# YONEZAWA LIVING GUIDE

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(English Version)









YONEZAWA CITY INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ASSOCIATION (YIRA)

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# Preface

Welcome to Yonezawa! Yonezawa is a city surrounded by beautiful mountain ranges including the Azuma and Iide Mountains. It is also the historic castle town of the Uesugi Clan.

Foreign residents may sometimes experience difficulties with everyday life in Yonezawa. We have created this guidebook to make your life here easier.

This book includes necessary and useful information for living in Yonezawa.

We also welcome your opinions about this booklet in order to make it more useful and practical.

(Note: All data in this book is accurate as of August 2024.)

Yonezawa City International Relations Association

#### I. EMERGENCIES

#### 1. Traffic Accidents and Crime (Dial 110)

Dial 110 to contact the police if you are involved in or witness a traffic accident or crime such as a burglary. Stay calm and tell the police "Jiko desu" ("There has been an accident.") or "Dorobō desu" ("There has been a burglary.") and carefully and clearly explain where it happened as well as your name and address. If you do not know where you are, state things such as the names of visible traffic junctions, bridges, or buildings that stick out. Answer all questions asked calmly.

# 2. Police Boxes (Kōban)

In addition to police stations, there are also police boxes called *kōban* in every region in Japan. Each of these police boxes is staffed by several officers whose job is to protect the residents of their localities. Their duties include patrolling the neighborhood, investigating crime, taking care of lost children or intoxicated citizens, giving directions, and receiving lost items. Contact them whenever you are in need of assistance.

# 3. Medical Emergencies (Dial 119 \*Multi-language services available)

Dial 119 to call for an ambulance to take you to the hospital when you have a medical emergency such as sudden illness, serious injury, gas poisoning, or serious burns. The ambulance is free of charge. That being said, these ambulances cannot be used in cases of disease or injury light enough that you can move on your own. In such cases, you will need to use a taxi or car.

# 4. Fire (Dial 119 **\*\*Multi-language services available**)

If a fire starts in your house or you see a fire, shout " $Kaji\ da!$ " ("Fire!") to alert your neighbors to cooperate or evacuate. Call 119 immediately to report to the fire department. Clearly tell them " $Kaji\ desu$ " ("There is a fire.") and report the place of the fire, any nearby landmarks, your name, and phone number. Answer all questions asked calmly. It may be good to have these written in  $R\bar{o}maji$  and posted near your telephone so you will be prepared in case a fire ever occurs.

#### How to Use a Fire Extinguisher

- ① Pull out the safety pin.
- 2 Point the nozzle of the hose towards base of the fire.
- 3 Firmly squeeze the lever.
- 4 Douse the fire.

This procedure is only effective until the fire spreads to the ceiling. Should that happen, please evacuate to a safe place.

#### 5. Earthquakes

Japan is a country with frequent earthquakes. It is important to stay calm and not panic even when an earthquake occurs.

#### (1) What to do when an earthquake occurs

- Hide under a desk or table to protect yourself from falling objects.
- Turn off the gas and stove immediately.
- Open the door to secure an exit.
- Check for information on the radio, television, or through area mail <sup>(※)</sup>, and if necessary, evacuate to the nearest evacuation site such as a school or community center.
- While outside, stay away from cement-block walls and vending machines which may fall over.

#### (2) How to prepare for when an earthquake occurs

- Secure heavy furniture to the wall with metal fixtures so they will not fall over.
- Don't place heavy or breakable objects on high places such as on top of cupboards.
- Know a safe evacuation route from your house and the location of the nearest evacuation site.
- Evacuation sites may not have good reception, so discuss methods of contact and confirmation of your safety ahead of time.
- Have an emergency kit with the following items always available:
  - \* Water (1.2 liters per person a day in addition to food)
  - \* Emergency food (canned, dried, or vacuum-packed items that are immediately edible)
  - \* **Valuables** (cash, insurance card, bank deposit book, personal seal, etc.)
  - \* **Clothing** (underwear, gloves, towels, clothing to protect against the cold, blankets, etc.)
  - \* First Aid Kit (bandages, medicine, thermometer, etc.)
  - \* Hygiene Products (toothbrush, soap, towel, washcloth, masks, wet wipes, etc.)
  - \* Others (portable radio, flashlight, batteries, work gloves, etc.)

X Area mail is a service that the Meteorological Agency and regional public organizations provide to send out late-breaking information on earthquakes and tsunami, as well as other natural disaster and evacuation information through cell phones.

#### II. CONSULTATION SERVICES

# 1. Yonezawa City Consultation Desk

The Yonezawa City International Relations Association (YIRA) provides consultation services in Japanese, English and Chinese for questions regarding daily living in Yonezawa including introducing Japanese language classes. Please feel free to visit any time.

Consultations/Inquiries: Yonezawa City International Relations Association

Okitama Culture Center 1F 3-1-14 Kanaike, Yonezawa

TEL 0238-33-9146

English/Chinese Consultation Hotline: TEL 090-2849-9145 (Closed on Sundays, Mondays and New Year's Break)

# 2. The Association for International Relations in Yamagata (AIRY)

The Association for International Relations in Yamagata (AIRY) provides free consultation services in various languages about concerns regarding your daily life and other problems.

 English: Tuesday–Saturday
 —
 10:00-17:00

 Chinese: Tuesday/Friday
 —
 10:00-14:00

 Korean: Thursday/Saturday
 —
 10:00-14:00

 Portuguese: Wednesday
 —
 10:00-14:00

 Tagalog: Friday
 —
 10:00-14:00

 Vietnamese: 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month
 —
 10:00-14:00

(Closed on Mondays, Holidays and over New Year's break)

Telephone Consultation Line: TEL 023-646-8861

The Association for International Relations in Yamagata (AIRY) Yamagata Prefecture International Exchange Center Kajō Central 2F 1-1-1 Jōnan-machi, Yamagata TEL 023-647-2560

# 3. The International Volunteer Center of Yamagata (IVY)

The International Volunteer Center of Yamagata (IVY) primarily provides support (Japanese classes and Interpretation courses) for permanent residents, but it also engages in activities such as events, education, and lectures to promote international understanding and cooperation. Telephone interpretation and consultation are both free, but interpreters are not always on call, in which case they will call you back. A fee is required when requesting an interpreter to accompany you. The available languages are English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Tagalog, Spanish, Thai, and Russian. An

appointment is necessary for interpretation.

