

# Living in Koriyama

## A Guidebook for Foreign Residents

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# 1. Living in Koriyama

## Moving-in Procedures

Foreigners that plan to live in Japan for more than three months will have to register themselves as a resident. When you move to Koriyama you have to submit a “Moving-in Notification (*tennyu todoke* 転入届)” within 14 days of taking residence. You can find more information about your residence card and status of residence on the [Immigration Services Agency Website](#).

## Where to Go?

[Citizen Affairs Division \(City Hall West Building 1F\)](#)

[Administration Centers](#)

[Koriyama Citizen Service Center](#)

[Midorigaoka Citizen Service Center](#)

## Necessary Documents to Bring With You

1. Residence Card (or passport if you haven't received a Residence Card yet).
2. A “Moving-out Notification (*tenshutsu todoke* 転出届)” from your previous municipality if you are moving to Koriyama from within Japan.
3. The original and a Japanese translation of a document that proves your relationship if you are living with your family, such as a marriage certificate or a birth certificate.

## Moving Within Or Out Of Koriyama

When you move within or out of Koriyama, you have to submit a “Change of Address Notification (*tenkyo todoke* 転居届).”

	Submission deadline	Necessary Documents
Moving within Koriyama	Within 14 days <b>after</b> moving to your new address	Residence Card
Moving out of Koriyama	Within 1 month <b>before</b> the planned moving date	Residence Card

## Submitting a “Change of Address Notification” to the Post Office

The post office will send your post to your new address if you submit a “Change of Address Notification” for a period of one year. Ask your local post office for [more information](#).

### **Contact:**

#### [Citizen Affairs Division](#)

Koriyama City Hall West Building 1F

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-2131

## My Number Card

Every person with a “Certificate of Residence (*juminhyo* 住民票)” in Japan will receive a “[My Number](#).” This number is a very important part of your personal information that is used for tax and social insurance purposes such as pension, unemployment insurance and health insurance. You will receive a My Number notification within two to three weeks after registering yourself as a resident for the first time. Once you receive this notification, you can apply for a My Number Card online or at the City Hall. If you already have a My Number Card you have to complete the procedure to

change to address on the card within 90 days after submitting your “Moving-in Notification (*tennyu todoke* 転入届).”

## Where to Complete the Procedure?

[Koriyama My Number Card Center \(City Hall West Building 1F\)](#)

[Koriyama Big-i MyNa Station](#)

[Administration Centers](#)

Citizen Service Centers

For more information about the My Number Card, check the [Immigration Services Agency of Japan Website](#).

### **Contact:**

[My Number Division](#)

Koriyama City Hall West Building 1F

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-2130

## 2 Health Insurance

### Health Insurance

If you have had residency status for more than three months you must enroll in the Public Health Insurance. You will receive a “Eligibility Confirmation Certificate (*shikaku kakuninsho* 資格確認書).” If you show the certificate at hospitals and clinics you will only have to pay 10% to 30% of the medical bill.

### Types of Public Health Insurance

There are three types of public health insurances.

1. Social Insurance
2. National Health Insurance
3. Medical Care System for Elderly in the Latter Stage of Life

### Social Insurance

This insurance is for anyone who is employed at a company or other business. You can ask your employer or colleagues for more information about this insurance.

### National Health Insurance

Those who do not have social insurance must enroll in the [National Health Insurance](#). Complete the procedures at the National Health Insurance Division at the City Hall, an Administration Center, or a Civil Service Center. You will receive a “National Health Insurance Premium Payment Slip (*nofusho* 納付書)” after completing the procedures. You have to make the payment before the deadline.

### Necessary Documents to Bring

1. Residence Card
2. Certificate of Health Insurance Coverage Loss (*shikaku soshitsu shomeisho* 資格喪失証明書) if you are switching from social insurance to national health insurance. More information can be found on the [City of Koriyama Website](#).

## Medical Care System for Elderly in the Latter Stage of Life

People aged 75 or older will be automatically enrolled in the [Medical Care System for Elderly in the Latter Stage of Life](#). You don't have to complete procedures. You will receive a payment slip to pay your premiums. Make sure to pay before the deadline.

## High-Cost Medical Expense Benefit

If your monthly copayment is high in a certain month you can apply for a partial reimbursement that you will receive at a later date. You can also apply for an “[Eligibility Certificate for Ceiling-Amount Application](#) (*gendogaku tekiyo ninteisho* 限度額適用認定書)” ahead of time to reduce the out-of-pocket amount you have to pay. More information can be found on the [City of Koriyama Website](#).

