

# PLAZA NEWS LETTER(May,2022)

April has arrived and the weather has become warmer and more comfortable.

"The Kumamoto Green Vision Expo" has started in the city. Flowers are being planted here and there. It is very beautiful and many people were taking pictures. The event will be held until May 22. Enjoy it while being careful with COVID-19.

The number of consultations received at the Plaza in March was 52. Many of the consultations were related to "interpretation and translation", "immigration procedures" and "others".

## Regarding interpretation and translation

- Can you provide interpreting support for a child with foreign roots who is having difficulty communicating with his/her teacher and mother at the elementary school he/she attends?
- ➡ Plaza's multilingual consultant was dispatched as an interpreter.

## Regarding immigration procedure

- I am working under the status of "Technical". My child's status of residence is "Family Resident". The next time I apply for renewal, he/she will be over 20. Can we apply for "Family Residency" status? I also want to invite another child over 20 from my home country to Japan. Is it possible?
- I want to manage assets. Is there any problem with my status being a foreign nationality?
- I have "Education" status. I want to apply for permanent residency. What are the requirements for application?
- ➡ For the detailed consultation regarding status of residence, renewal, or application, please visit the Immigration Consultation Desk at the Plaza.
- How can I invite my friend in Ukraine to Japan?
- ➡ It is possible for an individual to act as an underwriter and call them over. However, please check with the department in charge of Ukraine at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. (As of March 2022)

## Other inquiries

- Am I eligible for Kumamoto City's "Temporary special benefit for families whose residence-tax have not been levied or similar families"?
- ➡ For information related to this benefit, please contact the Temporary Special Benefit Call Center (096-355-8866).

If you have any problems or troubles, please contact Kumamoto Consultation and Support Plaza for Foreign Residents.

Thank you for everything!

Hello! I am Juichiro Tanabe, a coordinator for Kumamoto Consultation and Support Plaza for Foreign Residents. I have been working for the plaza since it began on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. It was a great honor and pleasure to support foreign residents in Kumamoto. It is very sad to tell you that I will leave the job on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Through the job, I met variety of foreign residents from around the globe and had a great time with them.



Everyday, we have many consultations. When COVID-19 hit Kumamoto, we took up many consultations concerning the coronavirus such as the symptoms, PCR test, corona vaccine, and special benefit subsidy. Besides, we had various consultations about residence status, job hunting, learning Japanese, and housing.

Though I will be leaving, please feel free to contact or visit the plaza. From April 1<sup>st</sup>, we will have a new staff to help you to sort out your troubles or problems.

#### Introducing Professional Consultations Available at Plaza

In addition to consultations in various foreign languages, specialists are here at the Plaza to help those in need. Please note that some consultations require an advance appointment.

##### ■ Educational consultation

Every Sunday, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (appointment required)

##### ■ Immigration counseling

1st Wednesday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

##### ■ Job counseling

2nd Wednesday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. **starting in May**

##### ■ Counseling on mental health

2nd Wednesday of each month from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Newly starts in April! Counseling is available on mental health issues, relationships, family problems, stress, and more.

##### ■ Free legal consultation

3rd Saturday of each month from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (appointment required)

##### ■ Housing counseling

3rd Wednesday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For appointment or inquiry, call 096-359-4995 or email [soudan@kumamoto-if.or.jp](mailto:soudan@kumamoto-if.or.jp)

## Information on Kumamoto Consultation and Support Plaza for Foreign Residents

The Plaza offers life affairs support in multiple languages such as English, Chinese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, etc. Professional consultations including legal affairs, residence status issues, job hunting, and housing are also provided.

### May Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
25	26	27	28	29	30	01 •Life Consultation in Chinese •Educational Consultation
02	03 Constitution Memorial Day	04 Greenery Day •Life Consultation in Chinese •Immigrational Consultation •German Consultation	05 children's day •Korean Consultation	06 •Spanish Consultation •Life Consultation in Chinese •English Consultation	07	08 •Life Consultation in Chinese •Educational Consultation
09 closed	10	11 •Job Consultation •Tagalog Consultation •Life Consultation in Chinese •German Consultation •Mental Counseling	12 •Korean Consultation	13 •Life Consultation in Chinese •English Consultation	14	15 •Life Consultation in Chinese •Immigrational Consultation •Vietnamese Consultation •Educational Consultation
16	17	18 •Housing Consultation •Vietnamese Consultation •Life Consultation in Chinese •German Consultation	19 •Korean Consultation	20 •Life Consultation in Chinese •English Consultation	21 •Life Consultation in Chinese •Free Legal Consultation	22 •Educational Consultation
23 closed	24	25 •Life Consultation in Chinese •German Consultation	26 •Korean Consultation	27 •Life Consultation in Chinese •English Consultation	28	29 •Life Consultation in Chinese •Educational Consultation
30	31	☖E: Consultations 1:00p.m.~5:00p.m. •Life Consultation in Chinese 1:00p.m. ~ 6:00p.m. •Immigrational Consultation 1:00p.m.~4:00p.m. •Free Legal Consultation 2:00p.m.~4:00p.m. (You need reservation) •Educational Consultation 10:00p.m.~3:30p.m. (You need reservation) •Job Consultation 10:00a.m. ~ 6:00p.m. •Mental Counseling 3:00p.m.~5:00p.m.				

※Consultation service could be cancelled due to consultant's personal reasons.  
Please e-mail or call us beforehand to check if the consultant is available.

### We are uploading life affairs guidance online!

We are introducing information and tips useful to your life in Kumamoto City online.

Though we planned to give face-to-face life affairs guidance, because of the COVID-19, we are providing online guidance. Guidance is given in plain Japanese and English. Please check our guidance on the URL below!

(You can watch the guidance on homepage or Facebook page of Kumamoto Consultation and Support Plaza for Foreign Residents)

<https://www.kumamotoif.or.jp/plaza/list00151.html>

We are offering variety of information useful to your life. Please check us!



Our homepage



Our Facebook

### Kumamoto Consultation and Support Plaza for Foreign Residents

**Location:** 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Kumamoto City International Center

**Address:** 〒860-0806 4-18 Hanabata-Cho Chuo-Ku, Kumamoto City

**Tel:** 096-359-4995

**E-mail:** [soudan@kumamoto-if.or.jp](mailto:soudan@kumamoto-if.or.jp)

**Opening hours:** Between 10 am and 6 pm

**Closed** on second and fourth Mondays and between December 29 and January 3

★If second or fourth Mondays is a national holiday, the plaza will be closed next day instead.