Inquiries: TEL 023-634-9830

#### III. IMPORTANT PROCEDURES

# 1. City Resident Registration

Who Needs to Register	When to Register
<ul> <li>Special Permanent Residents</li> <li>Any foreign resident with the proper documentation from the Immigration Bureau who intends to stay in Japan medium or long-term</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>For those who have newly arrived in Japan         Within 14 days after your place of residence has been decided     </li> <li>For those who move within Yonezawa         Within 14 days after moving     </li> <li>For those who move to another city Either before moving or within 14 days after moving</li> </ul>

Categories of people that are not considered Medium-to-Long-term Residents

- ① Someone who will stay for less than 3 months
- ②Someone who already has a short-term residential status
- 3 Someone who holds a Diplomat or Government Official residential status
- (4) Someone specially indicated by the Ministry of Justice for reasons besides 1-3
- (5) Someone without a residential status
- \* Note that if you move to another city within the country, you must give advance notice to City Hall, and a Certificate of Transfer (*Tenshutsu Shōmeisho*) will be issued for you. You must also give notice if you move to another country.

Necessary Materials for Application	Who Can Apply
<ul> <li>Special Permanent Residents         Proof of Special Permanent Resident Status Certificate (Tokubetsu Eijūsha Shōmeisho)     </li> <li>Medium-to-Long-term Residents Residence Card</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The resident themselves or a member of their immediate family</li> <li>A person authorized by the resident (Power of Attorney is required)</li> </ul>
- Those who did not receive their Residence Card upon entering Japan may instead present their Passport with a Notice of Later Residence Card Delivery (Zairyū Kādo Gojitsu Kōfu)	

# 2. Certificate of Residence (Jūmin-hyō)

Foreign residents who register are eligible to receive a Certificate of Residence  $(J\bar{u}min-hy\bar{o})$ . Each copy of the certificate costs ¥400.

# 3. Other Procedures (Notification of changes other than change of address)

#### (1) Special Permanent Residents

- Times when notification is necessary
  - When there are changes to your name, birthdate, gender, nationality, or region
  - When you renew the expiration date of your Proof of Special Resident Status Certificate
  - If your Proof of Special Resident Status Certificate is lost or stolen
  - If your Proof of Special Resident Status Certificate is substantially damaged or stained, etc.
- Where to send your notification
  - Yonezawa City Hall Citizens Division (Shimin-ka)
- Required Materials for Notification
  - Proof of Special Resident Status Certificate (not needed in cases such as loss)
  - Passport (if applicable)
  - Proof of changes or proof of loss
  - 1 Photo (4cm x 3cm)

#### Medium-to-Long-term Residents

- Times when notification is necessary
  - When there are changes to your name, birthdate, gender, nationality, or region
  - When you renew the expiration date on your Residence Card (for permanent residents or those below the age of 16)
  - If your Residence Card is lost, destroyed or stolen
  - If your Residence Card is substantially damaged or stained, etc.
  - If the organization you are affiliated with (your employer or school) changes its title, its location, is dissolved, cancels your affiliation (end of contract), or creates a new contract with you (for those with working visas or who are exchange students)

#### Where to send your notification

- Your area Immigration Bureau (Sendai Immigration Bureau)

For information on the necessary documentation, please contact the Immigration Bureau or your local Consultation Support Center for Foreign Residents.

#### 4. Procedures for Residence

Foreign residents in Japan may need to carry out procedures to extend their stay, change their resident status, and to re-enter the country. These procedures must be carried out in person at the nearest Immigration Bureau (Sendai). Please inquire at the Immigration Bureau for details of the necessary documents for each procedure.

#### (1) Consultation Service for Foreign Residents

The Consultation Support Center for Foreign Residents provides consultation regarding immigration or residency either over the phone or in person.

(Consultation Subjects)

- Acquisition and changes to resident status, renewal of period of stay or other procedures dealing with your immigration status or Residence Card
  - Entry procedures for inviting resident's family, etc.

(Available Languages)

English, Korean, Chinese, Spanish etc.

(Consultation Hours)

Weekdays 8:30-17:15

Consultation by phone is also available. TEL: 0570-013904 (IP, overseas 03-5796-7112)

O Location of Immigration Bureau

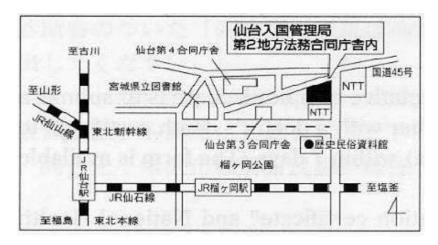
Sendai Immigration Bureau

1-3-20 Gorin, Miyagino-ku, Sendai

TEL: 022-256-6076 (switchboard)

Operating Hours 9:00-16:00

(Closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays)



Please see the immgration bureau's website for more details https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/about/region/sendai/index.html



# 5. Reporting Marriage/Birth/Death

#### (1) Consultation Service for Foreign Residents

Procedure	Inquiries/Submit at	Necessary documents
Marriage Registration (Kon'in Todoke)	Yonezawa City Hall Citizens	Please inquire yourself. Common documents include the Marriage Qualification Certificate ( <i>Kon'in Yōken Gubi Shōmeisho</i> ), Birth Certificate ( <i>Shusshō Shōmeisho</i> ), and your passport
Birth Report ( <i>Shusshō Todoke</i> )	Division (Shimin-ka) TEL 22-5111 (switchboard)	A Birth Registration ( <i>Shusshō Todoke</i> ) with a Birth Certificate ( <i>Shusshō Shōmeisho</i> ) from a doctor, as well as the Mother and Child Handbook ( <i>Boshi Kenkō Techō</i> ) (**)
Death Report (Shibō Todoke)	(Switchboard)	A Death Report ( <i>Shibō Todoke</i> ) with a Death Certificate ( <i>Shibō Shindansho</i> ) from a doctor.

After registering a birth, you must carry out the city resident registration procedures for the child as discussed in section 3.1.

In order to receive a discount on all hospital visits for your newborn, you must complete the paperwork for your Child Medical Care Financial Aid Card (Kosodate Shien Iryōshō) and for general Childcare Financial Aid (Jidō Teate). If the child will be in Japan for more than 60 days after birth, you must also apply for the child's alien resident status within 30 days of the birth. At the same time, the birth registration will take place at either the foreign embassy in Japan or Consulate, where you will also receive the child's passport.

\*The "Mother and Child Handbook" (Boshi Kenkō Techō) is an important document which records the health status of the mother and growth of the child (height, weight, etc.). When you learn that you are pregnant, please apply for one after receiving an examination at the hospital's obstetrics department.

