

Did you know that criteria for acquisition of Japanese nationality changed?



Until amendment of the Nationality Act, a child who was born between the parents (a Japanese and a foreign national) could not acquire Japanese nationality when the Japanese parent had not acknowledged him/her before birth. By this amendment, a child whose paternity has been acknowledged by his/her Japanese father after birth also is able to acquire Japanese nationality.

Because of a Supreme Court decision last June, the Nationality Act has been amended. Criteria for acquisition of Japanese nationality of the child who was born between foreign national's mother and Japanese father has changed greatly.

According to the law before amendment, if the parents were married to each other or the parents were married after the birth of child, the child may acquire Japanese nationality. However, if the parents were not married to each other for certain reasons, it often became a problem of child's nationality. If a child was acknowledged by the Japanese father before birth, he/she may also acquire Japanese nationality. However, in the case of the father acknowledging him/her after birth, a child could not acquire Japanese nationality.

The Supreme Court pointed out that issue. As a result of the trial, a child whose paternity has been acknowledged by Japanese father after birth is able to acquire Japanese nationality.

If a child acquires Japanese nationality, he/she may be granted the right of health and education, etc. However, if a child is not able to acquire Japanese nationality, he/she has no rights like that. In addition, if a foreign national's mother nurtures a Japanese child, she is able to obtain resident status. The Nationality Act has been amended so that from January 2009 a child whose paternity has been acknowledged by his/her Japanese father after birth is able to acquire Japanese nationality by filing a notification at the legal affairs bureau. (If the person who intends to acquire nationality is residing abroad, the office where the notification should be made is the Japanese embassy or consulate.) (If he/she is residing in Japan, and also if he/she has been acknowledged by his/her father before birth, he/she does not have to go to the legal affairs bureau. The procedure is easier.) He/she (or a legal representative (mother, etc.)) if he/she is under 15 years of age) must come in person to the relevant office with a identity verification document and make the notification in writing. Also, He/she must be under 20 years of age.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED:

- 1 Notification form (You can get it at the legal affairs bureau.)
 - 2 A family register or removal from register certificate of the father who acknowledged the child.
 - 3 A certificate of birth of the person who intends to acquire nationality
 - 4 An written statement of the explanation about the circumstances in which the parents acknowledged the child.
 - 5 A certification to prove parents travel history before and after mother's pregnancy
 - 6 A document which proves the parents are his/her own parents.
- (If you can't submit No.4 and No.5, you must submit a statement of reason.)



* When the acknowledgment is determined by the court decision, No.4, 5 and 6 are not required.

www.ficec.jp/foreign/

The back numbers of "Information Fujimino" are available at online.

If it seems to be difficult to make the Japanese father acknowledge his child, the foreign national's mother can file for acknowledgment to the Family Court as a legal representative. In each case, it is difficult for a foreign national's mother to go through the procedure alone. You should contact support groups for foreign nationals and ask them to make required documents or go to the Legal Affairs Bureau with you. (Writing • Miho Maeda)

Take advantage of a checkup of municipality.

= Fujimi - city, Fujimino-city and Miyoshi-town=

We tend to think that we can recognize what's going on in our own body. However, you should have a yearly checkup in order to avoid getting sick.

Fujimi-city, Fujimino-city and Miyoshi-town provide physical checkups as follows :

Individually Checkup

Types	Fee	Period	Eligible	Place
Colorectal cancer	500 yen	July ~ November	Citizens aged 40 and older	Designated hospitals
Lung cancer	500 yen	July ~ November	Citizens aged 40 and older	Designated hospitals
Uterine cancer	1,000 yen	July ~ November	Citizens aged 20 and older	Designated hospitals
Hepatitis	Free	July ~ November	Citizens aged 40 and older	Designated hospitals
Dental	500 yen	July ~ November	Citizens aged 30 and older	Designated hospitals

- Uterine cancer: only cervical part of uterine
- Hepatitis is abbreviation of "Hepatitis Virus Medical Checkup". Eligible person are those who are 40 years old and over, and have never taken this checkup.
- The designated hospitals are specified medical institutions in two cities and one town.

For more information, please call Health Promotion Center, Fujimi-city, (252-3771) or Kamifukuoka Public health center (264-8292).



"Get a taste of your homeland!"

"NIKKO ASIA SHOKUJIN" Asian food store

This month's recommendation is "Nikko Asia Shokuhin". It is a 5-minute walk from the north exit of Ikebukuro station.

Mr. Yoshimatsu(Jiasong) Sato, who came to Japan last June from Fujian, China, provided us with this store's information. There are plenty of Asian foods in this store. For example, "Senso" which is so popular at night market in Taiwan is a black dessert. Duck Blood is an ingredient of "fu-chi". And soymilk made by the traditional cooking methods in Vietnam is also available. It seems to be difficult to find such food in the ordinary Japanese supermarket. The third floor of this store is a rental video shop. We can rent the movie and the TV drama, which airs only in China and Taiwan. People who came from Chinese-speaking countries get together in the shop.

Have you completed the procedures to get the Supplementary Income Payments or the Special Allowance for Child-Rearing?

DEADLINE:

The Supplementary Income Payments : **October 2nd**

The Special Allowance for Child-Rearing : **November 12th**

You cannot receive them unless you apply. If you have not finished the procedures yet, please make sure the deadline dates and complete the procedures.

Inquiry

• **Fujimi-city**

Call center for the Supplementary Income Payments :049-249-2711 (Direct line)

• **Fujimino-city** 049-261-2611

The Supplementary Income Payments ... Policy and Planning section

The Special Allowance for Child-Rearing ... Childcare Support Section

• **Miyoshi Town** 049-258-0019

The Supplementary Income Payments...General Policy Section

The Special Allowance for Child-Rearing ... Child and Family Section

A Free Uterine Cancer and Breast Cancer Check-up Coupon will be issued in Fujimi city. Eligible is as follows:

Uterine cancer: from 20 y/o to 40 y/o.
Breast cancer: from 40 y/o to 60 y/o.

For more information, please call Health Promotion Center, Fujimi-city, (252-3771)

"Mother's Corner" at Hello Work

Career consulting corner for mother has opened at Hello Work Kawagoe.

A person who brings up a child (children), a person who has finished her child-raising and wants to find a job, or a person who wants to keep working while raising children can get some support in this corner.

You can also take your child (children) to the corner.

Inquiry

Hello Work Kawagoe.

0 4 9 - 2 4 2 - 0 1 9 7

www.ficcc.jp/living/

Living Guidance translated in 6 languages is available.