

Know Your City Newsletter

Wakayama City International Affairs Div.



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Pick Up
01

Beginning in February

Citizen and Prefectural Tax Filing for FY 2026

The filing period for the FY 2026 Citizen and Prefectural Tax declarations will begin in February at City Hall and branch offices. Please check the schedule below for details. To help reduce congestion, we kindly ask those who can file by mail to do so.

Filing at City Hall (2nd Floor, Window #4)

Filing Period: Feb 16 (Mon) – Mar 16 (Mon)

Filing at Branch Offices

Hours: AM: 9:30 – 12:00

PM: 13:00 – 16:00



Branch	Date	AM	PM
Kawanaga	2/3	○	○
Yamaguchi	2/3	○	—
Okazaki	2/4	○	○
Yasuhaba	2/5	○	○
Nishiwaki	2/5	○	○
Ogura	2/6	○	○
Nishiwasa	2/6	○	—

Branch	Date	AM	PM
Wasa	2/9	○	○
Higashi-Sando	2/9	○	—
Isao	2/10	○	○
Nishi-Sando	2/12	○	○
Kii	2/12	○	○
Kada	2/13	○	—
Nogawa	2/13	○	—

Main Tax Reforms Effective from 2026

Review of Salary Income Deductions

For those with income (from salary, etc.) of less than 1,900,000 yen, the minimum guaranteed salary income deduction amount will increase from 550,000 yen to 650,000 yen (Effective for 2026 Individual Inhabitant Taxes based on income from the period of 1/1/2025 – 12/31/2025).

Increase in Income Ceiling to Qualify for Dependency Exceptions

- For dependents living off of the same income or dependents in your family, the total income ceiling for the prior year has increased from 480,000 yen or less, to 580,000 yen or less.
- For children of single parents, the total combined gross income ceiling for the prior year has increased from 480,000 yen or less, to 580,000 or less.
- For working students, the total income ceiling has increased from 750,000 yen or less, to 850,000 yen or less.

Creation of a Designated Family Member Special Deduction System

If the prior year's income crosses the 580,000 yen ceiling, dependents eligible for deductions the are between the ages of 19-22 will now still be eligible for deductions under a tiered progressive system.

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For 2025

Announcement from the Tax Office Regarding Tax Filings

Inquiries: Wakayama Tax Office ☎ 424-2131

Acceptance of and inquiries about tax returns for 2025 income taxes begins on 2/16/2026 (Mon.).

※Filings for refunds can be submitted even prior to 2/13/2026 (Fri.).

With your **smartphone** and **My Number Card** (and its two passwords), you can easily create your filings without going to the Tax Office.

For consultations on 2/13/2026 or earlier regarding filings from 2024 and prior, **an appointment is required**.

We do not accept walk-ins.

You can make appointments online from the National Tax Agency's official Line account.



National Tax Agency Line Account

For Questions or Consultations on National Taxes

【National Tax Consultation Line】

☎ 0570-00-5901

Hours: Weekdays, 8:30-17:00

(Not available on weekends, holidays, and 12/29-1/3)



For Consultations and Details on National Taxes

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03

For Those Who No Longer Possess Their Moped or Light Motor Vehicle Don't Forget About Deregistering Procedures

Light Motor Vehicle Taxes are taxes that must be paid by those who possess Light Motor Vehicles, Motorized Bicycles, Special Small Motor Vehicles, or Motorcycles as of 4/1 each year (taxes varying by type).

If you currently do not possess your vehicle due to decommission, transfer of ownership, theft, etc., ensure that you report these changes (deregistering or change of ownership) by 4/1/2026 (Wed.).

Light Motor Vehicle Types	Location for Procedures and Inquiries
• Motorized Bicycles (Less than 125cc)	Residential Tax Division (City Hall, Main Building, 2F) ☎ 435-1035
• Special Small Motor Vehicle	
• Light Two-Wheeled Vehicles (125cc – 250cc)	Wakayama Transportation Branch Office ☎ 050-5540-2065 (Automated Phone System)
• Small Two-Wheeled Automobiles (Greater than 250cc)	
• Light Motor Vehicles (Three-Wheeled and Four-Wheeled)	Light Motor Vehicle Inspection Organization, Wakayama Office ☎ 050-3816-1846 (Call Center)



Caution!

- ▶ If you do not finish reporting these changes, you will be required to pay the taxes for 2026.
- ▶ Even if you have already sold or traded in the vehicle, if you do not finish the procedures, you will be taxed.
- ▶ Even if you deregister your vehicle during the year, you will not receive any refund.
- ▶ It becomes very busy during March, so please report any changes as early as possible.

