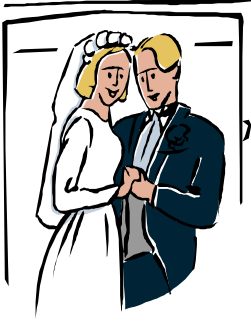


MAIRIE



# Official copy of the family register.

Japan does have a peculiar family registration system and this month let us explain “Official copy of the family register” in details.

**“Official copy of the family register” It’s an important document for official procedure.**

In Japan, “Official copy of the family register” is one of the most important documents. This document is usually created and based on an adult couple. When the couple has a baby, the baby is registered in the same official copy of the family register. When he/she (the baby) marries after grown-up, he/she is getting another official copy of the family register even he/she lives in the same house. Such descriptions as birth date of first-person, marriage date, birth date of one’s spouse and child birth date so on are added to it on all such occasions. It is an official transcript certifying the parent-child relationship. When you married with Japanese resident, you can see that your spouse and child are written in large boxed text in your spouse’s family register. However, you will find your name is described in small boxed text in it. It means that the description of Japanese resident is written in the official copy of family register, on the other hand, description of foreign resident is written on alien registration. If you nurture child after getting divorce, you are requested to submit official copy of the child register when updating your visa. Have you experienced that you were at loss how to get it? What makes this issue even more complicated is that the official copy of the family register is not always filed in district of residence, sometimes filed in different city or town.

**When the current address is different from one on domicile, How to handle it?**

In this case, at first, please get residence certificate of your child with Japanese citizenship at your city office. Ask city office staff to give you the document describing domicile on the residence certificate. You will find the domicile of the child in the residence certificate. If the location of domicile is same as one of residence certificate, you can get easily the official copy of the family register after filling-in child’s name and domicile at city office.

If the location of domicile is different from one on residence certificate, it would be possible to get it by post mail. Please send the letter describing child’s name, birth of date, explanation why it is in need and required copies to city office where the domicile is filed. When sending the letter, please enclose return-mail envelop with 90 yen stamp and postal money order (P.M.O.), 450 yen per copy and your foreign alien registry photo copy. It takes about one week to get it. It is recommendable to get photo copy for next procedure before submitting. As it is required to read and write Japanese letters when taking those procedures, it would be useful to consult with your Japanese friends or such foreigner supporting-groups as FICEC.

(Written by Ms. Miho Maeda)

[www.ficec.jp/foreign/](http://www.ficec.jp/foreign/)

FICEC’s office moved new location. The new address is written on the last page.

Ms. Sharon sent some donation money of her profits through mail-order business of washable chopsticks sales activities.



Strange social customs and manners in Japan, reported by Ms. Yuka Sakai



**Japan, GO UNDEFEATED! I am supporting and assisting all of you!**

Ms. Sharon with one child originally from Taiwan, is studying Japanese class at FICEC. She imports and sells washable chopsticks carried in a case from Taiwan through her home internet page while raising kid. She experienced big shake in massive earthquake and she is deeply troubled by adverse condition of disaster victims. She considered "What can she do for deserter victims?" and decided to make a donation to disaster area. On April 17, she sent money donation and she continued to take this activity.(Her Lahers home page: <http://hashi.lahers.jp/>)

Why not to study more for improvement at International kid club?



New fiscal year started. Why not study at FICEC? It is fun. You can enjoy conversation or tea time with your new friends while studying at FICEC.

Date and time: Every Saturday from 10:00 to 12:00

Object persons: Primary school pupils, Junior/Senior high school pupils and youthful  
 Contents of learning: Homework, Japanese language. You can take lessons on a one-to-one basis for different purpose.

Place: FICEC, Cost: Free of charge

I asked Miss S who entered into high school from April "Are you taking bag lunch to school?" However, she could not understand the meaning of my question because she had no habit of having cold dishes in China. In China, they usually take lunch purchased from food stall near school and bag lunch with 'home-baked tastes' is delivered to their family member staying at the hospital. In Europe or USA, such simple foods as sandwiches or some fruits put in a plastic lunch box are sold. When we see meals scene at lunch time in school, we can see cracker, cheese or chocolate packed in ziplock, similar to afternoon snack. Bag lunch (Bento) in Japan is quite different from others. You can see so many kinds of small colorful dishes in it and it is nutritionally almost complete. There are a lot of kinds of lunch boxes, from cheapest "Nori Bento" which cost only 280 yen to authentic Japanese cuisine and you can select Japanese, Chinese or Western style at your option. We, Japanese have been familiar with not only lunch boxes sold at super-market but also home-made lunch box took to nursery, kindergarten, school, excursion, and at seasonal events. Some Japanese prefer taking lunch box to going out for lunch at restaurant because lunch time is short. Recently we can see "Chara-Ben" (Boxed meals inspired anime or cartoon characters) and "Men's lunch box" which was prepared by himself. You can see many kinds of lunch boxes in size and color. Some lunch boxes have warming function to keep a certain temperature. When preparing lunch boxes, you may sometimes be at loss how to prepare dishes in lunch box. There are some staffs called as "super chef" and have long experience of making lunch boxes in FICEC. Please ask them for know-how to make delicious lunch box.

[www.ficec.jp/foreign/](http://www.ficec.jp/foreign/)

A new office is 20 minutes walk from Fujimino Station. Please refer to the last page for details.