

Public Relations Kyotango Magazine – January 2023



The Stairway to Adulthood Begins at 18!

Things to Know as a New Adult

January 9th is the first Coming-of-Age Day in Japan since the legal age of adulthood was changed from 20 years of age to 18 in April last year. What changes when you become an adult? What kind of effect will it have on your everyday life? Let's take a look below.

Change to the Civil Code

Ever since the Meiji Period until today, the legal age of adulthood under the Japanese Civil Code has always been 20 years of age. On April 1st, 2022, the Civil Code was reformed and the age of adulthood lowered from 20 to 18 years of age. In accordance to this change, 18- and 19-year-old citizens became adults on April 1st, 2022. Anyone who will turn 18 years old after April 1st, 2022 (born April 2nd, 2004 or later) will be recognized as adults on their birthday.



So, What Changes?

The age of adulthood, as interpreted from the Civil Code, is the age at which one can establish contractual agreements by oneself, or in other words, the age where one does not need his or her parent's consent to sign a contract.

For example, when you sign a contract with a cell phone company, rent your own apartment, make a credit card, or borrow a loan for a large purchase, you would need your parent's consent. However, when you become an adult, you can sign any of these contracts without your parent's consent.

What about Elections? (Japanese Citizens only)

The legal voting age for general elections and referendums to amend the Japanese Constitution has already been lowered to 18 years of age.

What about Marriage?

The legal age of marriage has been raised from 16 to 18 years of age. Both the man and the woman must be at least 18 years old.

Don't Find Yourself in Legal Trouble when Signing Contracts!

When you become an adult, you are able to sign contracts without parental consent, but you are no longer entitled to the right to withdraw from contracts as a minor. Which means, if *you* sign a contract, *you* are the only person responsible for what happens after the contract is signed.

There are rules after rules for contracts. If you are not armed with the right knowledge, then you may possibly get into trouble by signing contracts too easily. There are businesses that target young adults who no longer have the guidance of their parents nor much real-world experience. In order keep trouble away as a consumer, it is important to educate yourself about the different rules for contracts and learn how to

discern for yourself whether or not you need the contract while you are still a minor.

Consumer Affairs Agency

[*Shakai e no Tobira* - The Door to the Real World]

12 Quizzes to Learn How to be an Independent Consumer



What You Can Do When You Turn 18 Years Old

- Sign contracts without parental consent
 - Mobile phone services, loans, credit cards, apartment rentals, etc.
- Obtain a 10-year passport (Japanese citizens only)
- Obtain nationally-recognized certifications and licenses
 - Public Accountant, Judicial Scrivener, Medical Practice License, Pharmacist's License, etc.
- Get married (if both man and woman are 18 years old)
- Apply for a legal sex change through court
- ※ You can still obtain your driver's license for normal vehicles after you turn 18.

What You Cannot Do Until You Turn 20 Years Old

- Engage in publicly-managed competitions
 - Buying betting tickets for horse, cycling, car, or boat races
- Drink alcohol
- Smoke cigarettes
- Child adoption
- Obtain driver's license for mid- to large size vehicles

City Topics

The 33rd U.S. Army Kyogamisaki Communications Site Safety

Liaison Meeting

The Safety Liaison Meeting with the U.S. Army Kyogamisaki Communications Site was held on November 30th at the City Hall in Mineyama.



Report from the K.C.S.

K.C.S. Commander MAJ James Weir explained the Site’s countermeasures for the COVID-19 and for traffic safety. He also requested the understanding from the local people concerning the electrical generator’s emergency operation when blackouts occur and elaborated on the soldiers’ desire to socialize proactively with the local community.

Commander James Weir (center)



Explanation from the KCDB about the Traffic Incident in Kyotango City

Director-General Moro, who attended the meeting, explained the incident that happened on November 8th and the course of events that followed. In the beginning, the Bureau received a report that a U.S. military personnel’s vehicle had come into contact with a pedestrian, but did not receive information about the pedestrian sustaining injury. The Bureau expressed that they will reflect their passive response to the situation from not collecting sufficient information and will continue to address the victim appropriately.

Statement from Kyotango City

After hearing the above statements, Mayor Nakayama expressed his lament about the delayed delivery of accurate information. Mayor Nakayama requested for proper follow-up with the victim, swift delivery of information, even more thorough traffic safety measures from the U.S. military, and necessary verification of information and its status regarding the recent incident. Furthermore, the Mayor also requested the swift delivery of information regarding the Important Land Survey Law, the avoidance of the electrical generator’s night-time and weekend operation, and the thoroughness and continuation of COVID-19 countermeasures. In regards to everyday life, the mayor also asked the U.S. military to continue to be good neighbors and help out the local community, while exchanging and working towards mutual understanding.

