



Shinjuku News

No. 32

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Foreign Language Website

www.city.shinjuku.lg.jp/foreign/english/

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Please make your inquiries in Japanese when calling the coordinating division.

Do You Have
Any Difficulties
in Everyday Life?

Guide to Living in Shinjuku A Helpful Guide for Everyday Life

Since April is a time of year when many people experience a big change in their environment due to entrance to college or starting a new job, we imagine there are many people who have moved into Shinjuku City to start a new life. For foreign residents, we imagine that if you have just arrived in Japan, there are many things that you may feel confused or frustrated about due to the drastic difference in language and culture. Our *Guide to Living in Shinjuku* explains various aspects and necessary information about everyday life—such as Japanese-language classes, foreign resident consultation, City Office procedures and introduction to Japanese culture—in an easy-to-understand way, mixed with illustrations. Of course, the guidebook is filled with information that is useful for those who have lived in Shinjuku for many years as well.



Introduction to Parts of Guide to Living in Shinjuku

Never Hesitate to Ask for Advice When You Need Help

No matter how small your problem is, don't worry about it all by yourself. Please feel free to ask for advice. Consultation is available in various languages.

Note: Consultation is also available over the telephone.



Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza

This is place for Japanese and non-Japanese residents to interact. You can make new friends, obtain information on Japanese culture and everyday living in various languages, and learn the Japanese language here.



Information Services for Foreign Residents

Information on events, tips on everyday living, and administrative information are announced on the Shinjuku City website and in the city bulletin in English, Chinese, and Korean.



Learning Japanese

There are many places in Shinjuku City where you can easily start studying the Japanese language.

Note: There are also many support programs to help children learn the Japanese language.



Basic Rules for Living in Japan

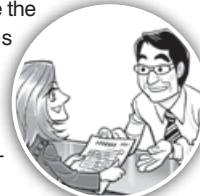
In Japan, there are many rules and customs that are confusing and strange to foreign residents. Let's understand them properly and enjoy life in Japan!

In Japan, being on time is important. Let's be punctual for appointments and observe schedules that are set.



Procedures to Take at the Shinjuku City Office

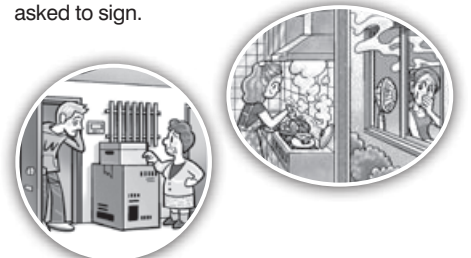
To take advantage of city administrative services, you must complete the designated notifications and procedural forms. Please check the *Guide to Living in Shinjuku* for matters that are applicable to you.



Living

To avoid trouble, be sure to familiarize yourself with the rules for housing and rental information.

Note: Please go to a real estate agent with someone who can speak Japanese, and carefully check the content of any contract you are asked to sign.



Let's Prepare for Earthquakes

Illness and Injury

Employment and Part-Time Work

Money Management (Opening an Account)

Languages: Japanese (with *furigana*), English, Chinese, and Korean

Available Locations: Resident registration service counter, Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza, and other locations

The publication can also be downloaded from the website (www.city.shinjuku.lg.jp/foreign/english/pdf/staratbook2012.html).

Inquiries: Multicultural Society Promotion Division

Tel: 03-5273-3504

The next issue of *Shinjuku News* will be published in June 2013. *Shinjuku News* is available at various public facilities, such as Shinjuku City Office, Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza, Branch Offices, and public libraries.



Why Not Enroll Your Child in a Shinjuku Municipal Elementary or Junior High School?



If you already live in Japan or have just moved here, have you thought about enrolling your child in an elementary or junior high school? You may not have thought about it before, or believed it would be too expensive, but it is something you might want to consider. For example, did you know there are no fees for tuition or textbooks? In this issue, we will introduce the enrollment procedures for getting into a municipal school, and offer some advice concerning what happens after enrollment.