Inquiries: Child and Family Division (*Kodomo Katei-ka*) (Sukoyaka Center 2F) 1-5-60 Ōdōri, Yonezawa TEL 27-7550

# 6. Personal Seals (Hanko/Inkan)

#### (1) Types of Seals

In Japan, a seal (hanko/inkan) carved with your first or family name is often used along with signatures. There are two kinds of seals. One is a registered seal (jitsuin) which is registered at City Hall and the other is a private seal (mitomein). By using your jitsuin with a registered certificate, your actions become legally confirmed. They are therefore used for formal contracts or legal acts such as registering your car. A mitomein is used for simple legal actions such as opening a bank account and withdrawing money from the bank. Seals can be made at a seal shop (hanko-ya). Please note that there are certain requirements for making a jitsuin.

#### (2) Seal Registration

Persons 15 years old and over who have completed their resident registration may register their *jitsuin* seal at the Citizens Division (*Shimin-ka*) of City Hall. You must bring your Residence Card or other form of personal identification along with the seal you wish to register. Only one seal may be registered per person and the registration must be done in person. The name that you register must be the same name that is printed in the resident registry. Alphabetical seals cannot be registered. A Seal Registration Card will be issued once the registration procedures are completed. This is needed for applying for a Seal Registration Certificate (*Inkan Tōroku Shōmeisho*). Some seals cannot be registered, so please inquire at the City Hall Citizens Division. Inquiries: Yonezawa City Hall Citizens Division (*Shimin-ka*) TEL 22-5111 (switchboard)

#### 7. Health Insurance

Under the universal health insurance system, all residents of Japan are required to enroll in a public medical insurance system. There are two types of public health insurance: Employee's Health Insurance, in which you enroll through your place of employment; and National Health Insurance, in which you enroll at the municipal office where you live.

#### (1) Employee's Health Insurance (Kenkō Hoken)

If you are employed at a company, you will enroll in Employee's Health Insurance (*Shakai Hoken*). For details, please contact your place of employment.

#### (2) National Health Insurance (Kokumin Kenkō Hoken)

Any person who is a resident (anyone staying more than 6 months), as well as those who have been approved to stay past their originally intended 3 months, must enter the National Health Care system.

Anyone who is not part of a health insurance system at your place of employment or not receiving social welfare must enroll in National Health Insurance. If you are not enrolled, you must pay the full amount of the medical costs incurred on your own.

Please enroll in National Health Care at the Yonezawa City Hall Citizens Division (Shimin-ka).

#### a) How to Enroll

When enrolling, you must bring your Residence Card as well as the following:

1. If you have moved from another city

Certificate of Transfer (*Tenshutsu Shōmeisho*) and MyNumber Card.

2. If you have been dropped from your company Employee Health Care Proof of End of Coverage (*Kenkō Hoken wo yameta Shōmeisho*) and MyNumber Card.

#### b) When Notification is Required

Please contact the Yonezawa City Hall Citizens Division (*Shimin-ka*). To complete the necessary procedures, please bring the following:

#### 1. When you move

Your National Health Insurance Card (*Kokumin Kenkō Hokensho*), MyNumber Card, and Resident Card

- 2. When you enroll in Employee Health Insurance
- Your Employee Health Insurance Card (*Kenkō Hokensho*) and your National Health Insurance Card
- 3. When someone in your family who is covered by National Health Insurance passes away

The National Health Insurance Card of the deceased and the Chief Mourner's Savings Account Passbook (*Futsū Yokin Tsūchō*)

- 4. When the head of household changes
  - Your National Health Insurance Card
- 5. Also, please contact the Yonezawa City Hall Citizens Division (*Shimin-ka*) if your card is damaged or lost. Be sure to bring a form of photo identification such as your residence card and MyNumber Card

Inquiries: Yonezawa City National Health Insurance Division (*Hoken Nenkin-ka*) TEL 22-5111 (switchboard)

#### c) How to Pay for Medical Costs

For those enrolled in National Health Insurance, you must pay 30% of the total medical costs at the payment desk of the medical institution. Please show your insurance card to the main desk of the medical facility when you go to have a medical examination. Usable insurance cards include your MyNumber Insurance Card (provided that it has been registered it as being usable as an insurance card) and your National Health Insurance Card. If you do not possess a MyNumber Insurance Card and enrolled in National Health Insurance after December 2, 2024, or wish to change the details on your insurance card, you must present a Certificate of Eligibility (Shikaku Kakuninsho).

#### d) Payment of Insurance Tax

The head of the household holds responsibility for making an insurance tax payment if there is a person in the family who is covered by National Health Insurance. A tax payment notification will be sent to each household from the city and the payment must be paid before the designated tax payment date. The calculation of the insurance tax depends on your family structure, income, and other factors, and is different for each person and for each year.

If you withdraw from National Health Insurance during the middle of the year because you return to your home country, etc., the insurance amount will be recalculated. The remaining tax amount must be paid even after you withdraw from the insurance. For details, please inquire at the National Health Insurance Desk at City Hall.

Inquiries: Yonezawa City Hall

Regarding Taxes: Taxation Division (Zeimu-ka) Regarding Payment: Tax Payment Division (Nōzei-ka)

TEL 22-5111 (switchboard)

#### 8. Taxes

#### (1) Income Tax

One of the taxes which you must pay to the Government is Income Tax (*Shotokuzei*). You must complete the income tax procedures at the tax office between February 16<sup>th</sup> and March 15<sup>th</sup> and report your income from the previous calendar year. If you are receiving a salary, tax is automatically deducted.

Inquiries: Yonezawa City Tax Office, 1-1-9 Montō-machi TEL 22-6320

#### (2) Residence Tax and Forest Environment Tax

Prefectural Residence Tax (*Kenminzei*) is collected by the Prefecture, and Municipal Residence Tax (*Shiminzei*) is collected by the City. In addition, the Forest Environment Tax (*Shinrin Kankyō-zei*) is one of the taxes collected by the Government. Those who live in Yonezawa as of January 1st are subject to taxation according to their income of the previous calendar year. If you are self-employed, a notice will come from City Hall and the tax is collected in ten monthly installments between June and March. If you are employed, resident tax is usually deducted from your monthly salary by your employer over 12 months from June through May of the following year.

Inquiries: Yonezawa City Hall

Regarding Taxes: Taxation Division (Zeimu-ka) Regarding Payment: Tax Payment Division (Nōzei-ka)

TEL 22-5111 (switchboard)

#### (3) "Kei" Automobile Tax

Kei (light) automobiles and motorcycles are taxed every year to the owner of the vehicle on April 1<sup>st</sup>. When a car is purchased, sold, given away, or when the owner moves away from the City, certain procedures must be carried out.

Inquire at the following places for the relevant documents and procedures.

