

NAPIA is a newsletter issued by Nagasaki International Association for foreign residents.

Edited by: Nagasaki International Association

Japanese Cultural Experience Classroom: "Let's make origami brooches!"



On the 1st of November 2025 (Saturday), a Japanese Cultural Experience Classroom was held for Japanese and foreign residents of Nagasaki at the Nagasaki International Association. We welcomed Ms. Ide Masae as a teacher for this event, where she taught everyone how to make brooches using origami.

Ms. Ide Masae used a large piece of origami paper to explain how to fold, and participants focused and tried their hand at creating origami brooches. Participants assisted each other on the more difficult parts, and we're able to create some excellent brooches!

The participants told us that they were "surprised that brooches can be made with origami" and that it was "a lot of fun".

To everyone who participated and everyone who helped, thank you very much!

Status of Residence & Common Questions

Common Questions from Foreign Residents

(Reference: CLAIR, "Living in Japan: Frequently Asked Questions (Japanese)")

An example about moving out

Q What should I do when I move out of my rental/apartment? Will the security deposit (敷金 / shiki-kin) I paid be returned to me?

A Please contact your real-estate agent or landlord in before you move out. You can find out by when you need to contact them by checking the contract for your apartment. Also, don't forget to inform your electricity, gas, water, and phone (if you have a landline) providers of your intent to move out.

Security deposit (敷金 / shiki-kin) refers to money you pay to your landlord when you sign the lease, and it used in case you miss a rental payment, or if repairs are needed after you move out. After you've moved out the amount is calculated, and any money left over will be returned to you. However, in the case where your security deposit isn't enough to cover any costs, you may instead be charged to cover excess costs. Please check the contents of your lease/contract to see what it says about how your security deposit (shiki-kin) is used.

An example about power harassment and sexual harassment

Q What should I do if I'm the victim of power harassment or sexual harassment in the workplace?

A Harassment in the workplace is considered power harassment when it is done by someone in a position superior to that of the victim especially in terms of acts of pestering and bullying, such as verbal abuse like calling someone a "wage thief", intentionally giving someone no duties, and so on. Sexual harassment refers to harassment of the sexual kind, and can include persistently asking the victim on dates, spreading inappropriate rumors, and anything in this way that disrupts the victim's work.

If you experience sexual harassment, make sure to tell the person directly that you are not okay with it. Letting them get away with it will not improve the situation, and simply trying to tolerate it or ignore it may even lead to more serious harassment. According to Equal Employment Opportunity Law, employers are responsible for taking appropriate action against such behavior upon being informed about it, so please reach out to and inform your workplace's Human Resources department (HR) or a superior. If you experience sexual harassment from a business partner or client/customer, your workplace is responsible in these circumstances too, so please reach out to HR or a superior. If your workplace is not addressing sexual harassment adequately, or you wish to seek consultation outside of your workplace, please call the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare's Nagasaki Labor Bureau's Employment Environment and Equal Employment Bureau on 095-801-0050.

Power harassment also does not go away through simply putting up with it. Don't worry on your own, reach out to a superior you trust, and ask for their help in solving the situation. With regards to preventing power harassment, the Labor Measures Comprehensive Promotion Act says that, upon being consulted by an employee, employers are responsible for taking appropriate action. So, how about making use of your company's consultation counter or help desk? In cases where your company has no such counter or desk for support regarding power harassment, or the problem cannot be solved internally, please reach out to the listed Nagasaki Prefecture Consultation Center for Foreign People or the Nagasaki Labor Bureau.

Agency for Consultation on Status of Residence and Other Matters:

Foreign Residents Support Center (FRESC)

The Foreign Residents Support Center (FRESC) is a government office that provides support for foreign residents living and working in Japan. It offers consultation services and assistance.

Phone: 0570-011000

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Closed on Saturday, Sunday, Public Holidays, and New Year's (29th of December – 3rd of January).

Consultation Services for Foreign Residents in Nagasaki Prefecture:

Nagasaki Prefecture Consultation Center for Foreign People

Phone: 095-820-3377

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Closed on Saturday, Sunday, Public Holidays, and New Year's (29th of December – 3rd of January).

Life Knowledge: Enrolment in Elementary and Middle/Junior High School

Educations systems vary by country. When comparing Japan with other countries, there may be differences in the starting-age and period of compulsory education, education styles, testing systems (e.g. there are countries that do not require testing to enter high school, etc.), education costs, and more.