Shinjuku Municipal Elementary and Junior High Schools

If you have an address in Shinjuku City or your basic center of everyday life is in Shinjuku, and if your child is of school age (between 6 and 15 years of age), you can enroll your child in a municipal school here. In Japan, the school year begins in April and ends in March of the following year. All schools offer instruction in the Japanese language (and have an assistance program for those who do not speak Japanese). If you would like to start at a lower school year level, please consult the school when you go for an interview. Although the school districts are designated according to the neighborhood where you live, you can apply to have your child go to a different school if there are special circumstances.

To Enroll Your Child in School

When completing enrollment procedures, please bring your child's residence card, special permanent resident certificate, or foreign resident registration card and your own, and complete the designated procedures at the School Management Division of the Shinjuku City Board of Education. The enrollment date will be determined after you complete the application and you and your child undergo an interview at the designated school. Tuition and textbooks are free of charge, but you will have to pay the following expenses:

- (1) School lunch and learning tools: Please pay these fees directly to the school
- (2) Junior high school uniform: Please pay these fees directly to the designated shop (you must purchase these items yourself)
- (3) Other: Please confirm with the school where and how you should pay, and then make your payment at the designated location

Other

If you move to another address, a new enrollment notification will be issued, and you must take the notification to the new school. Please bring your child's residence card, special permanent resident certificate, or foreign resident registration card and your own, and complete the designated procedures at the School Management Division of the Shinjuku City Board of Education.

If you decide to enroll your child in a different school after application for enrollment has been completed, you must complete the designated procedures to cancel your application. Please do this at the School Management Division.

After Your Child Is Enrolled

If your child must be absent from school, is tardy, or must leave school early in the day, please be sure to contact the homeroom teacher. If your child is planning to leave the school or return to his/her home country, please contact the school and the School Management Division. In addition, please observe the rules designated by the school.

Inquiries School Management Support Section, School Management Division, Board of Education, **Tel** 03-5273-3089

Let's Observe Elementary School Life in Japan

A Day at an Elementary School

Arrival at School
8 a.m.



Children wear shoes meant for indoor use when inside the school buildings.

Children in elementary school use a schoolbag called a *randoseru*.

Class Time
8:45 a.m.

The teacher uses a large blackboard when teaching, and the children listen carefully.

Physical Education
10:40 a.m.

Children wear designated gym clothes and enjoy sports classes.

Clean-Up Time
1:20 p.m.

Children clean the classroom together every day!

Recess
1 p.m.

Recess after lunch is free time. Children can spend the time doing whatever they like, such as running around or talking with their friends.

Lunch Time
12:20 p.m.

It's finally lunchtime—everyone's favorite time of day.

The menus are planned with nutritional balance in mind.

Let's Stop and Think about Taxes

A large part of the work of national and local governments involves various aspects of our daily lives, and we bear the responsibility for expenses related to that work in the form of taxes. Taxes are levied directly on personal income, and they are also included in the various expenses we pay in everyday life. In this issue, we have summarized the taxes foreign residents will have to deal with in their everyday lives in Japan.



Resident's Tax and Income Tax

Taxes levied directly on personal income include the income tax (national tax), which is paid to the national government, and the resident's tax (local tax), which is paid to the local and regional governments, such as the municipal and metropolitan governments. The resident's tax of the 23 cities of metropolitan Tokyo includes the special city resident's tax and the metropolitan resident's tax. The municipality collects these two taxes and then pays the metropolitan resident's tax to the metropolitan government.

• Those Required to Pay Resident's Tax

As a rule, those who live in the municipality on January 1 are required to pay the resident's tax of the municipality for that year (regardless of nationality). Even if you move to another municipality, you still have to pay the municipality where you lived on January 1.

For foreign residents new to Japan, residence is determined based on such conditions as their date of entry to Japan, visa period of stay, and occupation.

• Resident's Tax Report

Please report the income you earned for the previous year to the Tax Affairs Division of Shinjuku City Office during the designated report period between February and March every year. However, if you have filed an income report (*kakutei shinkoku*) with the Tax Office, or if your income is solely from a salary and your company submits a salary payment report to the City Office, you do not need to file a resident's tax income report.

• How to Pay Resident's Tax

Those who receive a tax notification and invoices mailed by the City Office in early June should take their invoice to the City Office, local Branch Office, financial institution, post office, or convenience store (only if the invoice has a bar code for payment printed on it) and pay their taxes there. In the case of salaried income earners, such as company employees, the company deducts taxes from the salary every month, and pays the City Office on behalf of the employee.