### **Contact:**

National Health Insurance Division

Koriyama City Hall Main Building 1F

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-927-2141 (National Health Insurance)

024-924-2146 (Medical Care System for Elderly in the Latter Stage of Life)

## 3 Pension

### Pension in Japan

People between the ages of 20 and 60 must enroll in the Public Pension System and pay premiums. Once you reach the age of 65, if you become disabled or if you become a widow or widower, you can receive pension.

### Types of Public Pension Plans

Public pensions include the Employees' Pension and the National Pension.

### Employees' Pension

You will be enrolled in the Employees' Pension if you are employed at a company or other organization. You can ask your employer for more information.

### National Pension

People who are not enrolled in the Employees' Pension must enroll in the National Pension. You can complete the necessary enrollment procedures at the National Health Insurance Division at Koriyama City Hall.

### Necessary Documents to Enroll in the National Pension

1. Residence Card and passport.
2. Certificate of Social Health Insurance Coverage Loss (*shakai hoken shikaku soshitsu shomeisho* 社会保険資格喪失証明書), or a Letter of Separation (*rishokuhyo* 離職票) if you are changing from the Employees' Pension to the National Pension.

## National Pension Premium

The 2024 monthly premium for the National Pension is set at ¥16,980. The 2025 monthly premium is set at ¥17,510. If you are having difficulties paying the premium, you might qualify for an exemption or postponement of payment. Check the [City of Koriyama Website](#) for more information.

## Lump-Sum Withdrawal Payment

If you have paid the national pension premiums for at least 6 months you can apply for a Lump-Sum Withdrawal Payment within two years after leaving Japan. If somebody else in Japan fills in the application for you, you must also submit a letter of proxy. You can complete the procedures at a Pension Office. More information can be found on the [Japan Pension Services Website](#).

### **Contact:**

National Health Insurance Division

Koriyama City Hall Main Building 1F

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-2141



## 4. Taxes

### Types of Taxes

Everyone who lives in Japan has to pay a variety of taxes, such as the individual inhabitant tax (*juminzei* 住民税), income tax (*shotokuzei* 所得税), and motor vehicle tax (*jidoshazei* 自動車税).

More information can be found on the [Ministry of Finance Website](#).

### Individual Inhabitant Tax

You have to pay this tax if you have an address in Japan as of January 1 and had income in the previous year. You will receive a payment slip from the City Hall which you have to pay before the payment deadline. In some cases your employer may deduct the amount from your salary and pay it on your behalf.

**Contact:**

[Municipal Tax Division](#)

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-2081

### Income Tax

This tax is imposed on the income that you earn. Your employer might deduct the amount from your salary and pay it on your behalf.

**Contact:**

[Koriyama Tax Office](#)

20-11 Domae-machi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8655

Tel: 024-932-2041

## Motor Vehicle Tax

You have to pay this tax if you own a motor vehicle as of April 1. This tax is separated into categories, based on the type of motor vehicle. You will receive a payment slip which you have to pay before the deadline.

### **Contact:**

**Motor Vehicle Tax** (Standard-sized cars etc.)

[Taxation Department, Ken-chu Development Bureau](#)

1-1-1 Hayama, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8876

Tel: 024-935-1261

**Light Motor Vehicle Tax** (“K” Motor vehicles, motorcycles etc.)

[Municipal Tax Division](#)

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-2081

## Other Taxes

Other taxes include the [Environmental Performance-Based Motor Vehicle Tax](#) that you pay when you purchase a motor vehicle, the [Fixed Property Tax](#) if you own a house or land, and the consumption tax when buying goods.

## Leaving Japan and Taxes

When you leave Japan before receiving your tax notice must assign someone who lives in Koriyama as their “[Tax Agent](#) (*nozei kanrinin* 納税管理人).” You can complete the procedure at the Property Tax Division at the City Hall, an Administration Center or at a Civic Service Center.

### **Contact:**

Property Tax Division

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-2091

## 5. Tax Payment Certificates and Income Tax Certificates

### Tax Payment Certificates and Income Tax Certificates

You may need these documents to renew or change your status of residence, or when you want to take out a loan. Check the [City of Koriyama Website](#) for more information.

### Necessary Documents to Bring With You

If you are the taxpayer who is filling in the application you have to bring identification such as your Residence Card, My Number card, driver's license, passport, or disability certificate.

### Application by Post or Online

You can send your application for the tax certificates by post, or apply for them online.