Type of Vehicle	Office
Motorized Bicycle (125cc and below)  Small Special Motorcar (for farming, etc.)	Yonezawa City Citizens Division (Shimin-ka) 5-2-25 Kanaike, Yonezawa TEL 22-5111
"Kei" Automobile ※	Yamagata Prefecture Kei Automobile Association (Yamagata-ken Kei Jidōsha Kyōkai) 3-3553-2 Tachiyagawa, Yamagata City TEL 023-686-3600
Motorcycle (125cc-250cc) 💥 Two-wheeled Kei Automobile	Tohoku Transportation Bureau Yamagata Branch ( <i>Tōhoku Unyu-kyoku Yamagata-</i> <i>ken Unyu shikyoku</i> )
Motorcycle (251cc+) * Two-wheeled Small Automobile	1422-1 Öaza-urushiyama Azagyōdan, Yamagata City TEL 023-086-4711

X The appropriate procedures for these types of motor vehicles can also be carried out at the following location (fees will apply):

Yamagata Prefecture Private Automobile General Incorporated Association, Southern Branch (*Yamagata-ken Jika-yō Jidōsha Kyōkai Kennan Shibu*) 325-5 Kubota, Kubota-machi, Yonezawa TEL 37-3245

#### (4) Other

In addition to the taxes mentioned above, you may also be charged a fixed asset tax by the city for properties such as land and buildings. Please inquire for details. Inquiries: Yonezawa City Hall Taxation Division (*Zeimu-ka*) TEL 22-5111 (switchboard)

#### 9. Pension

Everyone in Japan over 20 and under 60 years old must enroll in the National Pension system unless they are enrolled in any other public pension plan such as an Employee's Pension Plan or mutual aid society. This includes foreign residents.

# (1) National Pension System (Kokumin Nenkin)

#### a) Enrollment and Payment

Apply for the National Pension at the City Hall. Please inquire at city hall as to what documents are required for application.

#### b) Premiums

A monthly pension premium must be paid. You can make the payments either at a counter of a financial institution or at a convenience store using the payment slips or through an automatic transfer service.

If you do not have any income or your income is low and it is difficult to pay the pension premiums, the full or partial amount of the premium may be exempt with the proper procedures. For students, please use the Student Special Payment System to extend the payment of your pension premiums.

#### c) Payment of Pension Benefits

Payment of the pension benefits depends on the type of payment plan. Please inquire for details below.

For details regarding National Pension, contact either Yonezawa City Hall Yearly Pension Division (*Hoken Nenkin-ka*) TEL 22-5111 (switchboard) or the Yonezawa Pension Office (TEL 22-4220)

#### (2) Employee's Pension (Kōsei Nenkin)

If you are employed at a company, you will enroll in an Employee's Pension Plan. Half of the pension premium amount will be paid by the employer, and your premium will be deducted from your salary. The payment of the pension is similar to that for National Pension.

#### Inquiries:

For details, contact your place of employment or the Yonezawa Pension Office (TEL 22-4220)

#### (3) When Leaving Japan

For foreign residents who leave Japan, it is possible to obtain a refund of their pension contributions. To be able to receive a refund, you must have enrolled in a pension plan while you were in Japan and paid the monthly premium for 6 months or more and have applied for the refund within two years of leaving Japan. It is also possible to receive your pension after you leave Japan.

#### Inquiries:

For details regarding Welfare Pension, contact your place of employment For details regarding National Pension, contact either Yonezawa City Hall (TEL 22-5111) (switchboard)

or the Yonezawa Pension Office (TEL 22-4220) (switchboard)

# 10. MyNumber Card

A MyNumber Card is a high-security IC card containing an IC chip and photo. The card can be used not only as a form of identity confirmation or confirmation of your MyNumber, but it can also be used to simplify the address change process and as a form of electronic identification for many kinds of electronic applications.

#### (1) How to Apply

#### (a) Application via mail

Once you fill out the MyNumber Card application at the bottom of the notification card ( $Ts\bar{u}chi\ K\bar{a}do$ ) application and sign (or stamp using your official seal), please send it to the reception center via mail with a headshot (taken in the last 6 months) attached.

- (b) <u>Application via smartphone/computer</u>
  Apply using the application ID on your MyNumber issuance application form.
- (c) <u>Application for express issuance</u> (*Tokkyū Hakkō Shinsei*, planned from December 2, 2024)

If you are moving in for the first time from outside of Japan, please contact us for an application for express issuance of your My Number Card, which will be issued in approximately one week.

#### (2) In the Case that the Application Form is Lost

A new application form can be printed, so please contact the City Hall Citizens Division *(Shimin-ka)* with any questions.

Contact Details: Yonezawa City Hall Citizens Division (Shimin-ka) TEL 22-5111 (switchboard)

#### IV. DAILY LIVING

#### 1. Housing

Renting a place to live is commonly done through a real estate company. It is probably best to go with a Japanese friend or colleague and let the real estate company know what kind of living conditions you are looking for.

 $\mbox{\%}$ In Japan, it is common to use the units "tsubo" and " $j\vec{o}$ " to measure the area of rooms. 1 tsubo=2  $j\bar{o}$  $\rightleftharpoons$  3.3058m² $\rightleftharpoons$ 35.583 ft²

1 jō (the size of 1 tatami mat) is approximately 1.8m×0.9m

#### (1) Renting a House or Apartment

#### a) Lease Requirements

• Written Contract (Keiyaku-sho)

Fill out the lease contract and stamp the contract with your seal after the contract is explained carefully and all unclear items are understood.

Guarantor (Hoshō-nin)

A guarantor is necessary when signing a contract. If possible, ask a Japanese citizen to be your guarantor. The guarantor has the responsibility of paying the rent or any other costs if the tenant is unable to do so.

#### b) About the money you pay

• Rent (Yachin)

1 month's fee for renting the house or apartment. The rent for the next month must be usually paid by the end of the month. Be sure to decide on a method to pay by understanding how to withdraw and deposit money in the bank.

• Key Money (*Reikin*)

Also called *Kenrikin*, it is paid to the landlord when the contract is signed. It is usually about 1-2 months' rent and it will not be returned to you when you vacate the apartment. Some areas do not require a *reikin* payment.

Deposit Money (Shikikin)

Paid to the landlord when the contract is signed and is used to pay for rent payment defaults or for damages to your room. The cost for repairs to the room when you vacate the apartment is deducted from the total amount and the remaining amount will be returned to you. It is usually about 1-3 months' rent.

Brokerage Fee (Chūkairyō)

Paid as a commission to the real estate agent. It is usually about 1 month's rent.

- Common Service Fee (*Kvōekihi*)

Costs for electricity and cleaning common areas such as stairs and passageways of the apartment.

For the reasons mentioned above, the total cost of renting a house or apartment for the first time is equivalent to 4-7 months' rent.