• Procedures When Leaving Japan

If a person who is required to pay resident's tax leaves Japan before receiving a tax notification, he/she must either designate someone to handle the tax payments or make an advance payment. If you leave Japan after you receive your tax notification, please either designate someone to handle the tax payments for you or pay the entire tax before you leave Japan.



Light Motor Vehicle Tax

This tax is levied every year on those who own a motorcycle, light motor vehicle, or other similar vehicle and have registered a location within Shinjuku City as their main parking space as of April 1.

○ Where to Submit an Application Form for Vehicle Registration or Disposal

(1) For motorcycles with an exhaust capacity of 125 cc or less:
Collection Section, Tax Affairs Division, Tel: 03-5273-4139

(2) For motorcycles with an exhaust capacity of over 125 cc:
Nerima Motor Vehicle Inspection and Registration Office
Address: 2-8-6 Kita-machi, Nerima-ku, Tel: 050-5540-2032

(3) For light four-wheeled vehicles with an exhaust capacity of 660 cc or less:

Nerima Branch, Tokyo Regional Office, Light Motor Vehicle Inspection Organization
Address: 1-12-24 Shingashi, Itabashi-ku, Tel: 03-5399-3811



Special City Tobacco Tax

Since the retail price of cigarettes includes a tobacco tax, the consumer (the person who purchases the cigarettes) pays the special city tobacco tax. The retail price of cigarettes also includes metropolitan tax and national tax.

Other Taxes



Fixed Assets Tax and City Planning Tax

This tax is levied every year on those who own land or a building within Shinjuku City as of January 1. The Metropolitan Tax Office mails tax notifications and invoices. Payment can be made at the Metropolitan Tax Office, your local financial institution, a convenience store, or other locations.



Taxes Related to Consumption

In addition to the abovementioned taxes, there are taxes included in the price of everyday items purchased, like the tobacco tax. For example, consumer tax is levied on the cost of general shopping items and commercial services, and other individual taxes are included in the price of such items as alcoholic beverages, gasoline, and kerosene. In addition, those who own an automobile are also taxed. You may be surprised to know that a bath tax must be paid when using a hot springs, and there is also a tax for using a golf course.

If You Have Any Problems, Ask for Advice!

When you are worried, do not understand something, or have problems concerning everyday life in Japan, do you talk it over with someone? For those of you who do not have anyone to ask, do not know who to ask, or are not able to ask because you do not speak Japanese, we will describe various consultation services for foreign residents. The services are free of charge and available in various languages. Please feel free to take advantage of these services.

Shinjuku Foreign Resident Advisory Corner

Languages: English, Chinese, and Korean

Areas of Consultation: General everyday living, procedures and application forms to be completed at Shinjuku City Office, etc.

Location: Shinjuku City Office Main Bldg. 1F

Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 to 4:30 p.m. (5 p.m. as of April 1, 2013)

Telephone Consultation: English and Japanese,

Tel: 03-5272-5060

Chinese, Tel: 03-5272-5070

Korean, Tel: 03-5272-5080



Message from a Consultant

Have you ever felt happy about having learned something or sad and confused about not knowing something? Shinjuku City offers various programs for foreign residents living in Japan. The Shinjuku Foreign Resident Advisory Corner offers all kinds of information and advice to help you through everyday life in Japan. Please drop by for a visit! (Korean-language consultant: Mr. Kim)

Foreign Resident Consultation Corner

Areas of Consultation: Any problems or questions you may have concerning everyday living

Location: Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza

Hours: 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 to 5 p.m.



Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.
Korean (afternoons)	Chinese Thai	English	Chinese Myanmarese	English (3rd Friday only) Korean

Telephone Consultation: 03-5291-5171 (Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza)

Note: On the second Friday of the month, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., there is also consultation on visas and everyday living (in Japanese).

Consultation Support Center for Foreign Residents

Areas of Consultation: Mainly concerning immigration and visas (Questions about everyday living are answered as well. The center can direct you to the proper service counter.)

