Know Your City Newsletter

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Wakayama City International Affairs Div.











Support Allowance for Rising Prices - Applications Close July 31

Since late March 2025, Wakayama City has been providing a special benefit to help households cope with rising prices. If you believe you are eligible but have not yet applied, please complete the application procedures at the office below by the deadline. Details: See the city website (ID 1060851 / 1060888)

(1) Allowance for Households Exempt from Resident Tax

- Amount: 30,000 yen per household
- Eligibility: Households listed in Wakayama City's Basic Resident Register as of the reference date, where all members are exempt from resident tax for FY2024.

Note: Households consisting only of tax dependents of a taxable individual, or those exempt under a tax treaty, are excluded.

You may become eligible via application if:

- Anyone in the household moved into Wakayama City on or after 2 Jan 2024
- Anyone in the household has not filed a resident tax return

(2) Additional Child Allowance

- Amount: 20,000 yen per child
- Eligibility: Among the households eligible under (1), those with children aged 18 or younger (until March 31 following their 18th birthday).

You may become eligible via application if:

- A child was born on or after 14 Dec 2024
- You support an eligible child who lives separately

Payment Date

On a rolling basis after application is approved.

Application Deadline

31 Jul 2025

Reference Date

13 Dec 2024

Enquiries

Wakayama City Secretariat for Rising Price Allowances (19 Rokubancho, F1 Fujita Sangyo Rokubancho Building) ▼ \$\mathbb{T}\$ 0120-969-861 or 499-5184 (Weekdays 8:30–17:15; closed weekends/holidays) ▼ Division in Charge: Livelihood Support Division 2



Learning Is Fun! Wakayama Akebono Night Middle School (Evening Classes)



We spoke with Ms. Masuda, who began attending Wakayama Akebono Night Middle School this April.

Q. What made you decide to enroll?

I knew there were evening junior

high schools in other parts of Japan, but not in Wakayama City. When I heard one was opening here, I knew I wanted to join!

Q. How are the classes so far?

They're lively and enjoyable. The teachers match the lessons to our pace, so it's easy to ask questions. I've finally understood things I never grasped before, and I can now speak with confidence in front of others. I'm really glad I enrolled.



Wakayama Akebono Night Middle School offers evening classes for: (1) Those who did not complete compulsory education; (2) Those who graduated junior high but were unable to attend enough classes due to circumstances such as long-term absence; and (3) Foreign residents who have not completed education equivalent to Japan's nine-year compulsory schooling.

For more information or to apply, please contact the Education Support Division (23 435-1139)



Wakayama City Premium Gift Certificates

To support households and local businesses facing rising prices, Wakayama City will issue premium gift certificates worth 30% more than the purchase price. **XAdvance application is required.**

Pay ¥5,000 → Receive a ¥6,500 gift certificate

Туре	Unit	Certificate Availability
Digital	Usable in ¥1 units	175,000
Paper	Booklet of 13 × ¥500 tickets (no change given)	75,000

- **X**Choose either digital or paper.
- **XDigital certificates require a smartphone.**

- Application Period: Mon 30 Jun Wed 9 Jul
- Winner Notice: Will be sent around Mon 28 Jul (Unsuccessful applicants will not be notified.)
- Purchase Period: Mon 28 Jul Wed 6 Aug
- **Purchase limit**: Up to 4 per person (lottery)
- Use Period: Mon 28 Jul Fri 31 Oct
- Eligibility: Must reside in Wakayama City at the time of application

How to Apply

Digital Certificates

- · Apply via the official website
- One mobile phone number required per applicant
- Support available at mobile-phone shops (digital only)

Paper Certificates: Apply on the website or by postcard. Choose one pick-up location when applying.

Pick-up Locations (choose one): (1) All 65 post offices in the city (excl. simplified post agencies); (2) AEON Style Wakayama (3) Nippon Travel Agency TiS Wakayama Branch; (4) Super Evergreen (Miyamae, Shikago, Wakayama-Kita IC, Fukushima, Furuya)

Application Support Desk (10:00-17:00)

Dates: Jul 5 (Sat) to 7 (Mon)

Locations: (1) AEON Style Wakayama

- (2) Nippon Travel Agency TiS Wakayama Branch!
- (3) Super Evergreen Miyamae Store

Details: See the official website.

Postcard Applications (paper certificates only)

- Must be postmarked by Wed 9 Jul
- Use the application postcard (available in the official leaflet distributed at all 65 post offices) or a regular postcard with the following details (one applicant per card; postage: ¥85):
- (1) Postal code & address
- 2 Phone number
- ③ Name
- 4 Date of birth
- (5) Gender
- ⑥ Number of certificates (max 4)
- 7 Chosen pick-up location (one)

Mail to: Wakayamashi Puremiamutsuki Shohinken Jigyo Jimukyoku, 5-61 Misono-chō, Wakayama MIO Yonkai, 640-8331

XIncomplete postcards are invalid.



How to Purchase

Digital Certificates: Charge the amount in the new Wakayama Pay app via credit card or convenience store payment. (Note: The 2024 version of the app cannot be used. Download the new app, expected to be available by 28 Jul.)

Paper Certificates: Bring your winner notice to your chosen pick-up location and pay in cash.



New App Icon

Enquiries Wakayama City Premium Gift Certificate Call Center ☎ 0120-138-520 (9:00 – 17:30)



Check the Furigana (Phonetic Reading) of Your Name

Due to a recent amendment to the Family Register Act, the phonetic reading (*furigana*) of each name will be added to the family register (*koseki*).