#### c) How to Renew Your Lease (Keiyaku Kōshin)

When you wish to renew your rental contract, you must fill out the paperwork for the renewal. You may also need to pay the landlord a fee of about 1 month's rent at this time.

#### d) How to Cancel Your Lease (Kaiyaku)

When you want to cancel your rental contract, you will need to follow the procedures stated in your contract and inform your landlord beforehand (usually 1 month before you are leaving). If you vacate without informing your landlord or inform just before you vacate, you may be charged with the next month's rent. Remember to also pay all of your utility bills and have the company cut the utilities off in addition to cleaning and fixing your room to its initial condition before vacating.

#### (2) How to Rent Public Housing

Public Housing is low-rent housing managed by public institutions such as the prefecture or city for people who have low income and have trouble finding housing. You will need to contact each organization directly if you wish to apply for one. If there are many applications, openings will be chosen by a lottery.

Inquiries for Public Housing Managed by the City: Public Service Joint Venture (Kōeki Sābisu Kyōdō Kigyō-tai) TEL 0238-40-8700 (switchboard)

Inquiries for Public Housing Managed by the Prefecture:
Yamagata Prefecture Okitama Branch Office, Yamagata Prefecture Residence
Information Center (Yamagata-ken Okitama Sōgō Shichō-nai Yamagata-ken Jūtaku Kyōkyū Kōsha)
TEL 0238-24-2332

Neighborhood associations (*Chōnaikai*) are community organizations in which people living close to each other work together to create a community in which they want to live. By working together and becoming a part of the community, you can learn many things about living in the community, so joining is recommended. Entrance and monthly fees differ between associations.

# 2. Electricity

#### (1) Starting Electricity Service

When you want to start using electricity after you move in, just turn on all the circuit breaker switches on the fuse box. After you check that the electricity is running, fill in your name, address, telephone number, and date when you moved in on the postcard application that is in your mailbox or attached near the fuse box and send it to Tohoku Electric (this will be treated as a request for start of service). Before you move, you can also place a request by phone or over the internet.

When moving, or to change your amperes, call 0120-066-774 When there is a power outage, please use the number below.

Outage/Emergency Inquiries 0120-175-366

#### (2) How to Pay for Electricity Expenses

There are two ways to pay the electric bill. One is to pay through an automatic withdrawal service from your bank or postal account. The other is to pay directly using the payment slip at a nearby financial institution or convenience store, or with a credit card. If you do not pay by the deadline, a late fee will be charged to the following month's bill, so please be careful.

#### (3) Electrical Appliances

In Yonezawa the electricity used is 100 volts/50 hertz. Please check your electric appliances before using them to see if they meet this standard. If they don't, it may be dangerous and can damage other appliances.

#### (4) When All the Electricity Goes Out in Cases Other Than a Power Outage

When you use electricity beyond the capacity and it short-circuits, the breaker falls automatically and the electrical supply will stop. The electricity will be restored if some of the electric appliances being used are turned off and the breaker switch is raised again.

#### (5) Discontinuing Electricity Service

If you will stop using electricity because you are going to be moving, contact Tohoku Electric at least 5 days before you move.

#### 3. Water

#### (1) Starting Water Service

Tap water is safe to drink in Japan.

To start using water, come to the Water and Sewer Services Department (*Jōge Suidō-bu*) of City Hall and fill out the Application Slip to Start Using Water (*Kyūsui Sōchi/Haisui Setsubi Idō Todoke*, also available from the city's homepage), have it signed/stamped by the owner (the landlord if you live in an apartment) and the actual user (you), and turn it in to the Water and Sewer Services Department either in person or by email.

#### (2) How to Pay for Water Expenses

A statement for your water bill will be sent to your home each month. In areas that have a public sewage system, users will pay for sewage expenses at the same time. The water bill can be paid either through an automatic withdrawal service from your account at a financial institution, paid directly at a financial institution using a payment slip, or done through a smartphone app.

#### (3) When You Have Trouble with Water

When there is a leakage or when your pipes burst, turn off the main water valve and contact your designated plumbing company.

#### (4) How to Prevent Water Pipes from Freezing

Water pipes may freeze when the temperature goes below 4°C during the winter. To prevent freezing, shut off the water service at night or when you will not be using water for an extended period of time. If your pipes freeze, wrap a towel around the faucet and pour hot water on it, and the water should come out. If water still does not come out, contact your designated plumbing company.

#### How to Shut Off Water

- 1)Open the water faucet to let water out.
- While the water is still running, turn the handle of the main water shut-off valve to the right until it no longer moves.

#### (5) Discontinuing Water Service

If you are moving or when you want to stop using water for an extended period of time, contact the Water and Sewer Services Department (*Jōge Suidō-bu*) at least 1 week before and tell them your address, name, the date you are moving (the day you wish to stop service), your new address and the method for paying any remaining water expenses.

Inquiries: City Hall Water and Sewer Services Department (*Jōge Suidō-bu*) 5-1-23 Kanaike, Yonezawa TEL 22-4511

#### 4. Gas

Propane gas is the type of gas used in Yonezawa.

#### (1) Starting Gas Service

If you contact a propane gas company, a clerk will come and set up gas service at your home.

#### (2) How to Pay for Gas Expenses

You can pay for gas expenses by either paying to the bill collector after the monthly inspection of the gas meter or by an automatic withdrawal service at banks and post offices. Please confirm with the company you signed up with.

#### (3) When There is a Gas Leak

If you notice a gas leak, leave the window and door open, turn off the gas valve or meter faucet, and contact the gas company. Propane gas is heavier than air so you should sweep it out with a broom or similar object. When electrical switches (such as those from ventilation fans and lights) are turned on and off, small sparks that may be a source of ignition are generated, so absolutely do not touch any switches and keep the gas off.

# (4) Discontinuing Gas Service

When you want to stop your gas service, you should contact the propane gas company a few days before you want to stop the service.

# 5. Telephone

#### (1) Installing a Telephone

If you want to install a telephone line in your home, apply with NTT. When making an application, you will need to bring some form of identification such as your passport, Residence Card, or driver's license to confirm your name and address. There will be an application fee. The installation date will be decided when you apply. You must be at home on the day of installation.

Dial 116 for details.

#### a) Cellular Phones

Please contact the individual companies directly for cellular phone information.

#### b) How to Pay for Telephone Expenses

A statement for your telephone bill will be sent to your home every month. Bills can be paid at financial institutions, convenience stores, and telephone companies. They can also be paid thorough an automatic withdrawal system at banks and post offices.

#### (2) Domestic Calls

The area code for Yonezawa is (0238). Dial the area code whenever you are calling in from outside of Yonezawa.

