# Sekai wa Hitotsu

Gifu International Center(GIC)

# International Exchange & Multiculturalism Information Magazine

July 2021 No.150



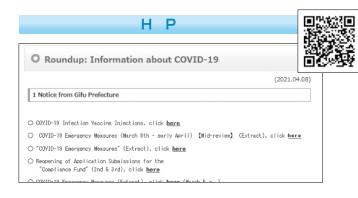
### The latest information on COVID-19 is posted on GIC's website and Facebook!

(Japanese, English, Chinese, Portuguese, Tagalog, Vietnamese)

For foreign residents of the prefecture, we provide information in multiple languages on COVID-19, mainly from the Gifu prefectural government.

- How to get a consultation or medical examination when you have a fever or other symptoms
- Infections in Gifu Prefecture (number of positive patients, etc.)
- Notices from Gifu Prefecture
- Latest information on COVID-19, including vaccinations, various aid programs (incentive payments), and messages to residents of the prefecture
- Flyers for foreigners (infection prevention, etc.)

Consultation in foreign languages is available at the COVID-19 Foreign Language Consultation Center (available in 14 languages) **TEL:** 058-263-8066





#### **Overview of the 2021 Operations Plan**

GIC is a regional internationalization association that promotes internationalization at the prefectural level. This fiscal year, we plan to implement operations based on the following three pillars.

#### Regional development for multicultural coexistence

Consultation with foreign counselors (COVID-19, information about living in Gifu, etc.)

Life planning courses with an eye to settling in Japan, and career education for high school students

Enhancement of the Japanese language learning environment (fostering supporters and revitalizing Japanese language classes)

#### Creating an environment for promoting the internationalization of the region

Disseminating information in multiple languages (information on international exchange and multicultural coexistence)

Exchange with Lithuania, Morocco, and other countries with active exchanges with the prefecture

Exchange between international students (mostly from Vietnam) and Japanese people

#### Promotional activities for volunteer/private organizations

Training volunteers for urgent issues such as disasters and medical care

Subsidies for international exchange/cooperation and multicultural coexistence projects

### Think of a life plan for yourself, your children, and your family.

What kind of life do you want to live in the future? Do you have dreams or goals?

There are many events in life: going to high school or university; getting a job; getting married; raising children; retirement and living on a pension... You might buy a car or build a house.

These life events can be expensive at times. Children's education can entail especially large expenditures as they grow up. When you think about a life plan for yourself, your children, and your family, consider when and what kind of events are likely to happen. It's also a good idea to think through how much you'll need in the future, how much you need to set aside from your daily living expenses for savings, whether you're wasting money, and how to save it.

Life Stages \*When making a life plan, be sure to check stages of growth, important milestones, and systems.

#### A Person's Growth

Pre-School Years	Building basic lifestyle habits Going to nursery school or kindergarten, meeting people other than parents, and socialization.
Elementary School Years	Fostering life skills Cultivate foundational academic skills and learn social skills through group activities.
Junior High School Years	This is the time to start building self-esteem, but it is easy develop feelings of inferiority.  There are few expenses in this period, so save money and build funds for the future and children's higher education.
<ul> <li>Health checkups and vaccinations for infants</li> <li>Subsidy for children's medical expenses</li> <li>Child allowance (until age 15)</li> <li>Insurance for educational expenses</li> </ul>	

High School Years	Acquire the knowledge and experience necessary to be independent. Think about what kind of work you want to do and choose a career path.
Icais	do and choose a career paris.
College/Technical School Years	Separate from parents and aim for independence. At university, students study to acquire more specialized knowledge. Some students will spend an additional 2 to 5 years in graduate school.  Plan educational expenses according to the child's career path. Discuss children's career paths, and what
	kind of support parents can provide.

- Tuition varies depending on the school and department.
- If you take out a student loan, you will not be able to repay it unless you get a job. It is important to make a repayment plan from the start, and get to work on job hunting as soon as possible.
- Some job types are highly competitive, and it is important to prepare for job hunting and employment examinations
  early (It can be very difficult for foreigners to find employment in some jobs unless you have qualifications or can
  prove your ability to prospective employers.)

#### **Employment**

Along with financial independence from parents, there are big changes in daily life. Think about designing your future to plan for a prosperous life.

Think about designing your future for a prosperous life.

- Ask the company for details about benefits (health insurance, pension, workers' compensation insurance, leave system, etc.) when you join. Women, in particular, will want a thorough explanation of leave and other support related to pregnancy, childbirth, and childcare.
- There may be opportunities to join a life insurance plan. It is best to plan out what kind protection you need based on your current living situation and income. Select insurance with premiums commensurate to your income.

#### Marriage and Child Rearing, Employment

There are many ways to continue working after marriage and childbirth (full-time, part-time, *etc.*) When you need money for marriage, child rearing, *etc.* 

- Consider setting aside funds for education and housing. Collect information about how to save money or get a loan for that purpose. Also, review your life insurance policy when you get married. In either case, you should consult with a specialized agency or company.
- If you want to work while raising children, make sure to discuss where you will leave them before you start working. When children get sick, you will need to coordinate with your workplace and cooperate with your partner/family members, so make sure to talk it over beforehand.



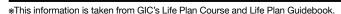
## Retirement and Old Age

After working and supporting your children, you will reach the retirement age set by the company rules. After retirement, you will become a pensioner.

There will be medical and living expenses related to illness and old age.

