, try to wear reflective materials or bright clothing.
Bicycles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ride bicycles in a single file along the left edge of the road. You may ride on sidewalks that are marked for bicycles. When riding on the sidewalk, give the right of way to pedestrians and ride your bicycle slowly along the roadside (if you cannot pass a pedestrian, stop and get off your bicycle). Riding a bicycle under the influence of alcohol, two-person riding, and riding side by side are prohibited. Please turn on the light at night. Always obey traffic signals and stop at intersections to check the safety of your surroundings. Please wear a helmet when riding a bicycle. You must sign up for bicycle damage insurance. <p>※Subscribing to bicycle damage insurance is mandatory by law in Kumamoto Prefecture.</p>

Category	Key rules
Automobiles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People without a valid driver's license are not allowed to drive. • Driving a vehicle under the influence of alcohol is prohibited (and will be severely punished). • All drivers and passengers must wear seat belts. • Always use a child seat when driving with a child under 6. • Please turn on the lights when driving at dusk. • Do not drive while using a cellphone (smartphone). • When driving past pedestrians, maintain a safe distance and drive slowly.

【Expressways】

- Travel on expressways requires tolls to be paid.
- To eliminate the hassle of toll collection at toll gates and to improve traffic congestion, an ETC system that automatically collects tolls has been introduced, with dedicated ETC lanes.
- An in-vehicle device and an ETC card are required to use ETC.

Contact information for the section in charge

Crisis Management and Disaster Prevention Division, Kikuyo Town Office
☎096-232-2110  bousai@town.kikuyo.lg.jp

Guide to living in Kikuyo Town
(English version)
April 2023

Issued by : General Policy Planning Division
2800 Kubota, Kikuyo-machi, Kumamoto Pref.

☎ 096-232-2112

✉ sogoseisaku@town.kikuyo.lg.jp