#### a) How to Read a Phone Number

① ② ③ ②Local (city) code

3 Customer's number

#### b) Long Distance Calls

In addition to NTT Communications, the following telephone service companies can also be used to make long distance phone calls.

KDDI Inquiries: TEL 0077-777 Softbank Telecom Inquiries: TEL 0120-0088-82

#### c) Numbers for Different Inquiries

113—Phone trouble

115—Domestic Telegrams (International telegrams 0053519 or 0120-44-5124)

116—Inquiries to NTT, installation, transfers

117—Current time (Fee)

104—Telephone number directory (Fee)

106—Collect call (Operator assisted)

177—Weather forecast (Fee)

#### d) Public Phones

There are public phones outside train stations and stores around the city. Most are green or grey and can be used with a telephone card or \$100 coin. If you use a \$100 coin,

however, you will not receive change back. Calls within the city can be made for \$10 per minute. Insert additional coins or a telephone card when you hear the beep indicating that you have used up the money inserted.

#### (3) International Calls

Below are the main companies that provide international calling services.

Company	Inquiries	How to Make a Call
NTT Communications	0120-506506	0033-010-country code -city code- telephone number
KDDI	0057	001-010-country code -city code-telephone number
Softbank Telecom	0120-03-0661	0061-010-country code -city code-telephone number

(Example) Calling the number (212) 123-45467 in New York, USA When calling from KDDI: 001-010-1-212-123-4567

Common country codes (Japan: 81)

Ireland	353	Thailand	66
USA/Canada	1	PRC	86
UK	44	Philippines	63
India	91	Brazil	55
Indonesia	62	Peru	51
Republic of Korea	82	Malaysia	60
Nepal	977	Mongolia	976
Mvanmar	95	Vietnam	84

Please consult with your phone company as to what happens if you call a foreign number directly

# 6. Mail Delivery Service/Takuhaibin

#### (1) Domestic Mail

Post offices and mail boxes are marked with a red 「¬」symbol. Mail boxes are red in color and are either box or cylinder shaped

Post Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 9:00 - 17:00 (Closed on Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays)

\* For Yonezawa Post Office Only: Monday-Friday 9:00-19:00

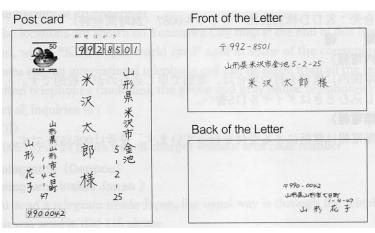
The You-You (After-Hours) Window Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00-20:00

Saturday 8:00-17:00 Sunday/Holidays 9:00-12:30

Inquiries: Yonezawa Post Office TEL 0570-943-306

inquiries. Ionezawa i ost Office TEL 0570 545 50

a) How to write an address An address (address/name) can be written either vertically or horizontally.



#### b) Ordinary Mail

Туре	Size	Cost/Charg	ge
Postcards	Private postcards (such as picture postcards)		¥85*
	Length: 14cm-15.4cm, Width: 9cm-10.7cm, Weight: 2g-6g		
	**Official Postcards (kansei hagaki) can be purchased at		
	post offices for ¥63 each.		
Standard-Size	Length: 14cm-23.5cm, Thickness: Under 1 cm,	Up to 25g, ¥84	¥110*
Mail (Letters)	Weight: Under 50g	Up to 50g, ¥94	
Non-Standard	Weight: Under 4kg		
Mail	(Maximum) The total of length (under 60cm), thickness		
	not to exceed 90cm.		
	(Minimum) Length: 1cm, Width: 9cm		
	(Cylinder Shape) Length: 14cm, Diameter: 3cm	Postage va	
Package Post	Weight: 25-30 kg	according t	o weight
(Yu-Pack)	The total of length (under 1m), width, and thickness		
	not to exceed 1.7m.		

<sup>\*</sup>These prices will apply starting October 1, 2024

In addition, there are other special mail services including Express Delivery (*Sokutatsu*), Registered Mail (*Kakitome*), and Registered Mail for Cash (*Genkin-kakitome*). Inquiries: Yonezawa Post Office TEL 0570-943-306

#### c) Other

#### O When You Miss a Delivery

If you are not at home at the time of delivery of a registered or parcel post item, a "Non-Delivery Notice" (*Fuzai Haitatsu Tsūchisho*) will be left in your mailbox. The mail/parcel will be kept at the office for seven days. To have it redelivered, either scan the QR code on the Notice and fill in the desired time and place of delivery or call the post office by telephone. To retrieve your item at the office, you will need to bring the Notice, some form of ID (such as your Residence Card) and personal seal.

#### O Transfer Service

If you notify the post office after you move, mail that is sent to your old address will be forwarded to your new address for free for one year after the date of notification. This service is limited to domestic mail.

#### (2) International Mail

#### a) Regular Air Mail

- The cost for postcards, letters (Standard/Non-Standard size) and packages depends on the weight and destination. Please inquire at the post office.

- There is also sea mail which is less expensive than air mail but takes longer to deliver.
- Inquiries: Yonezawa Post Office TEL 0750-943-306

#### b) International Express Mail (EMS)

This is the quickest way to send documents or packages overseas. (Maximum weight varies according to each country.) The mail is handled with top priority from reception to delivery. You are also able to track the location of your package at any time.

#### c) Economy Aviation Mail (SAL)

This mail is handled as surface mail inside Japan and the destination country but sent by air between the countries. It is faster than surface mail, and cheaper than air mail.

#### d) English Postal Information Services

The following is the number for information about postal services in English. TEL 0570-046-111 (in English only)

#### (3) Takuhaibin (Quick Home Delivery)

If the post office is far from your house, or if it is inconvenient for you to bring a package or baggage to the post office, *Takuhaibin* (Quick Home Delivery) is available. Parcels can be sent through *Takuhaibin* at shops that have a sign declaring so outside as well as at convenience stores. You can also call and ask the shop to pick up the item at your house. They will deliver the package within a few days all over Japan except for a few areas.

#### ◆ Main *Takuhaibin* Service Providers

Company	Telephone
Sagawa Kyūbin Yonezawa Store	0570-010-402
Dai-ichi Kamotsu Yonezawa Branch	23-3363
Nihon Tsūun Yonezawa Branch	37-2200
Yamato Unyu Yonezawa Office	0570-200-000

#### 7. Financial Services

#### (1) Banks

#### a) Opening Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 - 15:00 (Closed on Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays)

#### b) Types of Accounts

#### O Regular Account (Futsū Yokin)

Deposits and withdrawals can be done freely but the interest rate is low. Automatic transfer services for public utility charges (taxes, electricity, water, etc.) and the NHK license fee can be used with this account.

