

# PLAZA NEWSLETTER (June 2024)

As we enter the second half of May, the weather is gradually becoming hotter and hotter. In June, the "rainy season" brings more rainy days. There are sayings and proverbs related to the weather such as "sunset glow brings clear weather" (the day after sunset glow is seen, said to be clear the following day as the weather in Japan has the characteristic of shifting from west to east). "When cats wash their faces, it rains" (cats' whiskers, which are sensitive to humidity, are said to droop when humidity rises. This "face-washing" is from the gesture of a cat washing its face because it is concerned about its drooping whiskers.) "When you see a parade of ants, it means rain." (If ants are carrying eggs and other items out of their burrows and forming a parade, it's thought to be to protect their eggs from water, indicating that rain is on the way.) It is very interesting because these were born from the wisdom of people in the past when there was no weather forecasting.

The Plaza received 61 consultations in April. We share some of them with advice from us.  
※Some content has been edited so that individual are not identified.

Q : I recently moved to Kumamoto. I am looking for a job. Is there any information on jobs?

A : The following is a list of job consultation days offered at the Plaza.

The 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 10:00 to 18:00 (twice a month).  
We also guided them to Hello Work, which can provide job referrals.

Q : I am in Japan on a working holiday and plan to stay for 6 months, during which time I will travel around Japan. How should I fill in the address on my residence card, health insurance, etc.?

A : If you are staying in Japan for more than 3 months, you are required to enroll in health insurance and register as a resident. If you are currently registered in Kumamoto City and wish to move to another municipality, you must notify Kumamoto City of your moving out and then notify the new municipality of your moving in. This will also update the address on the back of your residence card. This can be done at the city hall or ward office.

Q : I want to dispose of my suitcase for I am returning to my country. What should I do?

A : In Kumamoto City, they are separated into "landfill waste". As long as it fits in a designated bag and tied, it can be put out on the designated collection day. If it does not fit in the bag, it will be considered "large refuse". Call the GOMI Zero Call (0570-00-5374) to make an appointment for a collection day and purchase a sticker for the specified amount. Alternatively, you can bring them to the Oogida Environmental Center (096-245-2969) for free.

If you have any problems, please contact the Kumamoto Consultation and Support Plaza for foreign residents.

# Father's Day

Last month, we introduced “Mother's Day.” This month, we introduce “Father's Day.” Father's Day is a day to express gratitude to fathers. The 3rd Sunday in June is Father's Day. The date changes every year. This year it is June 16th. In Japan, yellow roses are often given on Father's Day. In addition, gifts such as SAKE and snacks are also popular.

Father's Day



The origin of Father's Day is said to date back to 1909, when an American woman named Sonora Smart Dodd asked a pastor's association for help in creating a day to thank fathers like Mother's Day. In June of the following year, the first Father's Day ceremony was held. The reason the ceremony was held in June is because Dodd's late father's birthday was in June. While Mother's Day was quickly established in the U.S., Father's Day was slow to take hold and was not officially recognized as an American holiday until 1972, 60 years later.

Father's Day began in Japan around 1950. But Father's Day was not so well known at the time. Father's Day was first celebrated in 1981 with the establishment of the Japan Father's Day Committee. The Japan Father's Day Committee recommended that we give a yellow ribbon as a token of our appreciation to our fathers. The color yellow has the meanings of “happiness,” “hope,” “joy,” “fun,” “warmth,” and “respect. This campaign has established the image of “Father's Day = yellow” in Japan.



# About job consultation

Plaza's job consultation always attracts many visitors. The consultation had a break in March, but has resumed in April, increasing to twice a month. Whether you are looking for a full/part time job, or need help with resume writing, come to see us. Language support is also available through multilingual consultants and telephone interpreters. No reservation is required.



## Job consultation

**Schedule: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays\***

**Time: 10:00 – 18:00**

**\*The schedule is subject to change according to circumstances. Please check the Plaza's website, Facebook page, or call to confirm the schedule in advance.**



Website



Facebook



**Phone: 096-359-4995 (10:00–18:00)**

**\*Plaza is closed on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays (closed on the following day if it falls on a national holiday) and new year's holiday (12/29–1/3)**



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

The Plaza offers professional consultations including legal affairs, residence status issues, job, housing and life affairs support in multiple languages. Consultants who speak English, Chinese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Spanish, Nepali and Taiwanese are available at the Plaza as the schedule below.

### June Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
27	28	29	30	31	01	02
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
	• Chinese Consultation	• <b>Immigrational Consultation</b> • Vietnamese Consultation • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • German Consultation	• <b>Korean Consultation</b>	• <b>Spanish Consultation</b> • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • <b>English Consultation</b>		• <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • <b>Educational Consultation</b>
10 closed	11	12	13	14	15	16
	• Chinese Consultation	• <b>Job Consultation</b> • <b>Mental Health Counseling</b> • Tagalog Consultation • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • German Consultation	• <b>Korean Consultation</b>	• <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • <b>English Consultation</b>	• <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • <b>Free Legal Consultation</b>	• <b>Immigrational Consultation</b> • Vietnamese Consultation • Nepal Consultation
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	• Chinese Consultation	• <b>Housing Consultation</b> • Vietnamese Consultation • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • German Consultation • Life Consultation in Taiwanese	• <b>Korean Consultation</b>	• <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • <b>English Consultation</b>		• <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • <b>Educational Consultation</b> • Life Consultation in Taiwanese
24 closed	25	26	27	28	29	30
	• Chinese Consultation	• <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • German Consultation • <b>One-stop Consultation Service for International Students</b> • <b>Job Consultation</b>	• <b>Korean Consultation</b>	• <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> • <b>English Consultation</b>		• <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b>
01	02	note: Consultations 1:00p.m~5:00p.m (apart from the ones below) ☐ • <b>Life Consultation in Chinese</b> 1:00pm ~ 6:00pm • <b>Immigrational Consultation</b> 1:00pm~4:00pm • <b>Free Legal Consultation</b> 2:00pm~4:00pm (Reservation required) • <b>One-stop Consultation Service for International Students</b> 1:00pm~4:00pm • <b>Job Consultation</b> 10:00am~6:00pm • <b>Mental Health Counseling</b> 3:30pm~5:30pm • <b>Educational Consultation</b> 10:00am~3:00pm				

※ 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.

### Kumamoto Consultation and Support Plaza for Foreign Residents' Facebook

We regularly update information useful to you.

Follow us and be one of the first one to be informed!



Plaza's FB

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



Our website



Our Life affairs guidance

### Kumamoto Consultation and Support Plaza for Foreign Residents

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

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

**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 Monday is a national holiday, the plaza will be closed the following day instead.