Check [this website](#) for how to apply by post.

Check [this website](#) for how to apply online.

### **Contact:**

Property Tax Division

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima 963-8601

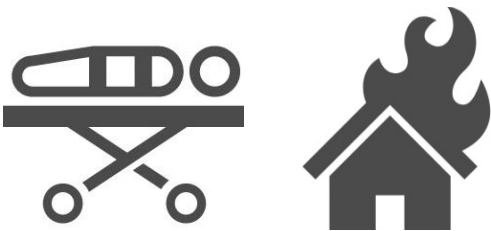
Tel: 024-924-2091

## 6. Emergencies

### What Number to Call during an Emergency

In Japan there are two numbers you can call in case of an emergency. Do NOT call them for other purposes.

#### 119 Medical Emergencies and Fire



Call 119 in case of a medical emergency, serious injury, or fire. Do NOT call this number for consultation, questions, or if you are able to go to the hospital yourself.

#### 110 Police



Call 110 to report crimes or traffic accidents. Do NOT call this number for consultation or questions.

#### Koriyama Holiday and Nighttime Medical Emergency Center

If you become ill during holidays or at night you can get help at this center. The center is open every night (excluding January 1) and during the day on Sundays and national holidays. Visit the [Koriyama Holiday and Nighttime Medical Emergency Center Website](#) for more information.

[The Emergency Center on Google Maps.](#)

**Contact:**

1-1 aza-Kami-Kameda, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8031

Tel: 024-934-5656

## Holiday and After-Hours Clinics and Pharmacies

These clinics and pharmacies are open during holidays. The lists below are subject to change. Make sure to call before you visit these clinics.

[List of Clinics](#)

[List of Pharmacies](#)

## Fukushima Prefecture Emergency Consultation Telephone

If you are unsure whether you should call an ambulance or not, you can call this number for more advice. The line is open 24/7.

Tel: #7119 or 024-524-3020

Check the [Prefecture of Fukushima Website](#) for more information.

## Fukushima Prefecture Child Emergency Consultation Telephone

You can call this number for advice when your child becomes ill at night. They will listen to how your child is doing and advice you over the phone. Phone lines are open from 07:00 p.m. till 08:00 a.m.

Tel: #8000 (or 024-521-3790)

Check the [Prefecture of Fukushima Website](#) for more information.

## 7. Hospitals

### Hospitals in and around Koriyama

Most hospitals and clinics are only able to provide services in Japanese. If possible, try to take someone who speaks Japanese with you when you visit a hospital or clinic to ensure that you get the help you need. You can find medical institutions on [Fukushima Medical Information Net](#) or [Safety Tips](#).

How to download the Safety Tips app:

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=jp.co.rcsc.safetyTips.android>

iPhone: <https://itunes.apple.com/jp/app/safety-tips/id858357174?mt=8>

### What if you cannot speak Japanese?

AMDA Medical Information Center helps foreigners that cannot speak Japanese by interpreting for them over the phone or via Zoom. If you want to use this service, talk to the hospital or clinic first. Then, have the hospital or clinic contact AMDA to set up a date and time.

Telephone number: 050-3405-0397 (the medical institution has to be the one calling).

The service is free, but normal phone rates apply. The service is only available for medical-related interpreting.

For more information, visit the [AMDA website](#).

## 8. Disasters

### Recent Major Disasters in Koriyama

In March 2011 the Great East Japan Earthquake and the subsequent accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant took place. In more recent years the East Japan Typhoon, earthquakes in the sea near Fukushima, and floods have happened.

### Potential Impacts of Disasters

1. You may be unable to use the telephone or internet.
2. Trains and buses may stop working.
3. Road may be blocked by debris.
4. You may be unable to use electricity, gas, and water.
5. You may be unable to purchase goods.
6. Schools and other facilities may be closed and turned into evacuation shelters.

### How to Prepare Yourself for a Disaster

It is important to prepare for a disaster in order to protect yourself should one occur. The City of Koriyama has made a video in Easy Japanese, English and Vietnamese with some helpful tips on what to do, as well as a handbook in Easy Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, and Tagalog.

### Video

Learn how to look up information about disasters, evacuation shelters and how to prepare.

[English](#)

[Easy Japanese](#)



## Disaster Handbook

This handbook has some helpful tips, as well as an evacuation map of Koriyama.

### [Online Version](#)

You can get a paper version at the Equality, Intercultural Society, and Youth Empowerment Division on the third floor of the City Hall West Building.

