

Automobile Tax FAQs

Gifu Prefectural Tax Division

Q1 I have received an automobile tax notice, but the vehicle in question has been given to a friend and the registered owner should have been changed. Shouldn't the friend who now has the car be responsible for paying the tax?

A1

The person who owns the vehicle as of 12am on the 1st of April is responsible for paying the automobile tax for that fiscal year (or the user if the seller retains ownership in installment sales, etc.). If you received a tax notice despite having transferred or scrapped your vehicle in the previous fiscal year (up to March 31st), please contact the Gifu Prefectural Vehicle Tax Office or other relevant organizations.

Q2 I have registered a change in address on my residence card and on my driver's license. Why has the automobile tax notice not been delivered to my new address?

A2

Although you have updated your address on your residence card and driver's license, the tax notice will not be sent to your new address if you have not changed the address on your Vehicle Inspection Certificate (jidousha-kensasho). Please carry out the necessary procedures to register your change of address at the nearest Motor Vehicle Branch Office.

If you do not receive your updated Vehicle Inspection Certificate in a timely manner, please contact the Gifu Prefectural Vehicle Tax Office at 058-279-3781 about the address you would like your tax notice to be sent to.

Q3 I am living in poverty due to low income, and as a result I cannot pay my automobile tax. What should I do?

A3

If you are struggling for money and it's difficult to pay your automobile tax, please consult with the Gifu Prefectural Vehicle Tax Office or your nearest prefectural tax office.

Q4 What happens if I do not pay the automobile tax before the deadline?

A4

A reminder letter and/or a demand notice will be sent to you, requesting that you to pay the tax. If you still do not pay the tax, your property may be seized.

Q5 Can I pay automobile tax at the time of my vehicle inspection? (Shaken)

A5

Automobile tax should not be paid at the same time of your vehicle inspection. The deadline for the payment of automobile tax is usually May 31st every year, and you are obliged to pay it by this date. If you do not pay on time, as well as the amount of tax due you will also have to pay late fees. In addition, proceedings for failure to pay, such as property seizure, may be carried out.

Q6 What happens with automobile tax if I remove my vehicle registration (scrap my vehicle) during the fiscal year?

A6

If you remove your vehicle registration during the fiscal year, the tax amount from the month following the removal will be reduced. If you have already paid the tax for that fiscal year, the amount will be deducted, and you will be refunded. If you remove your vehicle's registration (scrap your vehicle) in April, a tax notice (deduction notice) for one month will be sent to you in May. You must pay this tax by the deadline given on the notice.

Q7 Why have I received a tax notice for a vehicle that has an expired inspection date?

A7

Even vehicles which are currently not in use due to an expired safety inspection, etc. are still subject to taxation if they are registered at the nearest Motor Vehicle Branch Office.

If you are not going to use a vehicle anymore, please go to your nearest Motor Vehicle Branch Office as soon as possible to carry out the procedure to remove the registration (scrapping the vehicle) of the vehicle in question.

Q8 Why has the amount of automobile tax due increased compared to the previous fiscal year?

A8

In line with environmentally friendly green initiatives, gasoline vehicles (including LPG/Autogas vehicles) which have been registered for more than 13 years, and diesel vehicles that have been registered for more than 11 years are subject to higher taxation rates which are about 15% higher than normal rates.

Q9 Why have I received an automobile tax notice after my vehicle was stolen?

A9

You must report the theft at the nearest police station. If the report is accepted, you can receive a tax deduction. Confirm the date and acceptance number on your report at the police station, and then bring your personal seal to the vehicle tax office.

Q10 I would like to pay my automobile tax at a convenience store. Is this possible, and if so, at which stores?

A10

Payment can be made at any of the convenience stores listed on the back of the tax notice throughout the country. (Seven-Eleven, Lawson, Family Mart, Mini Stop, Daily Yamazaki, Yamazaki Special Partner Shops.)

Q11 How can I pay my automobile tax using a credit card?

A11

You can use the link below to access a local tax payment website (the site is in Japanese). The website includes a 「ご利用の流れ」 (process of use) page and a 「ご利用方法」 (how to use) page under “topics” (トピックス). Please look at the information on these pages and confirm the payment method before paying.

<https://www.payment.eltax.lta.go.jp/pbuser>

Q12 How can I pay using a smartphone payment app?

A12

You can pay your tax via supported smartphone apps by using the camera to scan the eL-QR code printed on the tax notice.

You can check which payment apps can be used by referring to the local tax payment website linked below (the site is in Japanese).

https://www.payment.eltax.lta.go.jp/pbuser?id=payment_application

Q13 Under what circumstances are people with disabilities entitled to a tax deduction or exemption?

A13

When those with a physical disability certificate or similar documents who meet certain criteria own or acquire a vehicle, they may be eligible for deductions or exemptions for environmental performance-based automobile tax and vehicle type-based automobile tax.

Please consult with the Gifu Prefectural Vehicle Tax Office or your nearest prefectural tax office.

Q14 I would like to more about light vehicle tax.

A14

Light vehicle tax rates are under the jurisdiction of municipalities. If you own a Kei-car (yellow plate car), a moped/scooter (engine displacement of less than 50cc), a light motorcycle (125cc or less), a two-wheeled compact car, or a small special-purpose vehicle, please contact the tax department at your local municipal office.

Q15 What are the contact details of the prefectural tax offices in Gifu?

A15

Tax Office	Address	Phone Number	Area covered
Gifu Prefectural Tax Office	OKB Fureai Kaikan, 7F Building 1, 5 chome 14-53, Yabuta-minami, Gifu-shi, 〒 500-8384	058-214-6924	Gifu city, Hashima, Kakamigahara, Yamagata, Mizuho, Motosu, Ginan, Kasamatsu, Kitagata, areas outside Gifu Prefecture
Seino Prefectural Tax Office	Seino Sogo Chosha, 422-3 Ezaki-cho, Ogaki-shi, 〒503-0838	0584-73-1111 (switchboard number)	Ogaki, Kaizu, Yoro, Tarui, Sekigahara, Godo, Wanouchi, Anpachi, Ibigawa, Ono, Ikeda.
Chuno Prefectural Tax Office	Chuno Sogo Chosha, 1612-2 Ikushi, Mino-shi, 〒501-3756	0575-33-4011 (switchboard number)	Seki, Mino, Minokamo, Kani, Gujo, Sakahogi, Tomika, Kawabe, Hichiso, Yaotsu, Shirakawa-cho (town), Higashishirakawa, Mitake.
Tono Prefectural Tax Office	Tono Seibu Sogo Shosha, 5-68-1 Ueno-cho, Tajimi-shi, 〒507-8708	0572-23-1111 (switchboard number)	Tajimi, Nakatsugawa, Mizunami, Ena, Toki.
Hida Prefectural Tax Office	Hida Sogo Chosha, 7-468 Kamioka-moto- machi, Takayama-shi, 〒506-0055	0577-33-1111 (switchboard number)	Takayama, Hida city, Gero, Shirakawa-mura (village).

Hida Prefectural Tax Office Motor Vehicle Branch Office	830-7 Shingu-machi, Takayama-shi, 〒506-0035	0577-36-1400 (switchboard number)	Takayama, Hida-shi, Gero, Shirakawa-mura (on the occasion of automobile tax and environmental performance-based automobile tax levies).
Gifu Prefectural Vehicle Tax Office	2648-3 Hikie, Gifu-shi, 〒501-6192	058-279-3781 (switchboard number)	Covers automobile tax and automobile acquisition tax across the whole prefecture (excluding Takayama, Hida-shi, Gero, and Shirakawa-mura on the occasion of tax levies).