Location: Inside Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza

Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Languages: English, Chinese, and Portuguese are always available.

Vietnamese—1st and 3rd Tuesdays

Indonesian—2nd and 4th Tuesdays

Spanish—1st and 3rd Fridays

Bengalese—2nd and 4th Fridays

Telephone Consultation: 03-3202-5535



Video and DVD in Foreign Languages—Nice to Meet You, Shinjuku

This narrated DVD provides useful information to make your life in Japan even better. The program includes information on Japanese-language classes, consultation centers, and a wide range of information, such as how to prepare for natural disasters, daily customs you should be especially aware of in Japan, and participating in community activities.

Played at: Waiting space at the Shinjuku City Office Main Bldg. 1F

Rental Locations: Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza, City Administration Information Center, Chuo Library, and Yotsuya Library (video only)

Languages: Japanese, English, Chinese, and Korean

Website: www.city.shinjuku.lg.jp/foreign/english/video/video.html



Information on Everyday Living for Foreign Residents of Shinjuku City

This publication includes information that is necessary for foreign residents, from information on child raising, welfare, employment, and disasters to other useful information. This publication consists of 10 booklets, each one covering a different aspect of everyday life.

Availability: Foreign Resident Registration Desk, Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza, and other locations

Languages: Japanese with kana, English, Chinese, and Korean

Foreign-Language Website

(www.city.shinjuku.lg.jp/foreign/english/)

This website includes Shinjuku City administration information, local news, and Multicultural Plaza announcements. Written in four languages (Japanese, English, Chinese, and Korean), the website is updated on the 15th of every month. Please take advantage of this website.



Why Not Challenge Yourself by Participating in the Japanese-Language Speech Contest "Shabeleon '13"?

Fill a seven-minute speech with your enthusiasm, and show everyone the fruits of your Japanese-language studies!

Date and Time

Saturday, June 8, 2013, 12:30 to 5 p.m.
Note: A party will be held after the contest.

Location

Small hall, Shinjuku Bunka Center 3F (6-14-1 Shinjuku)

Eligibility and Capacity

Those who live, work, or go to school in Shinjuku City and whose mother language is not Japanese; 18 contestants; restricted to those who have lived in Japan for two years or less; although those who have entered the contest before may participate up to two times, including the upcoming contest, those who have won an award are not eligible to participate in the contest again. If the number of applications exceeds capacity, preliminaries will be held.

Theme

As a rule, contestants are free to choose their own theme (must be unpublished), excluding those that criticize or praise a particular person or organization.

To Apply

Submit a completed speech contest application form and your planned speech in person or by mail by Wednesday, May 8. For more information, see the contest guidelines.

Note: The speech contest application form and guidelines are available at the Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza; the Multicultural Society Promotion Division (Shinjuku City Office Main Bldg. 1F); and Shinjuku Bunka Center.

Application/Inquiries

Cultural Exchange Division, the Shinjuku Foundation for Creation of Future
Shinjuku Bunka Center, 6-14-1 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku 160-0022
Tel: 03-3350-1141
E-mail: bunka@regasu-shinjuku.or.jp



Interview with Ms. Akiyo Suzuki, the Winner of Shabeleon '12

Q: What led you to enter Shabeleon?

My teacher at Shinjuku Japanese Language Institute suggested that I participate. The idea scared me at first, but since I want to gain all sorts of experience, and because my teacher and friends encouraged me, I decided to be a contestant. Looking back, I'm glad I did, because I had an extremely valuable experience that I would never have had in normal life.

Q: What kind of difficulties do you experience when studying Japanese?

Studying Japanese is definitely difficult, and I would say that kanji characters are particularly hard for me these days. Since we don't have kanji characters in my home country, the Philippines, it's hard for me to remember them. Whenever I read my textbook or receive a reading test, I always think, *If only I understood the meaning of the kanji characters, I would be able to understand things better...* That's why I want to work harder at learning kanji.

Q: What kinds of things would you like to do in Japan?

After graduating from Japanese-language school, I would like to go to university in Japan and study science. I know it's not easy, but I would like to do my best without giving up. After that, I would like to work in Japan. I am half Japanese and half Filipina, and since I have lived 17 years until now as a Filipina, now I would like to develop the Japanese side of me, in terms of spiritual values.