Deadline for Taxes and Insurance February 2nd (Mon.)

Fixed Asset Tax, City Planning Tax (4th Period)

Tax Revenue Division ☎ 435-1038

Senior's Health Insurance (7th Period)

Insurance General Affairs Division ☎ 435-1062

National Health Insurance (8th Period)

National Health Insurance and Pension Division ☎ 435-1214

* The notice of insurance paid over the period of January 2025 – December 2025 will be sent in late January.

Nursing Care Insurance (8th Period)

Nursing Care Insurance Division ☎ 435-1334



Local Goods Tickets Totaling 6,000 Yen will be Distributed to All Residents

Commerce Promotion Division ☎ 435-1041

With the goal of assisting individuals and businesses affected by rising prices, we will distribute tickets for local goods that can be used at participating stores within the city.

Eligibility All Citizens

Amount 6,000 Yen Per Person (6 Tickets of 1,000 Yen Each)

Distribution Sent to Head of Households (No Application Necessary)

Locations Retail Stores, Restaurants, as well as Transportation, Service Providers, etc. Info will be listed on city website.

* Once prepared, we will begin the recruitment of participating businesses.

Schedule Estimated Mailing Period: Incrementally shipped from Mid-March, 2026.

Estimated Usage Period: Until Mid-September, 2026.

One-Off Payment of 20,000 Yen Per Child!

Child and Family Division ☎ 435-1219

We will be giving compensation to support families raising children that have felt the affects of rising prices.

Children Eligible

1. Those eligible for Child Allowance Benefits for the month of September, 2025 (including children born in September).
2. Those who had/have a child born during the timeframe of 10/1/2025 – 3/31/2026.

For parents that #1 applies to (excluding government employees), we will deposit the amount directly into your account, so no application is necessary. For parents that #2 applies to as well as government employees, an application is necessary.

Disbursement Incrementally from February

Details on disbursement method and applications will be made available on the city website.(ID : 1066501)



Pension Program Starts at 20 Years Old

All persons living in Japan between the ages of 20 – 59 years old are required to enroll in the National Pension program. There are three different types of enrollments:

Category 1 Insured Persons: Students, Self-employed, Unemployed, etc.

Category 2 Insured Persons: Private sector employees, Public sector employees, etc.

Category 3 Insured Persons: Dependents under the care of a Category 2 Insured Person

* The insurance fee for 2025 is 17,510 yen per month. There is a system for deferments and exceptions for students and others that have difficulty making the payments. Please come for a consultation at the pension counter.

Insurances Fees are Less when Paid Ahead of the Deadline

Insurance fees are discounted when paid early. The discount increases for those who set up payment via bank transfer.

Inquiries:

National Health Insurance and Pension Program ☎ 435-1055

Wakayama East Pension Office ☎ 474-1841

J-Alert Test Broadcast Message

Date and Time: 2/6 (Fri.) at 11:00 (Back-Up Date and Time: 2/20 (Fri.) at 11:00)

Details: From Disaster Prevention Wireless communication, you will receive: 「これはJアラートのテストです。」 (This is a test from J-Alert.)

* Due to weather, seismic activity, etc., there is a possibility that the test broadcast is cancelled. If a cancellation is decided, a notification will be posted to the city website, etc. as soon as possible.

Inquiries: Disaster Prevention Division

☎ 435-1199

Preventative Vaccinations for the Elderly

1. Influenza Vaccine

Eligibility: Those registered as a citizen of Wakayama City and meet either of the following qualifications.

1. Those over 65 years old.
2. Those between the ages of 60 – 64 years old with a level 1 Physical Disability Certificate due to an immuno-deficiency disorder from HIV or heart, kidney, breathing issues.

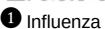
Vaccination Timeframe

Until 1/31 (Sat.)



Number and Cost

One vaccination, 1,000 yen



2. Shingles Vaccine

Eligibility: Those registered as a citizen of Wakayama City, have not been vaccinated, and meet either of the following qualifications.

1. Those who turn 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, or over 100 years old this year.
2. Those between the ages of 60 – 64 years old with a level 1 Physical Disability Certificate due to an immuno-deficiency disorder from HIV or heart, kidney, breathing issues.

Vaccination Timeframe

Until 3/31 (Tue.)