#### O Savings Account (Chochiku Yokin)

The interest rate is higher than the rate for a regular account if the amount is above a certain amount. Deposits and withdrawals can be done freely.

#### O Fixed Term Account (Teiki Yokin)

Although the interest rate is higher than the rate for regular and savings accounts, withdrawals cannot be made until the end of the fixed term.

#### c) Opening an Account

Please bring your Residence Card or your passport and your personal seal to the bank counter to register for an account. You can also sign up for a cash card which you can use at ATMs (Automated Teller Machines).

#### d) Deposits/Withdrawals

To deposit or withdraw money at the counter, take the *hanko/inkan* you have registered with the bank account in question and passbook, as they are needed to verify your identity. Fill in the designated forms and hand them in at the counter.

#### e) ATMs (Automated Teller Machines)

By using an ATM (Automated Teller Machine) you can easily deposit and withdraw money from your bank or postal account. ATMs are located inside and outside banks and also inside some convenience stores. The operating hours differ for each machine and some ATMS are closed on weekends and holidays. There may also be a service charge applied during some days and hours.

#### (2) International Remittances and Foreign Currency Exchange

International money transfers and foreign currency exchange can be made at most post offices and banks. Inquire at the financial institution for details.

# 8. Garbage

Please make an effort to reduce trash and cooperate with trash separation.

#### (1) Important Notices for Throwing Out Trash

- Be sure to throw out trash on the designated trash collection days (Collection days differ in each area. Please check the Collection Calendar.).
- Be sure to take out the trash by 7:30am on the day of the trash collection.
- Be sure to neatly separate trash before throwing it out.
- Be sure to put the trash in the designated trash bags (Limit of 5kg of trash per bag).
- Trash collection sites are established and maintained by the neighborhood associations (*Chōnaikai*) and apartment keepers. Do not throw out trash in other locations.

#### (2) Guidelines for Separating Trash

#### a) Burnable Trash

- Items: Kitchen waste, paper waste, shoes, items with a park that cannot be cleaned.
- Disposal Method: Dispose in City designated trash bags (red letters).

#### b) Non-Burnable Trash

- Plastic items without the (use up and punch a hole), small electronic appliances, CDs and DVDs.
- Disposal Method: Dispose in City designated trash bags (green letters).

# c) Plastic Containers and Wrappings

- Plastic wrappings, packaging, bottles, cups, and bags. (Must have the and be clean.)
- Disposal Method: Dispose in City designated bags (orange letters.)

#### d) PET Bottles

- Plastic bottles with the pet mark for beverages, alcohol (including mirin), and soy sauce.
- Disposal Method: Dispose in City designated trash bags (orange letters).

#### e) Oversized Trash

- Items that cannot fit in the designated trash bags or weigh more than 5kg.
- Disposal Method: Make an appointment with the garbage collector (TEL 22-5235) to have the item collected. Purchase and stick an oversized trash disposal sticker (fee) on each item and leave it outside your home.

#### f) Hazardous Trash

- Items that include hazardous materials such as mercury (Fluorescent tubes, drycell batteries, mercury thermometers). Lighters (be sure to use them completely)
- Disposal Method: Dispose in any transparent or semi-transparent plastic bags.

#### g) Recyclables

- Waste Paper (newspapers, flyers, cardboard, paper beverage packages, magazines.) Disposal Method: Bundle the papers up and tie it with string.

- Cans and glass bottles for food/beverages, old fibers (clothes, sheets, blankets, etc.)
  Disposal Method: Dispose in any transparent or semi-transparent plastic bag.
- Spray cans
  Disposal Method: extract all the gas inside and dispose in any transparent or semitransparent plastic bag.

O Stores that Sell Designated Trash Bags and Oversized Trash Disposal Stickers



Available at supermarkets, home hardware stores, and other stores marked with this sign.

# (3) Disposing of TVs, Refrigerators, Freezers, Washing Machines, and Air Conditioners

TVs, refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, and air conditioners cannot be collected by the city. Ask a retail store or waste hauling company to collect the item or take the item yourself to a designated disposal site. A processing fee and collection fee will be charged.

Inquiries: Yonezawa City Hall Environment Division (*Kankyō-ka*) TEL 22-5111 (switchboard)

#### (4) Disposing of Computers

Computers may be disposed of in the small electronic device collection boxes set up by the city or be collected by the manufacturer. Please contact the computer companies directly for details.

Inquiries: Yonezawa City Hall Environment Division (*Kankyō-ka*) TEL 22-5111 (switchboard)

# 9. Driving an Automobile

#### (1) Driver's License

#### a) If you Have an International Driver's License

It is possible to drive in Japan using an international driver's license. The period during which you can drive is one year from the date of entry to Japan or before the expiration date of the license (whichever is sooner). You will need a Japanese driver's license if you want to drive in Japan after that period. Please note that international driver's licenses that were obtained in a country you were in for less than 3 months are considered invalid.

# b) <u>If You Have a Swiss, German, French, Belgian, Slovakian, Monegasque, or Taiwanese Driver's License</u>

If you submit a translation of your driver's license created at a consulate of the Japan Automobile Federation (JAF), you will be able to drive using your driver's license within 1 year of your date of entry to Japan and before the expiration date of the license (whichever is sooner).

#### c) Switching a Foreign Driver's License to a Japanese Driver's License

If you have a driver's license from another country, you can apply to have it switched to a Japanese license.

#### • Prerequisites for Switching

- You must hold a valid foreign driver's license.
- You must prove that you stayed in the country that issued the license for more than 3 months after you obtained it.
- You must have the sufficient knowledge and skills for driving in Japan, including knowledge of Japanese traffic regulations.

#### • Application Process

- Reservations must be made in advanced to apply for a switch.
- The required tests may differ depending on the country that issued the license. Please inquire for details.

Inquiries: Prefectural Police Department Headquarters Driver's License Division (*Unten Menkyo-ka*) TEL 023-655-2150

#### o Other

You can also apply for a Japanese Driver's License in the same way as Japanese citizens. In Japan, it is most common to obtain a license by enrolling in a driving school. The cost is around \(\frac{\pma}{3}\)300,000 to \(\frac{\pma}{4}\)400,000 and usually lasts 1 to 2 months. Please contact the driving school directly for details.

#### (2) Important Notices for Driving

#### a) Traffic Regulations

In Japan cars, motorcycles, and bicycles must drive on the left side of the street and pedestrians walk on the right side. Pedestrians have the right of way at intersections without traffic signals. There are also strict penal codes for drunk driving.

# o Driving a Car



- All passengers in a vehicle, including people sitting in the back seat, are required by law to wear seatbelts.
- Do not get in the car when you have been drinking
- Using a cellular phone while driving is prohibited.
- Children under 6 years old are required to sit in a child-seat.