In Japan, it is not necessary for foreign children to attend school, but if so desired, it is possible for them to attend local public elementary and middle/junior high schools. If there's something you don't understand about the process, it's important to ask someone who knows or reach out to your local Board of Education. (Citation: Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology's (MEXT) Guidebook for Starting School.)

Japan's Education System

In Japan, the education system is made up of 6 years in elementary school and 3 years in middle/junior high school, totaling 9 years. If desired, an additional 3 years may be taken at high school, and at university another 4 years, or varying amounts of time at a variety of specialist schools (entry exams required).

The school year starts in April and ends in March of the following year. Classes are from Monday until Friday. Textbooks at elementary schools and middle/junior high schools do not cost any money. Additionally, school lunch is also provided at elementary and middle/junior high schools (there is a school lunch fee).

Classes are normally conducted in Japanese.

In Japan, starting from the school year a student has been admitted (or transferred) to a school, they will sequentially progress up the school years year-by-year to higher year levels.

(There are some municipalities that do not charge a school lunch fee. For more information, please confirm with your local Board of Education.)



Regarding Procedures for Admission or Transfer to Elementary and Middle/Junior High School.

1. If you have a Certificate of Residence (住民票, jyuumin-hyou) for your municipality, then you will receive communication about applying to and commencing school in the mail around October.
2. Fill in the necessary fields on the documentation provided to you by your local Board of Education and submit.
3. Your local Board of Education will send you a Notice of Enrolment (就学通知書, shuugaku-tsuuchi-sho) around January.

(Procedures vary by municipality. For more information, please reach out to and ask your local municipality.)

The School Subsidy Program (School Attendance Support System)

This is a program that ensures children may feel at ease and have fun attending elementary and middle/junior high school by assisting families in financial distress. The program provides money for stationery required for study at school, extracurricular activities, school excursions, and school lunch.

Eligibility criteria and procedures vary by municipality. If you wish to apply for assistance, please confirm the details with your local Board of Education before applying.



Useful Information

27th Nagasaki International Festival

Full of events for Japanese people and foreigners to come together and have fun!

Please come and have fun!

- Date & Time: 14th of December 2025 (Sunday), 11:00am – 4:00pm
- Location : 1st Floor of the Nagasaki Prefectural Office
(3-1 Onoue-machi, Nagasaki City)



- Details : Many events such as the display of activities by prefectural international cooperation and exchange organizations, sale of fairtrade goods, sale of Vietnamese and Nepalese bento (lunch boxes), Japanese instrument experiences, trying on of traditional clothing, kimono and tea ceremony experiences, and more!
- Organizer : Nagasaki International Organization (TEL: 095-823-3931, Email: nia@nia.or.jp)

Nagasaki Multicultural Champon Festival

There will be an international exchange event where you can enjoy experiencing foreign cultures and international exchange. In addition to stage events featuring performances using various instruments and the music of foreign cultures, there will also be the opportunity to try on traditional clothing from foreign cultures, experience foreign cultures at booths, and learn about the activities of international exchange organizations active in Nagasaki City. There will also be a face-changing (変面, henmen) show!

Please come and have fun! *Note: There will be no "champon" at the event.

- Date : 24th of January (Saturday) 2026
- Organizer : Nagasaki City Hall (Contact: 095-829-1113)
- Location : BENEX Nagasaki Brick Hall, 3rd floor (2-38 Morimachi, Nagasaki City)

"Guidebook to Help Foreigners" is Available for Free!

This guidebook is available in Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese.



- ★ A Guidebook for Living in Nagasaki Prefecture
- ★ Things You Need to Know Before Disaster Strikes
- ★ Guide for Using Medical Institutions

Seeking: Foreign Volunteer for Business Support

We are looking for someone to volunteer to help our business activities from 1:00pm to 4:00pm on Friday and Monday every week. Tasks are simple and include making copies of newspapers, folding leaflets and more, all while interacting with Japanese volunteers. To cover transport costs, we will provide 1,000 yen for each visit, paid in the following month.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if you're interested in volunteering!



We support local multiculturalism and international exchange.

Nagasaki International Association

Phone: 095-823-3931

Email: nia@nia.or.jp

Open Hours:

Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



Website



Facebook

Address: 2-11 Dejima-machi, Nagasaki City

Closed: Saturday, Sunday, Public Holidays, New Year's (29th of December – 3rd of January)

Nagasaki Prefecture Consultation Center for Foreign People

Consultation regarding: Status of Residence, Childbirth, Welfare, etc.

Phone: 095-820-3377

Email: soudan@nia.or.jp

Open Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.