



The Saitama Prefectural Government

# International Division Newsletter

May 27, 2019 Issue No. 73

Saitama Prefecture Website: [www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/](http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/)

International Division Homepage: <http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/soshiki/a0306/index.html>

Newsletter: <http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0306/kokusaika-newsleter-36.html>



Welcome to the Saitama Prefectural Government International Division Newsletter.

This newsletter is designed to help inform Saitama residents of services provided by the Saitama Prefectural Government. It also features useful information for everyday living as well as seasonal tips on places you may want to visit and enjoy with friends and family.

The International Division newsletter is displayed in five formats: Japanese using both kanji and kana, simple Japanese in hiragana only, and translations in English, Chinese, and Korean.

Don't miss our next edition coming out in July 2019. We hope you enjoy it.

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## ◆ Governor's Column

This month's column, *Rugby World Cup 2019™*, can be viewed via the following link:  
<http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0306/english-top/column-e.html>

## ◆Saitama Prefecture News

### Payment Deadline for Automobile Tax is Friday, May 31!

An automobile tax notice was sent out on Tuesday, May 7, to all people in possession of a motor vehicle as of April 1. Please be sure to make the payment by the payment deadline.

★ By scanning the QR code on your automobile tax notice envelope, information on how to pay your automobile tax, etc., will be displayed in 11 languages, including English.



### Stay Safe While Traveling Abroad: Sign Up for Tabi-Regi (Trip Registry)!

The Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) has created a "Tabi-Regi" (たびレジ), a trip registry system, to help Japanese-speaking travelers abroad. If you will be traveling abroad on leisure or business for less than three months, you can register the details of your trip (travel plans, accommodations, emergency contacts, etc.) on Tabi-Regi. While you are abroad, the nearest Japanese embassy will use this system to send you information on safety during any emergency situations and to confirm your safety in the case of a major incident or disaster. Not only will this new system help you stay safe, it will also help with general safety and security of travelers and crisis management. If you will be taking short-term trips abroad, please remember to register on Tabi-Regi before your trip!

☆ To register and for more information (MOFA website): <https://www.ezairyu.mofa.go.jp/tabireg/>

## ◆International Division News

### Seeking "Nihongo Partners" to Connect Saitama Prefecture to Asia!

Applications have opened for individuals who would like to participate in the Nihongo Partners program. Participants will be partnered with Japanese-language teachers and students in schools across Asia to assist in the classroom and spread Japanese culture, becoming bridges that connect Japan to other regions in Asia. Through collaboration between Saitama Prefecture and the Japan Foundation's Asia Center, this year's Nihongo Partners Project participants will be sent to schools in Indonesia, Thailand, and Vietnam.

※ Application period: From May 24 (Friday) to July 16 (Tuesday), 2019

☆ For more details please refer to the following website:

<http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0306/japanese-partners.html> (Japanese)

### ★ Information Sessions on the Nihongo Partners Program

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> Session May 26 (Sunday) 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Session June 8 (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
Venue: Omiya Sonic City (Meeting Room 904)

※ As only limited seats are available, please apply in advance to the following contact address.

Contact Address: General Affairs and Global Human Resources Group, International Division,  
Department of Public Services, Saitama Prefectural Government  
TEL: 048-830-2711 E-mail: [a2705-01@pref.saitama.lg.jp](mailto:a2705-01@pref.saitama.lg.jp)

### Applications Open for Foreign Visitor Volunteer Guide Training Sessions

With international sports competitions such as the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games approaching, a vast increase in the number of foreign visitors to Saitama Prefecture is expected. This is an excellent opportunity to represent Saitama as a volunteer guide and help our prefecture as a whole to welcome guests with a warm spirit of hospitality. Foreign residents are also welcome to participate!