City Topics

Kyotango Residents Going to Japanese Class



We're doing our best to learn Japanese!

The City's International Association provides opportunities for foreign residents to learn Japanese. Up until now, many foreign residents have taken this opportunity to study Japanese. Currently, about 30 foreign residents from Vietnam, Thailand, China, Switzerland, and other countries are learning in a class suited to their language level. Everyday Japanese is made up of *hiragana*, *katakana*, *kanji*, and *romaji* characters, and there are an unlimited number of vocabulary words to learn. The City will keep supporting foreign residents and their Japanese learning.

If you are a Kyotango City resident and would like to learn more about taking Japanese classes, please email the KIA at kokusai_koryu@kyotango.net.



Or scan here!

By the **Policy and Planning Section** TEL 0772-69-0120

Population and Number of Households in Kyotango City

The number in the parentheses shows the change from the end of October to the end of November. Includes foreign residents.

Population: 52,082 (-63)

Male: 25,077 (-25)

Female: 27,005 (-38)

Number of Households: 22,970 (-19)



Population Change by Main Reasons

Move-In: 62

Move-Out: 65

Births: 18

Deaths: 75

Other reasons: -3

Prepare for the Spread of the Novel Coronavirus:

Kyotango City will subsidize antigen test kits!

Residents above junior high school age and under the age of 65 can purchase antigen test kits approved by the Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare for half the price at any of the participating pharmacies listed below. Prepare for the next wave of infections and keep a stock of antigen test kits at home by purchasing them today.

※If you are to purchase test kits, please inquire to the pharmacy beforehand.

	Participating Location	Phone Number
Mineyama	Midori Pharmacy	0772-69-0229
	Yu Pharmacy Mineyama Shinmachi	0772-62-7067
	Godai Drug Mineyama Shinmachi Store	0772-62-2535
Omiya	Yu Pharmacy Tango Omiya	0772-68-3150
	Yu Pharmacy Kobe	0772-64-3502
	Haratakeshi Pharmacy	0772-64-2166
Amino	Tanaka Pharmacy	0772-72-0561
	Shibata Pharmacy	0772-72-0222
Yasaka	Yu Pharmacy Yasaka	0772-65-8011
	Godai Drug Yasaka Store	0772-65-2250
	Nihon Chouzai Yasaka Pharmacy	0772-66-3250
Kumihama	Godai Drug Kumihama Store	0772-82-4033
	Nomura Pharmacy	0772-82-0034
	Nihon Chouzai Kumihama Pharmacy	0772-82-5155

If you test positive for coronavirus, scan here:



*Kyotango City Novel Coronavirus
Countermeasures Site (Japanese)*

How to Purchase:

- ① Call the pharmacy to check for service hours and stock availability.
- ② Listen to a tutorial and learn how to use the antigen test kit at the pharmacy.
- ③ Sign and submit a terms agreement.
- ④ Show personal identification (Insurance Card, MyNumber Card, Residence Card, etc.)
- ⑤ Purchase the antigen test kit at half-price (maximum subsidy ¥1000, limit 2 kits per person)

More details here:



If you have any questions or concerns, please call the number below:

Novel Coronavirus Countermeasures Office TEL 0772-69-0135

If you would like to receive your novel coronavirus vaccination, please contact the Call Center. Vaccinations will be offered **until March 31st**. Please reserve your appointment as soon as possible.

By the **Novel Coronavirus Vaccination Call Center** TEL 0772-66-3226

You Can Now File Applications On-LINE!

Life is more convenient through LINE~

When you register through the City's Official LINE Page, you can easily find the online application you're looking for!

You will be redirected to the application so you get started!

How to Register Through LINE

01 Add Friend

Using your smartphone's camera, scan the QR Code for Kyotango City's Official LINE and tap "Add Friend".



02 Choose from the menu

Tap "Apply" from the Rich Menu on the bottom of the screen.

You can also choose what information you would like to receive by tapping on the Notification Settings tab.



03 Enter your information

A list of applications will appear in pop-up menu at the top of the screen. Tap on the application you need and enter your information.

Online Applications at a Glance

You can file so many more applications online for Kyotango City!

- MyNumber Card Pick-up Appointment
- *Certificate of Residence
- *Family Register (excerpt)
- *Remove Name from Family Register/Old Family Register (excerpt)
- *Proof of Income
- *Proof of Income Tax
- *Family Register Label
- *Single Status Certificate
- *Certificate of Status
- *Stamp Registration Certificate
- Change in After-school Club Program/Notice of Association Withdrawal

You can also access these applications directly from the City's website.

Applications marked with * need a MyNumber Card. Some applications may also need a credit card.