Shinjuku City Scholarships for Foreign Students

Shinjuku City offers scholarships of ¥240,000 (annual amount) to 15 (tentative) foreign students with high grades who find it financially difficult to continue their studies.

Eligibility: Those who fulfill all of the following requirements:

Those with a student visa status studying at their own expense or who have been dispatched by a foreign government (Japanese-government-sponsored foreign students are not eligible)

Those who have studied for a year or longer in Shinjuku City (under a master's or doctoral course at a graduate school, as an undergraduate or junior college student, or in a specialized course at a specialized training collage) and are planning to continue their studies for at least another year

Those who have completed resident registration procedures in Shinjuku City and are currently living in Shinjuku City

Those with excellent grades who are of good character and find it financially difficult to continue their studies in Japan

To Apply: Applications are accepted every year in May. Please apply at the coordination section of your school office. The Shinjuku City Office will make a final decision after receiving a letter of recommendation from your school.

Inquiries: Multicultural Society Promotion Division, Tel: 03-5273-3504

For information on other scholarships, please visit the following websites or consult the school you attend.

Japan Student Services Organization

Website: www.jasso.go.jp/study_j/scholarships_e.html

Japan Study Support—Information for Foreign Students

Website: www.jpss.jp/en/

Living Together

Multicultural living refers to people of different nationalities and ethnic races living together and accepting and understanding the differences between their cultures.

In this article, we will report from the front lines of multicultural living.

We imagine that many foreign residents come to Japan and think, *I wish I could study the Japanese language...!* For those who have this in mind but don't want to spend a lot of money, why not join the Shinjuku Nihongo Network (more familiarly known as SNN)? At Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza, volunteers teach the Japanese language free of charge four days per week. There are three language levels, and you can choose the class that fits your language skills. Since there are many students, you can also make a lot of new friends! In this issue, we will describe the atmosphere of an SNN class.

Study for Free! Shinjuku Nihongo Network (SNN)



Myon-Suk Che, student (from South Korea)



Kanji characters are especially difficult for me. I come to the Plaza twice a week and study hard. It's fun because the teachers are very friendly and kind. I hope to continue learning here.

Ms. Yoshimoto, volunteer representative



SNN welcomes students regardless of whether they are here in Japan for the long term or just a short time. Since we use study methods that fit your needs, please feel free to drop by.

When we visited the Plaza in the afternoon on Thursday, January 10, there were a lot of students learning Japanese and quite a few volunteers. There were 16 students of various nationalities—Korean, Chinese, Myanmarese, American, Taiwanese, Vietnamese, Malaysian, and Australian. The nine volunteers divided the students into groups using several tables, and taught them Japanese. The



atmosphere was very relaxed and free. In addition to using a textbook, they also played with a game board and explained a sushi menu. Volunteers taught at the level appropriate for the students, sometimes using English for those who could not understand Japanese.



Shinjuku Nihongo Network Study Japanese in a Relaxed Atmosphere. Please Come!

Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
Kanji 2 to 3:30 p.m.	Japanese-Language Together 2 to 3:30 p.m.		Let's Begin Japanese 2 to 3 p.m.		Japanese-Language Saturday Salon 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Those who can speak Japanese a little			Those who study Japanese for the first time		Everyone at any level is welcome to join.

- Fee:** Free of charge
- Application:** Applications are accepted from 1:45 p.m. on the day of the class. There is a maximum of 40 people per class, on a first-come, first-served basis. Please note that if the class capacity for the day is reached, or if you arrive late, you will not be able to participate.
- Eligibility:** Those 16 years of age or older
- Location and Inquiries:** Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza (Hygeia 11F, 2-44-1 Kabuki-cho, Shinjuku-ku, Tel: 03-5291-5171)
- Note:** Classes are not held on national holidays. In addition, there are breaks for summer and winter vacation.

Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza

Address: Hygeia 11F, 2-44-1 Kabuki-cho, Shinjuku-ku 160-0021
Inquiries: Tel: 03-5291-5171, Fax: 03-5291-5172
How to Get There: A 10-minute walk from JR Shinjuku Station's east exit or a five-minute walk from Seibu-Shinjuku Station
Hours: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Closed: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays and during the year-end/New Year holidays (December 29 through January 3)
Website: www.city.shinjuku.lg.jp/foreign/english/plaza.html



Enjoy Talking Freely with People from Various Countries
**International Exchange Salon—
 A Popular Event at the Plaza**

The International Exchange Salon is a monthly event where people can enjoy interacting with people from all over the world. Why not get together with foreign residents who want to speak Japanese and Japanese residents who want to get to know foreign residents?



Please come directly to the venue on the day of the event.

- Dates:** April 12 (Fri.)
 May 10 (Fri.)
 June 14 (Fri.)
- Time:** Second Friday of the month, 6:45 to 8:30 p.m.
- Location:** Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza
- Eligibility:** Anyone and everyone is welcome (capacity is about thirty people)!
- Fee:** ¥200 per person
- Inquiries:** Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza



**Family Japanese-Language
 Classes for Foreign Residents**

May to July 2013

Babysitting services
 available

Japanese-language skills are carefully taught to families who do not speak Japanese. Wouldn't it be fun to learn Japanese with your family? There are babysitting services, too, so families with infants and toddlers are welcome!



- Date and Time:** Every Saturday from May 11 (Sat.) through July 13 (Sat.), from 10 a.m. to 12 noon for a total of 10 sessions
- Location:** Okubo Elementary School (1-1-21 Okubo)
- Eligibility:** Twenty foreign families whose Japanese is at the introductory to beginner level, on a first-come, first-served basis
- Fee:** ¥500 per person (for a total of 10 sessions)
- To Apply:** Please send a fax, e-mail, or postcard, and be sure to write down (1) the parent's name (including *furigana*) and language he/she understands well; (2) the child's name (including *furigana*), age, and language he/she understands well; (3) your address; (4) telephone number; and (5) fax number (if you have one).
- Application/
 Inquiries:** Cultural Exchange Division, the Shinjuku Foundation for Creation of Future
 6-14-1 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku 160-0022
 Tel: 03-3350-1141, Fax: 03-3350-4839
 E-mail: bunka@regasu-shinjuku.or.jp



Recruiting Students for Shinjuku City Japanese-Language Class (April through June)

Let's learn basic Japanese for everyday living!

If there is an opening, you can start in the middle of the term.

- Eligibility:** Introductory to beginning level—Those who need to learn basic Japanese necessary for everyday living (However, those who are of junior high school age and younger are not permitted to join the class.)
- Date and Time:** Weekdays, April through June, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. (Evening classes are on Mondays and Thursdays only.) There are classes that meet once a week and those that meet twice a week. For classes that meet once a week, you may attend at up to two locations with some conditions. Schedules vary depending on the class location.

- Location:** 10 locations in the city, including Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza (12 classes)
- Fee:** Classes that meet once a week—¥2,000
 Classes that meet twice a week—¥4,000
 Note: There will be no refunds of fees.
- To Apply:** Complete an application form and either mail or fax it to the Cultural Exchange Division, the Shinjuku Foundation for Creation of Future.
- Application/
 Inquiries:** Cultural Exchange Division, the Shinjuku Foundation for Creation of Future
 6-14-1 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku 160-0022
 Tel: 03-3350-1141, Fax: 03-3350-4839



Helping Children Whose First Language Is Not Japanese—Japanese-Language Volunteer Training Course for Assisting Children

- Date and Time:** Every Tuesday from May 14 (Tue.) through July 16 (Tue.), 2013, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (Total: 10 sessions)
- Location:** Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza (Hygeia 11F, 2-44-1 Kabukicho)
- Lecturer:** Instructor affiliated with the Association for Japanese-Language Teaching (AJALT)
- Eligibility:** (1) Those who would like to start Japanese-language support volunteer activities for children
 (2) As a rule, those who can attend all sessions of the program
 (3) Those who can serve as volunteers in Shinjuku City Japanese-language support programs for children after the course is over
- Capacity:** Thirty people
- Fee:** Free of charge
- Program:** This course offers Japanese-language instruction methods to help children whose first language is not Japanese (such as Japanese-language instruction for elementary school or junior high school students, Japanese-language instruction through teaching school subjects, and simulation classes).

