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## Living Information

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Free Information & Advice for Foreign Residents in 9 languages  
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Free information and counseling services will be offered to foreign residents at International House, Osaka to help with difficulties experienced in everyday life, and advice on how to live comfortably in Osaka. Specialist advice will be available regarding many common difficulties experienced by foreign residents. Volunteers will provide interpretation in 9 languages.

There have been many comments from the participants every year, such as: “I was relieved to have consultation in my language,” “I could clear up several problems in just one day”! Counseling given will be strictly confidential. No prior appointment is necessary.

Date & Time: Sunday, June 7th 11:00 - 17:00 (Reception will be close at 16:30)

Venue: International House, Osaka 2F

Services Offered: Legal Issues, Human Rights, Immigration, Labor, Employment, Health Insurance/National Pension, Everyday Living Conditions, Municipal Administration, Taxes, Medical Information, Dental Information, Medicine, Education and Childcare.

There will also be brochures and displays regarding services for non-Japanese residents.

Available Languages: English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese,  
Indonesian, Thai, Filipino, and Vietnamese

Admission: Free

Inquiries: Planning and Communications Division  
Osaka International House Foundation  
Tel:06-6773-8989 Fax:06-6773-8421  
E-mail : [johokikaku@ih-osaka.or.jp](mailto:johokikaku@ih-osaka.or.jp)

For Further Information

<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/>

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Application for Municipal Housing  
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Osaka City offers an application for tenants of Municipal Smiling (Child-Rearing Support Type), Municipal Smiling and Municipal Specific Rental Housing for middle-income earning households with higher income than the standard of applying for municipal housing. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Municipal Specific Rental Housing and Municipal Smiling also offer vacant rooms in order of application from May 18<sup>th</sup>. However, your income and other conditions will be considered in the application.

Inquiries: Osaka Municipal Housing Corporation, Applications Section

Tel: 06-6882-7012 Fax: 06-6882-7021

<http://www.city.osaka.lg.jp/toshiseibi/>

<Counseling on housing>

Osaka Municipal Housing Information Center

English, Chinese, Korean: 10:00 – 17:00 (Closed on Tuesday, the day after National & Year-end/New Year)

Tel: 06-6242-1177 Fax: 06-6354-8601

<http://www.city.osaka.lg.jp/toshiseibi/>

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Supplementary Income Payments and Special Allowance for Child-Rearing  
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<Supplementary Income Payments>

As Japan's recession is getting severe, the Japanese government will provide the Supplementary Income Payments to support citizen's daily life and stimulate spending. Osaka City is planning to provide the Supplementary Income Payments from late May and applications will be sent out starting from April 18<sup>th</sup>. Please note that providing the Supplementary Income Payments conducts only this time.

Eligibility: As of February 1<sup>st</sup> 2009, persons who are registered as Japanese residents or foreign residents in Osaka City. This does not apply to short-term stay residents.

Payments: 12,000 for each person. 20,000 for persons aged 65 or over or aged 18 and below.

How to apply: Osaka City will send an application to the head of households (to each person if you are a foreign resident). You can make an application from May 1<sup>st</sup>. Payments will be made from mid-May. For faster services, choosing the payment by bank transfer will be greatly appreciated.

For further information: <http://www.city.osaka.lg.jp/shimin/page/0000028676.html>

#### <Special Allowance for Child-Rearing>

The government will provide the Special Allowance for Child-Rearing to support parents who have two or more children. Osaka City is planning to provide the allowance from late May or early June and are now sending out application forms. Please note that the Special Allowance for Child-Rearing policy will be enforced for this year only.

Eligibility: Families with two children or more, who were born between April 2, 2002 to April 1, 2005.

Who can receive: The head of households who have eligible children registered as Japanese or foreign resident as of February 1 2009 in Osaka City. This does not apply to short-term stay residents.

Allowance: 36,000 yen for one child.

How to receive: Osaka City will transfer the allowance to your bank account if you make an application.

How to apply: Osaka City will send the application form to the eligible head of households. The application form will be sent together with the application form for the Supplementary Income Payment in Osaka City.

For further information:

<http://www.city.osaka.lg.jp/kodomo/page/0000021722.html>

Inquiries: The Supplementary Income Payments Center

Tel: 06-6101-9200

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HIV Antibody Testing  
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Osaka City is conducting free HIV antibody testing in the following Welfare Health Centers.

Kita-ku: Mon – Fri, 9:30 – 11:00 (Reception)

Chuo-ku: Mon – Fri, 9:30 – 11:00 (Reception)

Yodogawa-ku: Monday 14:00 – 15:30 (Reception)/ Tuesday 9:30 – 11:00 (Reception)

Testing services in Naniwa-ku was finished on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

HIV antibody testing, Syphilis and Chlamydia checks are free, anonymous and no appointment necessary. Please come to the Welfare Health Center directly. The results will be given in person about a week later.

Inquiries: Infections Diseases Prevention Department, Public Health and Welfare Bureau

Tel : 06-6647-0656 Fax : 06-6647-1029

For further information:

<http://www.city.osaka.lg.jp/kenkofukushi/page/0000004999.html>

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Application for Child Allowance  
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A parent who has a child in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade or below and is not presently receiving the Child Allowance should apply for this allowance if their annual income of 2008 was less than the income limitation. If you qualify for this allowance, please apply at the Health and Welfare section of your local ward office by May. You can receive the allowance a month later after application.