#### 【1<sup>st</sup> Application Period】

- |                      |                              |  |
|----------------------|------------------------------|--|
| ★ Saitama City Venue | June 19 (Wed), June 26 (Wed) | Omiya Sonic City                       |
| ★ Asaka City Venue   | July 7 (Sun), July 14 (Sun)  | Asaka City Industry and Culture Center |

For more details about applications and future training sessions, please refer to the Saitama International Association website:

<http://sia1.jp/topics/annaivolunteer/>

- ※ If a large number of applications are received, participants will be chosen by a random lottery.
- ※ Anyone aged 15 or above who lives, works, or attends school in Saitama Prefecture can apply (excluding junior high school students); no English knowledge is necessary.
- ※ Lessons are given primarily in Japanese (excluding a language lesson scheduled for the second day).
- ※ This program is not affiliated with any other 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games-related volunteer programs.

### A Guide to Living in Saitama: Updated Version Now Available!

Saitama Prefecture has created *A Guide to Living in Saitama* which residents can use to easily look up information concerning daily life. It also has a list of consultation help desks and other places that can address questions and concerns. The guide can be accessed in English, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese, Korean, and Japanese.

★The most recent version of *A Guide to Living in Saitama* can be found on the International Division homepage at:

<http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0306/tabunkakyousei/seikatsu-guide.html>

There is also a 15-minute video on YouTube called “Let’s Live in Saitama!” This video contains a variety of useful information on life in Saitama, including what to do if you get sick or are in trouble, children’s education, calling or visiting Saitama Information and Support and other services, and visiting your local city, town, or village’s administrative offices. You can also find a leaflet online that you can fill in with any information you need as you watch the video.

For more details, to watch the video, or download the leaflet, please use the links below:

★YouTube Video: Let’s Live in Saitama!

(Available in English, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese, Korean, Tagalog, and Japanese.)

<http://www.youtube.com/user/saitamakenkokusaika>

★International Division Homepage: Links to the video and the leaflet; scroll down until you see your preferred

language. (Available in English, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese, Korean, Tagalog, and Japanese.)

<http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0306/liveinsaitama.html>

### **Multilingual Disaster Preparedness Guide Available in 7 Languages**

In coordination with NPOs experienced in providing support for foreign residents, Saitama Prefecture has published a disaster preparedness guide translated into Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese, and Tagalog. Please read the guide and use it to help prepare in case of a disaster:

<http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0306/bosaiguide.html>



### **◆ Outing Guide and Events**

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#### **Saitama TV and Radio Broadcast Stations**

##### Saitama Prefectural Government Radio Station

FM NACK5 broadcasts *Morning Square* every Monday to Friday morning from 8:15 am to 8:25 am, offering listeners good music as well as public messages on government services and events.

To access past broadcasts, you can visit <http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0301/morning-square/>

#### **Saitama Websites for Tourism and More**

Saitama Doga presents videos introducing the best that Saitama has to offer, from entertainment to sightseeing to tourism and more: <https://www.youtube.com/user/prefsaitama>

Choko-Tabi Saitama (A Little Trip to Saitama) provides general and tourist information about Saitama in Japanese, English, Chinese, and Korean: <http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/chokotabi-saitama/index.html>

Welcome to Sai-no-Kuni! Saitama Tourism and Fun Information:

<http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/theme/kankou/index.html>



### **◆ Editor's Column**

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Two months have already passed since the new fiscal year began in April. We hope that everyone who has started new schools or new jobs has been fulfilled in their daily lives so far.

Here in the International Division we've started working with new staff on the newsletter, and we're excited to provide articles and useful information to our readers. This year we will continue to keep you informed of a number of projects including *A Guide to Living in Saitama*, the Saitama Sister-State Scholarships, and more to promote multicultural coexistence and global human resources development. We look forward to hearing your comments and feedback.

Editor (M.S.)

If there are any articles that you found interesting in the International Division Newsletter, or if you wish to suggest a topic that you would like us to feature, please send your thoughts to the Saitama Prefecture International Division via the contact details below:

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Takasago 3-15-1, Urawa-ku, Saitama-shi, Saitama-ken, 330-9301  
Tel 048-830-2714 / Fax 048-830-4748

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