- To Apply:** Send mail (reply-paid postcard) or e-mail. Please be sure to give your name (with *furigana*), address, postal code, telephone number, and the reason you would like to join the course. Applications must be received by May 2 (Thu.). If the number of applicants exceeds the set limit, a lottery will be held to determine the participants, and all applicants will be notified of the results.
- Application/
 Inquiries:** Japanese-Language Volunteer Training Course for Assisting Children, Cultural Exchange Division, the Shinjuku Foundation for Creation of Future
 6-14-1 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku 160-0022
 Tel: 03-3350-1141
 E-mail: bunka@regasu-shinjuku.or.jp



Developing a Harmonious Community for People and Cats

Shinjuku City has a program called the Community Cat Program that is meant to increase harmony between human beings and cats, with the cooperation of people in the community, volunteers, and city administration.

There have been various issues involving stray cats. Since these animals have no homes, there was no one to whom people could direct their complaints when a stray cat caused damage involving urine, poop, or garbage on another person's property. People who suffered such problems would get angry with those who fed the stray cats, or even try to harm the cats directly.

These countermeasures are part of a program to enforce control over local cats without owners while living with them in harmony, with the understanding and cooperation of everyone in the community. We hope that you and your neighbors will discuss matters and create your own rules for feeding, cleaning the area, and sheltering stray cats.



To Those Feeding Stray Cats

- **After feeding cats, let's clean the area of food scraps.**

Please feed the cats in the same place at a designated time of day, since food left outside attracts crows as well as flies and other insects, and leads to other problems as well.

- **Let's keep the area free of cat droppings.**

The smell of cat droppings is very strong. If left as is, the droppings alone are the cause of many complaints.

If you make a toilet for cats and have them excrete there, keeping the area clean will be much easier. The use of deodorizer is also effective and highly recommended.

- **Let's neuter/spay cats. (Note: Neutered/spayed cats have an identifying mark on their ears.)**

Cats become pregnant an average of twice a year, and give birth to a litter of five or six kittens at a time. One person cannot possibly take care of that number of cats alone, so getting stray cats spayed or neutered is essential.



Requests for Pet Cat Owners—Ways to Keep the Stray Cat Population Low



- **Please keep your pet cats indoors.**

By keeping your cats inside, there is less chance of them breeding, becoming ill, or getting injured.

- **Please get your cats neutered/spayed.**

Cats are strong animals that breed rapidly and regularly, so it is best not to increase their numbers carelessly.

- **Please get your pet cat a collar with your information on it.**

You can make it easier to find your cat if it gets lost by having it wear a collar with your name and contact number written on it.

- **If you buy a cat or other pet, please be a responsible and caring owner.**

Abandoning and abusing cats is a crime. If you are no longer able to keep your cat, please find someone else who will care for it and love it.



Shinjuku City Offers Subsidies for the Surgery to Neuter/Spay Cats

Per Cat	Male	Female
Pet Cats	¥2,500	¥4,000
Stray Cats	¥5,000	¥9,000

The veterinary hospitals where you can use the above subsidies are the 18 designated locations affiliated with the Shinjuku branch of the Tokyo Veterinary Medical Association. Applications for spaying/neutering must be filed in advance. Please apply at the Maintenance Section of the Sanitation Division of Shinjuku Public Health Center. Please bring documentation verifying your name and address (such as your residence card, special permanent resident certificate, health insurance card, or driver's license) and a personal seal, if you have one. This subsidy program is subject to be closed without announcement because the budget is limited, so it is good idea to ask the public health center in advance if it is still available.



To All Dog Owners: Have You Registered Your Dog and Gotten Them Rabies Shots?

According to the Rabies Prevention Law, all dogs 91 days of age or older are required to be registered and vaccinated against rabies once a year. Dog registration is the responsibility of the pet owner, and is necessary to clarify the address of the pet owner. Please ask for more information at the Public Health Center service counter, and complete the designated procedures.

Please also have your dog vaccinated to prevent rabies either at the periodic group vaccination conducted by Shinjuku City, or at your local veterinarian or pet hospital. After doing so, please file a notification with the Public Health Center and receive a rabies vaccination slip.