### **Contact:**

Equality, Intercultural Society, and Youth Empowerment Division

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-3351

## Information about Disasters in Koriyama

The City of Koriyama provides information about disasters through various channels, such as the official City website, newsletters, Facebook and X. Visit the [City of Koriyama Website](#) for more information.

### **Contact:**

### [Disaster and Emergency Management Division](#)

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-2161

## Safety Tips

Safety Tips is an app that provides information such as early warnings for earthquakes, tsunamis, and eruptions, as well as evacuation advice in 14 languages. Download the app [here](#). Visit the [Japan Tourism Agency Website](#) for more information.

## 9. Garbage

### How to Separate and Throw Away Garbage in Koriyama

In Japan, rules for separating and throwing away garbage are different depending on where you live. Ask your neighbors or the City Hall where and when to throw away your garbage.

### Koriyama Garbage Collection and Recycling Calendar

[English](#)

[Japanese](#)

Check [this website](#) for a more detailed explanation of how to separate garbage.

### (Video) How to Throw Away Garbage in Koriyama

The City of Koriyama has made a video for foreign residents to learn more about the rules of garbage separation in Koriyama. You can choose your language from the CC options below the video.

[Youtube](#)

### Reminders

1. Garbage should be properly separated and thrown away on the predetermined day and location. Garbage that is thrown away on the wrong day or at the wrong location will not be collected.
2. Garbage should be thrown away between 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. on the day of collection (no later than 7:00 a.m. if you live in Ekimae 1 and 2-chome, Nakamachi, and Omachi 1-chome).
3. Do not remove garbage from garbage collection points.

### **Contact:**

5R & Waste Management Division

City Hall Main Building 1F

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-2181

## 10. Housing

### Renting a House

There are two ways to rent a house in Japan. Public housing, and private rental housing.

### Public Housing

There is [prefectural housing](#) that is provided by the Prefecture of Fukushima, and [municipal housing](#) that is provided by the City of Koriyama. You have to meet certain criteria, such as a certain income, in order to qualify for public housing.

#### **Contact (Municipal Housing):**

Koriyama Municipal Housing Management Center

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8024

Tel: 024-924-7100

### Private Rental Housing

You can search for a house at a real estate agent (*fudosanya* 不動産屋). Keep in mind that in Japan you may have to pay a security deposit (*shikikin* 敷金), key money (*reikin* 礼金), and a renewal fee (*koshinryo* 更新料) in addition to the rent when you rent a house.

[Apartment Search Guidebook for Foreigners Looking for Houses in Japan](#) (Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism)

### Electricity, Gas, and Water

Once you have decided on a date to move into your new home, contact the utility companies to have your services started.

Utility	Contact
Water	<a href="#">City of Koriyama Water and Sewerage Bureau Customer Service Center</a> 1-4 Tomita, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8016 Tel: 024-932-7641
Electricity	Contact your local power company.  Your real estate agent will often be able to help you.
Gas	Contact your local gas company.  Your real estate agent will often be able to help you.

## Introducing Yourself After You Move In

It is common in Japan for people to introduce themselves to their neighbors after moving to a new house. Following this custom will often leave a good impression.

## Neighborhood Associations and Resident Associations

These associations engages in activities such as traffic safety and crime prevention. People in the community pay for the activities. Ask your neighbors if you have any questions.

### **Contact:**

NPO & Community Collaboration and Support Division

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-3471

## 11. Pregnancy

### Procedures to Complete When You Become Pregnant

Submit a “Notification of Pregnancy (*ninshin todoke* 妊娠届)” at the City Hall.

### Necessary Documents to Bring With You

1. Notification of Pregnancy (either from the hospital or the contact show below).
2. A document that shows your My Number.

(Check [this website](#) for more information about My Number.)

3. Identification such as your passport or Residence Card.

### Places Where You Can Complete the Procedure

1. Koriyama Chuo Public Health Center (inside the Koriyama Public Health Center)
2. Koriyama Minami Health Center (inside the Asaka Administration Center)
3. Koriyama Kita Health Center (inside the Fukuyama Administration Center)
4. Koriyama Nishi Health Center (inside the Katahira Administration Center)
5. Parenting and Family Consultation Division (on the third floor of Parenting and Family Support Center “Niko Niko Kodomo Kan”)

You will receive your [Maternal and Child Health Handbook](#) and the [Mother and Child Health Leaflet](#). These documents are free and are written in Japanese and English.