#### • Riding a Motorbike



Although motorbikes with displacements less than 50cc can be ridden with a regular driver's license, motorbikes with any higher displacement require a separate license. It is also required for drivers and passengers to wear a helmet while riding a motorbike.

# o Riding a Bicycle

- Under the Road Traffic Law, bicycles are considered light vehicles, so in principle they must pass on the roadway where there is a distinction between the roadway and sidewalk.
- You must pass on the left side of the road (If you can pass on the sidewalk, you
  must slow down on the side of the road and stop if you are blocking pedestrian
  traffic.)
- In intersections with traffic lights, cross the street once the light turns green and you have confirmed that it is safe to cross.
- Likewise, in intersections with temporary stops, be sure to temporarily stop and confirm that it is safe to cross before crossing.
- Lights must be turned on at night. Be sure these lights are on before riding.
- Do not ride your bike when you have been drinking
- Be sure to wear a helmet when riding.
- Make sure that the children under your protection wear helmets too.

# ○Road signs

and the second			<b>←</b>
Road Closed to Vehicles and Pedestrians	No Entry	No Turning	One Way Road
		50	徐行
No Parking or Stopping	No Parking	Maximum speed	Slow
			止まれ
Animal Crossing	Road Closed to Vehicles	No right-side overflow for overtaking	Stop

# V. HEALTH MANAGEMENT/MEDICAL CARE

#### 1. Medical Institutions

#### (1) Medical Institutions

In Yonezawa, there are four large general hospitals as well as various clinics that specialize in specific fields. It is probably best to have your own personal physician that you see whenever you have medical problems.

Please note that Yonezawa General Hospital charges an additional non-referral free of ¥7000 for visits not caused by a referral from another institution.

#### Hospitals in Yonezawa

Hospital Name	Telephone	Address
Yonezawa City Hospital (Yonezawa Shiritsu Byōin)	22-2450	6-36 Aioi-chō
Sanyū-dō Hospital (Sanyū-dō Byōin)	24-3700	6-1-219 Chūō
Funayama Hospital (Funayama Byōin)	23-4435	2-48 Ekimae
Yonezawa National Hospital (Kokuritsu Byōin Kikō Yonezawa Byōin)	22-3210	26100-1 Ōaza Misawa

#### **Doctors in Yonezawa**

Yonezawa City Medical Association Website (Yonezawa City Medical Institution Search) http://www.omn.ne.jp/~isikai/menu\_find.htm?1717743387048

#### a) When you see a doctor

While there are some clinics that offer appointments for medical examinations, most hospitals and clinics do not accept reservations and service is provided on a first come, first served basis. At big hospitals, you may have to wait for an extended period of time, so it is recommended that you go as early as possible.

If you are not confident with your Japanese speaking ability, it may be best to have a friend who can speak Japanese go along with you or hire an interpreter. It is also useful to use the Multilingual Medical Questionnaire Form (created by the Kanagawa Prefecture International Relations Association).

For more detailed information on the multilingual medical questionnaire, please visit the Yonezawa International Relations Association (YIRA) website or contact the association by telephone. For more information, please contact us by telephone or other means.

Kanagawa International Foundation homepage (Multilingual Medical Questionnaire) https://kifjp.org/medical



Or Yonezawa International Association homepage https://yira-yonezawa.org/外国人支援 Phone: 0238-33-9146

#### (2) Holiday/Night Medical Care

#### a) Weeknight/Holiday Clinic

Please come to the emergency room of Yonezawa City Hospital for an examination if you become ill on a weeknight or on a holiday and your condition is severe. We request that you make a phone call to (22-2450) in advance.

#### b) Emergency cases

If your disease or its symptoms becomes life-threatening, please request help from Yonezawa City Hospital

Inquiries: Yonezawa City Hospital (*Yonezawa Shiritsu Byōin*), 6-36 Aioi-chō, Yonezawa TEL 22-2450

# **VI. OTHER INFORMATION**

# **Japanese Year Conversion Table**

Japanese Year	Year	Japanese Year	Year	Japanese Year	Year
Shōwa 10	1935	Shōwa 41	1966	Heisei 9	1997
Shōwa 11	1936	Shōwa 42	1967	Heisei 10	1998
Shōwa 12	1937	Shōwa 43	1968	Heisei 11	1999
Shōwa 13	1938	Shōwa 44	1969	Heisei 12	2000
Shōwa 14	1939	Shōwa 45	1970	Heisei 13	2001
Shōwa 15	1940	Shōwa 46	1971	Heisei 14	2002
Shōwa 16	1941	Shōwa 47	1972	Heisei 15	2003
Shōwa 17	1942	Shōwa 48	1973	Heisei 16	2004
Shōwa 18	1943	Shōwa 49	1974	Heisei 17	2005
Shōwa 19	1944	Shōwa 50	1975	Heisei 18	2006
Shōwa 20	1945	Shōwa 51	1976	Heisei 19	2007
Shōwa 21	1946	Shōwa 52	1977	Heisei 20	2008
Shōwa 22	1947	Shōwa 53	1978	Heisei 21	2009
Shōwa 23	1948	Shōwa 54	1979	Heisei 22	2010
Shōwa 24	1949	Shōwa 55	1980	Heisei 23	2011
Shōwa 25	1950	Shōwa 56	1981	Heisei 24	2012
Shōwa 26	1951	Shōwa 57	1982	Heisei 25	2013
Shōwa 27	1952	Shōwa 58	1983	Heisei 26	2014
Shōwa 28	1953	Shōwa 59	1984	Heisei 27	2015
Shōwa 29	1954	Shōwa 60	1985	Heisei 28	2016
Shōwa 30	1955	Shōwa 61	1986	Heisei 29	2017
Shōwa 31	1956	Shōwa 62	1987	Heisei 30	2018
Shōwa 32	1957	Shōwa 63	1988	Heisei 31/Reiwa 1	2019
Shōwa 33	1958	Heisei 1	1989	Reiwa 2	2020
Shōwa 34	1959	Heisei 2	1990	Reiwa 3	2021
Shōwa 35	1960	Heisei 3	1991	Reiwa 4	2022
Shōwa 36	1961	Heisei 4	1992	Reiwa 5	2023
Shōwa 37	1962	Heisei 5	1993	Reiwa 6	2024
Shōwa 38	1963	Heisei 6	1994	Reiwa 7	2025
Shōwa 39	1964	Heisei 7	1995	Reiwa 8	2026
Shōwa 40	1965	Heisei 8	1996	Reiwa 9	2027

# Yonezawa Living Guide

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Yonezawa City International Relations Association (YIRA)

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