You will require assistance for living and hospital visits because of illness and age, so be sure to find out about long-term care insurance and the pension system.







## **Lifestyle Information for Foreign Residents**



### Notice from the Nagoya Regional Immigration Bureau

We started a Facebook page on December 18 last year!!

Useful information for foreign residents is posted in 9 languages: easy Japanese, English, Chinese, Indonesian, Vietnamese, Nepali, Tagalog, Portuguese, and Spanish.

#### **Example Posts**

How to apply for a residence permit

In which we explain the filing procedures for when a child is born in Japan.

What to do when you have lost your residence card

In which we explain the procedures for reissuing a lost residence card, and the need to file a police report.

- Criteria for receiving a permanent residence permit
- In which we explain what you need to do to become a permanent resident.
- Information about entry/exit during the coronavirus pandemic

In which we explain how COVID has changed the handling of entry into and exit from the country.

We will continue to provide various easy-to-understand information for foreign residents, so please follow us and share with your family and friends!!









#### We are holding specialized consultation meetings with immigration staff!!

Nagoya Regional Immigration Bureau holds free consultation meetings on specific topics once a month in Gifu, Aichi, Shizuoka and Mie prefectures, as well as in Komaki.

The consultation in Gifu Prefecture is held on the third Thursday of every month.

If you are worried about your status of residence or immigration, please do not worry alone.

Specialized consultations are by appointment only. All information will be kept private. Please contact your nearest consultation desk.

#### **Examples of Consultation Topics**

- I would like to divorce my Japanese husband. Will this cause any problems with my status of residence?
- I am currently in the country as an international student. I want to get a job, but what should I do about my visa status?

#### ⟨ For Reservations and Questions, contact ⟩

Gifu International Center Tel: 058-263-8066

GIC has set up a YouTube channel and is providing information in multiple languages.

The latest video is in Portuguese on the theme of COVID-19 and the differences in infectious disease control between Japan and Brazil, the current situation in Brazil (Curiciba City, Parana), PCR testing, consultation agencies in Gifu Prefecture, *etc*.

Refer to this video to get accurate information about COVID infection prevention, and let's work together to get through it!

#### Close up!

**Organizations** Active in Gifu **Prefecture** 

# Foreign Worker Relief and



We offer labor consultations for foreign technical interns, in addition to support and relief activities.

The Foreign Worker Relief and Support Center was established in October 2015, in Hashima City, Gifu Prefecture, in the Gifu General Labor Union's Second Branch Office for Foreigners.

Interns who came to Japan full of hope have found harsh working conditions and human rights violations. We receive 130 consultations annually and conduct relief activities.

#### **Main Consultation Topics**

Non-payment of wages

Workplace accidents ) ( Dismissal )

Power harassment

**Human rights violations** Forced deportation

#### Relief and Support Initiatives

Since it often takes a considerable amount of time for labor consultations to reach resolution, it is necessary to support the livelihoods of those who have lost their income.

We have set up a shelter for those pursuing consultation, and provide support in all aspects of clothing, food and housing.

#### Shelter

When technical interns take action such as informing employers or management organizations about questions or problems that arise during training (work), they sometimes have their jobs taken away, or are dismissed or told to return to their home country. These interns are expelled from the dormitories one day, cannot get their wages, and are suddenly reduced to poverty; but they cannot return home without solving the problem.

Therefore, they evacuate to the shelter and live together with each other until their problems are resolved. A total of 316 interns have used the shelter in the five years since it opened. Those using the shelter are from China, Vietnam, Cambodia, etc.

All food, daily necessities, and other expenses related to daily life are covered by donations collected by NPO Roudou-Soudan.com, which operates the shelter, and a usage fee of 1,000 yen per day (including 3 meals) collected from interns whose problems have been resolved.

#### Problem-solving Approach

The Center coordinates with labor unions to discuss corrective actions and solutions with employers and management organizations on behalf of the interns.

As it is sometimes necessary to seek a judicial remedy, we are also in contact with legal experts and government agencies to protect the rights of interns.

The number of people seeking help from the center is increasing, and there is a need for further improvement of facilities and increased staffing. We hope that we can count on your support.

Contact Information Inside Gifu General Labor Union NPO Roudou-Soudan.com

Main Office Postal Code 500-8402, 4-3-3 TEL:058-213-9330 FAX:058-213-9333 E-mail:scrum.giu@nifty.com

**Shelter** Postal Code 501-6257, 3-36 TEL:090-8496-9668 FAX:058-257-1783

If you would like to discuss working conditions, please call Gifu Prefectural Consultation Center for Foreign Residents (058-263-8066). We will connect to a public institution and interpret.

#### **INFORMATION**

#### **Gifu Prefectural Consultation Center for Foreign Residents**

Please get in touch if you are facing difficulties regarding life in Japan in areas such as taxes, housing, education, and welfare.

We work with administrative parties to help you find solutions to your problems. \*We cannot provide services in certain areas such as medical interpreting.

Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9:30 - 16:30

\*excluding public holidays and the new year holiday period

Phone number: 058-263-8066

Languages: English, Chinese, Portuguese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Korean, Indonesian, Thai, Khmer, Nepali, Burmese,

Spanish, Malay, Mongolian

#### **Issued By**

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Closed: Saturday, Public Holidays, New Year Period

Languages: English, Chinese, Portuguese, Tagalog, Vietnamese

**Publication** 

(Published three times yearly in July, November, and February)