### Maternal and Child Health Handbook

This handbook is for keeping records of the mother’s prenatal period and the health of her child, such as the child’s vaccinations. Always take this handbook with you during hospital visits. You will need this handbook even if you move to a different municipality.

## Mother and Child Health Leaflet

You will undergo periodic health checkups at the hospital during your pregnancy. You need this leaflet in order to receive a subsidy for the cost of your [prenatal and postnatal health checkups](#), as well as for the hearing test for your newborn baby. Always take this leaflet with you during hospital visits.

**Contact:**

[Parenting and Family Consultation Division, General Consultation Unit](#)

1-2-3 Kuwano, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8025

Tel: 024-924-3691

## 12. After Your Baby Is Born

### Procedures to Complete After Your Baby Is Born

Submit a “Notification of Birth (*shussho todoke* 出生届)” within 14 days after your baby is born. If you and your baby will stay in Japan for more than 60 days after birth, you will have to [fill in documents at the Immigration Services Agency of Japan](#) within 30 days after birth. You most likely also have to fill in some documents at the embassy or consulate of your home country. Contact your embassy or consulate in Japan to check what procedures you will have to complete.

### Notification of Birth

#### Where to Complete the Procedure

Submit the Notification at the City Hall where the child was born, or where the father or mother lives.

#### Necessary Documents to Bring With You

1. Notification of Birth (available at your hospital)
2. Maternal and Child Health Handbook
3. Identification of the person submitting the Notification.

#### Who Can Submit?

Only the father or the mother of the child can submit the Notification.

### Nationality

If both parents are foreigners, the child will receive the nationality of the father or mother.

If one of the parents is Japanese, please contact the division below.



## **Contact:**

### [Citizen Affairs Division](#)

City Hall West Building 1F

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-2131

## Nationality

If one of the baby's parents is Japanese and the other is non-Japanese, you may choose one or both nationalities. However, the child must choose one nationality at a later time. If both of the parents are foreign nationals, the baby cannot acquire Japanese citizenship, even if they are born in Japan.

## Other Procedures

### National Health Insurance, Childbirth Lump-Sum Allowance, and Reduction of National Health Insurance Premium

Complete the procedure to enroll your child in the National Health Insurance within 14 days after birth. If a person enrolled in the National Health Insurance gives birth, the head of the household will receive a Childbirth Lump-Sum Allowance. If you are not using the direct payment method (meaning the City will directly pay the hospital), you will need to submit a request at the City Hall. Furthermore, the mother's Health Insurance premiums will be lowered for a certain amount of months.

If you are not enrolled in Koriyama's National Health Insurance, ask your company for more information.

For more information, check the sites below.

1. [Procedures for the National Health Insurance](#)
2. [Procedures to lower the Health Insurance premiums of the mother](#)

### 3. [Procedures for the Childbirth Lump-Sum Allowance](#)

#### **Contact:**

National Health Insurance Division

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-9601

Tel: 024-924-2141

#### Child Allowance

An allowance of between 5,000 yen and 15,000 yen per month is paid to those who are raising children who have yet to complete high school. Complete the procedure to receive child allowance within 15 days after your child is born. Visit the [City of Koriyama Website](#) for more information.

#### **Contact:**

[Parenting and Family Consultation Division, Child Benefit Unit](#)

Parenting and Family Support Center “Niko Niko Kodomo Kan”

1-2-3 Kuwano, Koriyama, Fukushima Fukushima 963-8025

Tel: 024-924-2411

#### Children’s Medical Costs Subsidy System

The City of Koriyama subsidizes medical expenses for children up to the age of 18. You must register to receive these benefits.

Visit the [City of Koriyama Website](#) for more information.

#### **Contact:**

[Parenting and Family Consultation Division, Child Benefit Unit](#)

Parenting and Family Support Center “Niko Niko Kodomo Kan”

1-2-3 Kuwano, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8025

Tel: 024-924-2411

## Immunizations and Infant Health Checkups

Immunizations make children less susceptible to disease. They also have the effect of preventing the spread of diseases throughout society. About one month after a baby's birth, the City mails out the "Sukusuku Set" — a set of documents required for immunization and infant health checkups. Make sure to bring these documents with you for immunizations and infant health checkups.

### **Contact (immunizations):**

[Mental Health, Intractable Disease, and Infectious Disease Control Division](#)

2-15-1 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8024

Tel: 024-924-2163

### **Contact (infant health checkups):**

Parenting and Family Consultation Division, [Child Development and Health Consultation Unit](#)

Parenting and Family Support Center "Niko Niko Kodomo Kan"

1-2-3 Kuwano, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8025

Tel: 024-924-3691

## Day Care Centers

You can bring your children to a day care center if both parents are working or if you cannot look after your children due to pregnancy or other reasons. There are licensed and unlicensed day care centers.