The municipality of your registered domicile (honseki) will send you a notice regarding the furigana scheduled for your name. If your registered domicile (honseki) is in Wakayama City, the notice will be sent around late July 2025. When the notice arrives, please check the furigana carefully.

If the furigana is correct:

No action is required. The furigana shown on the notice will be automatically entered into the register on 26 May 2026.

If the furigana is incorrect:

Submit a correction by 25 May 2026.

How to File a Correction

 At the counter of the municipal office where your family register (koseki) is kept





City Website

Myna Portal

- By post to the municipality of your registered domicile (honseki)
- Online via the My Number Portal (Myna Portal)

What to Bring (for in-person submission)

- Photo ID
- The notice you received (You can still file even if you no longer have the notice.)

Enquiries

General questions about filing:

☎ 0570-05-0310 (Weekdays 08:30-17:15)

Questions about notices sent by Wakayama City:

☎ 435-1232 (Weekdays 08:30–17:15, from 1 Jul)

46th Civic Cultural Festival

Event	Start Time
Shinbuyo Dance	Sun 13 Jul 11:00
Ballet & Modern Dance	Sun 20 Jul 13:00

▼Location: Wakayamajo Hall

▼Admission: Free

▼Contact: Cultural Promotion

Division 2 435-1194

Japan-Taiwan Exchange Events

① Japan–Taiwan School Exchange Concert:

Mon 14 Jul 18:00

② Wakayama International Music Fest: Wed 23 Jul 09:00 Location: Wakayamajo Hall

Enquiries: Wakayama International Music Exchange Committee http://nazuki-

oka.main.jp/

57th Kishū Odori "Bundara Bushi" Dance Festival

▼Date: Sat 2 Aug ▼Opening
Ceremony 17:30- ▼Parade Dancing
18:05-21:20 [Part 1] New Version
"Bundara 21" [Part 2] Traditional
Bundara Bushi ▼Street Fair: from
16:00-21:20 ▼Eve Festival: Fri 1 Aug
(see city website ID 1003239 for
details) ▼Enquiries: Kishu Odori
Planning Committee (within Tourism
Division) ☎ 435-1234

Tax & Insurance Payment Deadline

Thu 31 Jul

Advanced Elderly Medical Ins. (75+) 1st Installment

Insurance Gen. Affairs Div. **23** 435-1062

Nat'l Health Ins. 2nd Installment

Nat'l Health & Pension Div.

2 435-1214

Nursing Care Ins. 2nd Installment

Nursing Care Ins. Div.

★ 435-1334

Fixed Asset / City Planning Tax 2nd Installment

Please pay by the due date. Bank account transfer is the easiest way to pay city taxes. Apply at your bank counter or, for applicable banks, online.

Enquiries: Tax Revenue Div.

23 435-1038

Advanced Elderly Medical Insurance

Eligibility Certificate

Whether or not you use the My Number (Myna) health insurance card, a new Advanced Elderly Medical Insurance Eligibility Certificate (light green) will be mailed to you between early and mid-July. (Valid through 31 Jul 2026.)

Please present either your MyNa health insurance card or this confirmation card when visiting a medical facility.

Insurance Premium Notice

The FY 2025 premium notice and payment slips will be sent by mail in mid-July.

Enquiries: Insurance General Affairs Division ☎ 435-1062

National Pension Premium Exemption & Payment Deferment

National Pension – Important Info Unpaid premiums may disqualify you from: Receiving pension in old-age, Disability Basic Pension & Surviving Family Basic Pension. If you're having trouble paying, you might be eligible for exemption or deferment by applying.

FY2025 Coverage (Jul 2025 - Jun 2026)

- Application starts Tue 1 Jul.
- Retroactive application possible for up to 25 months.
- If previously approved with auto-renewal (full exemption or deferment), no reapplication needed.

Maternity Exemption (Prem. waived during pregnancy/after childbirth)

Eligibility: Cat-1 insured person with a due date/birth date on or after 1 Feb 2019

Exemption period: (1) Singleton Pregnancy: 4 mos. total, starting from 1 month before your due/birth month; (2) Multiple Pregnancy: 6 mos. total, starting from 3 mos. before your due/birth month **Covers births after 85+ days gestation (incl. stillbirths, miscarriages, premature delivery)

Enquiries: National Health Insurance & Pension

Division **2** 435-1055

Wakayama East Pension Office 🕿 474-1841

The 23rd Wakayama Jazz Marathon Registration Now Open! Marathon Date: 9 Nov 2025 (Sun)

Application Deadline: 1 Sep 2025 (Mon)
Application booklets are available in the city hall
1F lobby and at municipal gymnasiums.

How to Apply: (1) Online (event website); (2) Lawson convenience store kiosks "Loppi" (touch-screen terminals located near the cashier)

Event Categories: Half Marathon, 10 km, 5 km, 3 km, 2 km. Wheelchair users (non-racing chairs) can join the 2 km category (limited to the first 10 applicants). Please contact the Sports Promotion Division to register.

Need more details?

See the booklet or visit the Wakayama City website

Enquiries: Sports Promotion Division 2 435-1364

Japan's top long-distance runner
Yuki Kawauchi
will join the race!

Guest Runner

Race-Day Volunteer Staff Wanted!
Check the city website for application details.