Income Limitation: 5,320,000 yen+ (380,000 yen × a number of dependent family members) if you are enrolled for Welfare Pension Insurance or Mutual Aid Association.

4,600,000 yen+ (380,000×a number of dependent family members) if you are enrolled or not enrolled for National Pension.

Please contact the following offices if you are not eligible to receive the Child Allowance due to last year or the previous year's income limitation.

Inquiries: Public Health and Welfare Center of each ward or General Department Services, Children and Youth Bureau

Tel : 06-6208-7981 Fax : 06-6202-6963

For further information: <http://www.city.osaka.lg.jp/kodomo/page/0000002427.html>

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#### Event Updates

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The 8<sup>th</sup> Japan-Europe Cultural Exchange Day  
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Each year, European Cultural Centers in Osaka co-organize an event with i-house to promote European and Japanese culture. The topic this year is to introduce a variety of European cultures through a multilingual "Poetry Slam". Slam poets from England, Spain, Germany, France, Belgium and the Netherlands will conduct a workshop and they will collaborate with Japanese slam poets in the "Poetry Slam". This is a good opportunity to feel the sound and rhythm of each language. We look forward to your participation!

\* Date & Time: Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> 19:00 – 21:00 (Poetry Slam)

#### <Poetry Slam>

\* Venue: Club Jungle (<http://www.clubjungle.jp/>)

\* Spaces Available: 200 (in order of application)

\* Admission: 1,500yen

\* Tickets available: Information Center (International House, Osaka), Club Jungle and others.

Inquiries:

Planning and Communications Division

Osaka International House Foundation  
Tel: 06-6773-8182 Fax: 06-6773-8421  
E-mail: johokikaku@ih-osaka.or.jp

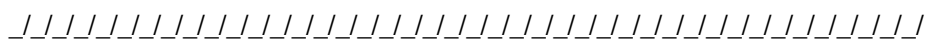
For further information  
<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/>

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International Picture Book Readings "AI-AI"  
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"AI-AI" International Picture Book Readings is for children and parents of all nationalities to enjoy. We provide an opportunity to make friends while experiencing different languages and cultures through picture books from all around the world. Not only can you enjoy book readings in various languages, but there are also sing-along and panel theaters.

No need to book, just turn up on the day! It's free, so please come and enjoy some fun reading!

★ We are looking for native English and Chinese speaking volunteers for picture book readings. For further information, please see contact details below.  
<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/english/032/post-9.html>



Japanese Lesson  
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Fureai Salon  
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Enjoy learning Japanese with experienced volunteer teachers!  
The initial class is free. No booking needed. Visit us on the class day!

※ Next registration for the free initial lesson will be on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> and May 23<sup>rd</sup> by 14:00.

Classes: Classes are usually taught on a one-on-one basis.

(In some cases you may have a group lesson depending on the number of participants)

Date & Time: Every Saturday 14:00 - 15:30

Venue: International House, Osaka  
(Map: <http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/map/map.html>)

Tuition: ¥500 for registration - ¥1,500 for 12 lessons (valid for one year)

Application: Visit us at the Information Center on the day of the class (Saturday).

- \* Free trial lessons are available.
- \* We accept participants of any level.

For further information:

<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/english/031/post-6.html>

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#### Please Introduce Your Culture

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i-house Culture Salon - Native Volunteers Required  
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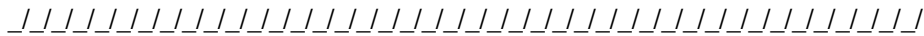
We are looking for foreign residents who are able to introduce their culture to Japanese people at the next i-house culture salon. Please feel free to inquire.

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Volunteer Indonesian Interpreters Required  
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We are looking for volunteer Indonesian interpreters who are able to interpret between our staff and people seeking advice.

Conditions for Volunteering:

- \* You are able to work at home.
- \* Indonesian interpretation applicants must be able to work Wednesdays.
- \* Registration fee to volunteer is 300 yen per year.



### Living Information Services Available in 7 Languages

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#### Information Plaza Osaka

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Information Plaza Osaka offers free consultation and counseling services by professionals over Telephone or in person, for issues relating to life in Osaka.

<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/english/020/information-center.html#i-osaka>

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#### Counseling for Foreign Residents

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Counseling services for foreign residents including legal advice are available in 7 languages (English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese, Indonesian and Thai).

<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/english/030/post-4.html>

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#### Living Information

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Have you seen the website with useful living information for foreigners in Osaka? There is information about various topics such as medical agencies with foreign language services, living procedures (i.e. registration for foreign residents), habitation, as well as others. (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese)

Access at: <http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/enjoy/en/index.html>



#### Access to International House, Osaka

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<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/900/map.html>

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i-koko

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This website is hosted by International House, Osaka, to provide information on international exchange events held by other organizations and volunteer activities.

(Japanese only)

<http://www.i-koko.com/>

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◆Inquiries◆

Planning and Communications Division

Osaka International House Foundation

Tel: 06-6773-8989 Fax: 06-6773-8421

E-mail: [info-staff@ih-osaka.or.jp](mailto:info-staff@ih-osaka.or.jp)

Available Languages: (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese)

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Should you wish to change your registration details or stop receiving this Ezine, please enter the email address you used to register in the Member Registration.

To update: [http://www.ih-osaka.info/asp/user\\_mail\\_top.asp?Lang\\_flg=1](http://www.ih-osaka.info/asp/user_mail_top.asp?Lang_flg=1)

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<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/english/>