[10 Tips on How to Choose a Good Day Care Center](#)

## City of Koriyama Licensed Day Care Centers

You have to apply for admission to a day care center, as well as for certification of the need for daycare. If both parents are working, or looking for work, the need for day care will be acknowledged. You can get an admission form at the Day Care Division at City Hall. You can also download it from the website.

[List of Licensed Day Care Centers](#)

## Unlicensed Day Care Centers

Places other than City licensed day care centers are called unlicensed day care centers. Admission and fees may differ per day care center. Check [this website](#) for a list of Unlicensed Day Care Centers that require a notification.

## 13. Education

### Kindergartens and Certified Children's Centers

[Guidebook for Starting School](#) (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology website)

#### Kindergarten

Kindergartens are schools just like elementary and junior high schools. Children past their third birthday and up to before they enter elementary school are eligible to enroll. Day care hours are generally 4 hours per day. Extended day care services are available before and after the start and end of standard day care hours. Educational content and admission requirements vary from kindergarten to kindergarten. There are 27 private kindergartens in Koriyama. We recommend that you take part in kindergarten tours or one-day trials before enrolling your child in a kindergarten. For details, please visit the kindergartens' websites, or call them directly.

[List of kindergartens in Koriyama](#)

[Association of Private Kindergartens and Certified Children's Centers in Koriyama Website](#)

#### Certified Children's Centers

Certified Children's Centers provide education, day care, and parenting support for parents. Children zero years of age and older up to before elementary school age are eligible to enroll. These centers offer 4 hours of day care, just as kindergartens do, as well as 8- or 11-hour day care depending on the parents' working hours. There are 5 certified children's centers (kindergarten classification) in Koriyama. Parents must file a request for certification to enroll their children. Visit the [City of Koriyama Website](#) for more information.

## Free Early Childhood Education and Day Care

The City offers free, reduced, or subsidized day care fees. The details of these subsidies vary depending on the day care facility, the child's age, and their parents' employment status.

Visit the [City of Koriyama Website](#) for more information.

### **Contact:**

#### [Day Care Management and Support Division](#)

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-3541

## Compulsory Education (Elementary and Junior High Schools)

### Elementary school enrollment procedures

Children that are registered as residents in Koriyama are able to enroll in elementary school in the first April following their sixth birthday. Submit an Application for Admission of International Student at the School Education Promotion Division. The Koriyama Board of Education determines the school where your child will enroll depending on where you live.

#### [List of Public Schools in Koriyama](#)

After you submit your Application for Admission of International Student, you will receive an Enrollment Notice by mail in early October of the year before your child's enrollment year. Your child must receive a pre-enrollment physical examination on the date indicated on the Enrollment Notice. Make sure your child takes this examination. If you do not receive the Enrollment Notice because you moved to a different address, or have lost the Notice, please contact the Education

Management Division. The Enrollment Notice is also used during the entrance ceremony. Please do not throw it away.

**Contact:**

[Education Management Division](#)

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-2431

## Junior High School Enrollment Procedures

Enrollment Notices are handed out to sixth grade students at elementary schools. Students submit their Enrollment Notice to their new school on the day of enrollment. The Enrollment Notice is an important document and is to be submitted at the entrance ceremony. Please do not throw it away. You will receive an invitation to an enrollment orientation from the school where your child will be enrolling. Make sure to attend the orientation.

Purchasing your child's school uniform will take some time. After attending the enrollment orientation, and once you are clear on what preparations need to be made, make sure to start preparations as soon as possible.

Just as for elementary schools, the Board of Education determines the school where your child will enroll depending on where you live. Visit [this website](#) to find out which school your child will be enrolled in.

**Contact:**

[Education Management Division](#)

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-2431

## Transferring to an Elementary or Junior High School in Koriyama

Submit your "Application for Admission of International Student" to the School Education Promotion Division. If you need Japanese language support or other support, we will be happy to send an education counselor (Annual consultation limits apply). Consult with the School Education Promotion Division.

### **Contact:**

[Education Management Division](#)

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-2431

[Casta-Net](#), a search site for information on learning support for children and students with international connections.