Number and Cost

One vaccination (BIKEN), 3,000 yen
Two vaccinations (SHINGRIX), 6,000 yen each

* In order to receive two vaccines within the timeframe, make sure to get the first one in Mid-January.

For Both Vaccinations:

If you are a recipient of support benefits, such as Public Assistance, benefits for Remaining Japanese in China, etc., the cost is waived. For more details, please check the Wakayama City Infectious Disease Surveillance Center website.

Health Policy Division ☎ 488-5118



Group Cancer Screenings (Stomach, Lung, Large Intestine, Breast)

A. Stomach Cancer (Barium X-Ray)

Eligibility: 50+ years old, even-numbered age
* Those of an odd-numbered age that did not get screened last year are also eligible.

Number of Participants: 20 people (lottery)

Cost: 1,000 yen for 50-69 year-olds, 500 yen for 70+ year-olds

B. Lung Cancer (Chest X-Ray)

Eligibility: Those over 40 years old

Number of Participants: 50 people (lottery)

Cost: Free



Application for Location ③

Applications for Locations ①②④⑤

C. Large Intestine Cancer (Fecal Occult Blood Test)

▼ **Eligibility:** Those over 40 years old

▼ **Number of Participants:** 50 people (lottery)

▼ **Cost:** Free

D. Breast Cancer (Mammography Imaging)

Eligibility: 40+ years old, even-numbered age

* Those of an odd-numbered age that did not get screened last year are also eligible.

Number of Participants: 20 people (lottery)

Cost: 1,500 yen for 40-69 year-olds, 700 yen for 70+ year-olds
※ Those who are currently breastfeeding or have breastfed within the past 6 months are not eligible.

Inquiries and Applications:

Regional Health Division ☎ 488-5121

Application: By QR code, phone, or postcard

※ Please include your address, name, date of birth, phone number, requested date of examination, and requested exam(s).

※ Those who have symptoms are not eligible to receive screening for that area. For those currently receiving treatment or are under observation, please consult with your doctor.

※ Screenings are possible for single exams or multiple exams.

※ Stomach, lung, and breast cancer group screenings will be performed in a screening bus. Imaging will be performed by a male technician.

Exam Date	Reception	Location	A	B	C	D	Apply By
① 2/4 (Wed.)	13:30 – 15:30	Kita Health Center			○	○	1/14 (Wed.)
② 2/9 (Mon.)	13:30 – 15:30	Nishi Health Center			○	○	1/19 (Mon.)
③ 2/10 (Tue.)	9:00 – 11:00	Minami Health Center	○	○	○	○	1/20 (Tue.)
④ 2/14 (Sat.)	8:30 – 10:30	Big Ai			○	○	1/22 (Thu.)
⑤ 2/20 (Fri.)	13:30 – 15:30	Wakayamashi Health Center			○	○	1/29 (Thu.)

In Commemoration of the Memorandum for Further Exchange Between Wakayama City and Kaohsiung City

Kaohsiung City Photography Exhibition

In commemoration of the memorandum signed by Wakayama City and Taiwan's Kaohsiung City on the advancement of exchange, the citizens of both cities are holding a photography exhibition.

The 50 photographs from the citizens of Kaohsiung based on their theme of *The Scenery of our City* are breathtaking!

Free Entry!!

Please come and see these works of art up close!



1/20 (Tue.)

From 10:00

Opening Ceremony, Ribbon Cutting, and more.

1/24 (Sat.)

①11:00 – 11:30

②14:00 – 14:30

Santaizi Performance



MC: Sumitani

Erhu Performance



Tanaka Yoichi (Erhu) Yoshida Yuuya (Erhu) Sudo Eriko (Piano)

Bubble Tea ➤

For the first 30 guests each time

西湖Cafe
YOKOZU
寶島

珍珠奶茶

Bubble Tea

1/25 (Sun.)

Erhu Musical Performance

①11:00 – 11:30 ②14:00 – 14:30

Bubble Tea Present

①From 12:00 ②From 15:00

Exhibition Period

1/20 (Tue.) – 1/25 (Sun.) 2026

Location: Wakayama-jo Hall (Exhibition Room, 1F)

The last day will have a shorter time for viewing. 1/20 – 1/24: 10:00 – 17:00, 1/25: 10:00 – 16:00

Organizers: Wakayama City, Kaohsiung City

Inquiries: International Affairs Division TEL. 073-435-1010



Homepage

Sumitani

WBS Nakagawa Tomomi

Know Your City January 2026