## Enrolling in High School

### High Schools

Most children in Japan go on to high school after graduating from junior high school. In junior high school, you will have opportunities to discuss your child's education with their homeroom teacher. Be sure to discuss with your child about what they have in mind for the future. If you are unsure about something, ask others around you or teachers. Foreign children who have been in Japan for only 6 years or less may be eligible to take a special entry test for enrolling in prefectural high



schools. Asaka Kaisei High School is the only prefectural high school in Koriyama where international students can take the test.

[Asaka Kaisei High School Website](#)

[Koriyama Board of Education Website](#)

## Guidebook for Enrolling in High School

There is a guidebook available in English, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Tagalog, and Portuguese for foreign parents and children that live in Fukushima.

For more information check the [website](#).

### **Contact:**

Japanese Class of Koriyama

Tel: 090-9634-9386

Email: [koriyama.nihongo@gmail.com](mailto:koriyama.nihongo@gmail.com)

Website: <http://koriyama-nihongo.org>

## 14. Public Transport

### Public Transportation in Koriyama

Trains, buses, and shared-ride cabs are available within Koriyama.

#### How to Ride a Train

1. Check the route map for the fare to your destination.
2. Purchase your ticket at the ticket vending machine. Tickets for limited express trains and Shinkansen can be purchased at the “Midori no Madoguchi.”
3. Insert your ticket into the ticket gate machine and go through the ticket gate.
4. Board your train.

It is advised to get a smart card for public transport.

Elementary school students pay half the adult fare, and up to two young children under 6 years of age per accompanying adult ride free of charge.

[JR East Website](#)

#### How to Take a Bus (Paying in Cash)

1. Make sure to have small change in hand. 1,000 yen bills can be exchanged. 5,000 and 10,000 yen bills are not accepted.
2. Find out which buses are on the route to your destination.
3. Board the bus through the rear door.
4. Take a numbered ticket from the machine near the door.
5. As the bus approaches the bus stop where you want to get off, press the stop button.
6. Stand up from your seat after the bus stops.
7. Drop the numbered ticket and fare in the fare box next to the driver's seat. No change is given.

8. Get off the bus from the front door.

It is advised to get a smart card for public transport. You can also use your credit card.

Elementary school students pay half the adult fare, and up to two young children under 6 years of age per accompanying adult ride free of charge.

You can check the locations of buses on the [Fukushima Transportation Bus Location System](#).

[Fukushima Transportation Website](#)

[Aizu Bus Website](#)

## Shared-ride Taxies

Shared-ride taxies are available in the following areas in Koriyama: the Hiwada area, Tamura area, Nishita area, Mihota area, Ose area, Kikuta area, Katahira area and Nakata area, as well as in a part of the Atami area and Asaka area. The fare is ¥500 for adults, ¥250 for high school students or younger and people with a disability, and free for up to two children under 6 years of age per accompanying adult. This shared-ride taxi service is available for everyone, but reservation by phone is necessary.

Visit the [City of Koriyama Website](#) for more information.

### **Contact:**

[Traffic and Transportation Division](#)

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima

Tel: 024-924-3721

## 15. Driver's License

### A Valid Driver's License

To drive an automobile or motorcycle in Japan, you must carry an appropriate driver's license. Always carry your driver's license with you when you drive.

### Valid Driver's Licenses That Allow You to Drive in Japan

1. Driver's license obtained in Japan
2. International driver's license issued by a Geneva Convention signatory country.
3. A foreign driver's license (Switzerland, Germany, France, Belgium, Monaco, and Taiwan) with a Japanese translation prepared by a party designated by Japanese government ordinance.

Visit the [Metropolitan Police Department Website](#) for more information.

[Fukushima Prefecture Police Headquarters](#)

## 16. Traffic Rules

### Japan's Traffic Rules

In Japan cars drive on the left side and people walk on the right side of the road. Bicycles are defined as vehicles and therefore must be driven on the left side of the road. Make sure to follow the traffic rules and traffic lights. If you have to turn right on a bicycle, cross the crosswalk with pedestrians. Wear a helmet when you ride your bicycle.

### Traffic Rules for Bicycles and How to Ride Your Bicycle in Japan

The City of Koriyama has made a video about traffic rules for bicyclists. Click the link below to watch the video.

[Easy Japanese](#)

[English](#)

### Security Registration for Bicycles

You must complete your bicycle registration when you purchase a bicycle. You can do this at any shop that has a "Bicycle Registration Station" sign posted.

[Fukushima Crime Prevention Association Website](#)

### Citizen's Traffic Disaster Cooperative Society

Registered residents who live in Koriyama are eligible to join the Citizen's Traffic Disaster Cooperative Society. Members receive consolation payments for death, hospitalization, or hospital visits resulting from traffic accidents in Japan. The membership fee is ¥500 per person per year. You

can apply at the Safe Community Division at the Koriyama City Hall, Administration Centers, and Citizen Service Centers. Some neighborhood associations also take applications.

**Contact:**

Safe Community Division

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-2151

## 17. Learning Japanese

### Koriyama International Exchange Association (KIEA)

The Koriyama International Exchange Association (KIEA) offers Japanese language courses, private Japanese language lessons, and lectures about Japanese culture.

[KIEA Facebook](#)

[KIEA Website](#)

#### **Contact :**

KIEA Secretariat (Equality, Intercultural Society, and Youth Empowerment Division)

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-3351

### Private Japanese Classes

You can look for Japanese language classes given by volunteers in Fukushima on the following website: [Fukushima International Association \(FIA\) Website](#).

### Learning Japanese Website “Tsunagaru Hirogaru Nihongo de no Kurashi”

The Agency for Cultural Affairs runs a free Japanese language learning website “[Tsunagaru Hirogaru Nihongo de no Kurashi](#) (Connect and Enhance Your Life in Japanese).” The site supports 18 different languages.

## 18. Consultation

### Koriyama Foreign Resident Support Desk

At the Koriyama Foreign Resident Support Desk you can get information about learning Japanese and living in Japan. You can also get help at the Support Desk if you are having difficulties with the procedures at the City Hall.

**Contact:**

Koriyama Foreign Resident Support Desk

City Hall West Building 1F

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-2970

Email: intl-salon@city.koriyama.lg.jp

### Fukushima International Association (FIA)

This organization provides a variety of services related to international exchange and cooperation. Multiple-language consultation for international residents is available on many different aspects of daily life. Consultation hours differ per language. Thirteen languages are supported. You can consult face to face, over the phone, by Fax, email or LINE.

Tel: 024-524-1316

Fax: 024-521-8308

Email: ask@worldvillage

LINE: @901wzqzt

[FIA Website](#)



## Japan Legal Support Center “Hoterasu” Multilingual Information Service

Free information on Japanese systems and referrals to relevant organizations for issues associated with debt, divorce, labor, accident, visa, and disaster. The service is free of charge. Call charges apply. Available in 10 languages from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays. You have to make an appointment in advance.

[Hoterasu Website](#)

Tel: 0570-078377

## “Covid-19 Hotline” for Fukushima Foreign Residents

This is a hotline for international residents living in Fukushima Prefecture. The hotline is open 24 hours a day, including weekends and holidays, and is available in 20 languages. They can also be reached by LINE phone.

[Covid-19 Hotline Website](#)

Tel: 0120-992-860

## Foreign Residents Support Center (FRESC)

FRESC offers consultations to foreign nationals on having their residence in Japan. In addition to consultations for individual foreign nationals, FRESC also offers consultations for individuals and businesses associated with foreign nationals. Visit the [FRESC Website](#) for more information.

## Organization for Technical Intern Training Native Language Consultation

Technical intern trainees can consult about living in Japan and other concerns related to technical intern training. You can consult in your own language by phone, email, or letter. There are 8 languages available, and the service is free of charge.

[OTIT Website](#)

## Consultation Services for Foreign Workers and Employers in Fukushima

Foreign workers can receive consultations about work-related problems, career, or harassment at work.

Available every Friday (09:00 a.m.–11:50 a.m. and 12:00 a.m.–03:30 p.m.)

For more information, please visit their [website](#).

## 19. Information about Koriyama

### Koriyama Tourism Information

The Koriyama Tourist Association provides information about recommended tourist attractions, history and regional specialties. A tourist brochure is available for download.

[Koriyama Tourist Association Website](#)

### Koho Koriyama

Koho Koriyama is the City's official information magazine. In this magazine you can find information about living in Koriyama, consultation services, events looking for participants and more. Neighborhood associations deliver the magazine to houses in the area, but you can also find the magazine at supermarkets, banks and other places.

### Catalog Pocket

Catalog Pocket is an app that you can use to read Koho Koriyama in 10 different (auto-translated) languages, including English, Korean, Chinese and Vietnamese.

#### **Contact:**

[Public Relations Division](#)

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima 963-8601

Tel: 024-924-2061

### City of Koriyama Official Social Media Accounts

[LINE](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#)