

# Child-Rearing Support Measures

## Subsidies for School Meals

### Answers to your Frequent Questions



An application must be submitted every year!

#### **Q** Where do you submit your application form?

- A**
- Please submit and send your application form using the green return envelope that was enclosed with the application (distributed by schools). Postal stamps are not required.
  - You may also submit it at the School Facilities Management Division (Ojima Chousha 1F).
  - Applications provided by kindergartens, children's facilities, and education and care centers are different. Please submit at your currently enrolled childcare center.

#### **[Contact Information]**

Municipal kindergartens → Children Facilities Division ☎0276-47-1924

Private kindergartens, children's facilities, and education and care centers

→ Children Affairs Division ☎0276-47-1942

#### **Q** My child will be (is) enrolling in Ota Chugakkou, outside the city, private school, or prefectural schools for special education needs. Can I still apply?

- A**
- You may apply if the applicant and eligible child is living in Ota (or plans to). Subsidies will be sent in March 2021 and be subsidized in Ota City cash vouchers equivalent to school meal "kyushoku" fees

Sample for starters in April

	Elementary	Junior high
2 <sup>nd</sup> child	22,500 yen	27,500 yen
3 <sup>rd</sup> child onwards	45,000 yen	55,000 yen

\* Subsidy amounts may differ depending on your situation.

#### **Q** What can I do if I don't understand Japanese?

- A**
- There are several translated versions of application forms available at schools. English, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese, Tagalog, and Vietnamese are available. These copies may also be sent via post-mail. Please contact the School Facilities Management Division School Meals Section.

#### **Q** Can I still apply if I have unpaid taxes (taxes in arrears)?

- A**
- You may apply, but you cannot have any unpaid Ota City taxes, childcare fees, school lunch fees, municipal housing rent, etc.
  - If you have unpaid taxes, you may become eligible to receive subsidies if you either pay in full or set up installment payments. However, please be aware if there are delays in your installment payments you will not be approved for subsidies. Your (installment) payments will be checked and decided after applying.
  - Checks may take approximately one week if you have made recent payments.
  - Please contact their respective divisions if you have taxes in arrears.

#### **Q** Do I need to apply for school meal subsidies if I am currently pending approval (or plan to apply) for school allowances?

- A**
- Please apply for school meal subsidies. Your school allowance application will be prioritized, but if it is suspended due to a renewal screening, etc. you can receive those allowances continuously if your school meal subsidy application is approved beforehand.

#### **Q** I have a child who turns 20 in the middle of the fiscal year. Does he/she become ineligible for the subsidy?

- A**
- He/she will continue to receive subsidies for the fiscal year.

**Q Currently, my address is not in Ota City. Can I still apply if I am planning to move to Ota in April?**

- A** • You may apply. However, approval will be decided once you move to Ota City. Depending on your move-in date, subsidies may not be approved until the following month.

**Q I am moving to another address in Ota in April. Which address do I fill in?**

- A** • Please fill in your current address. A new application does not need to be filled in once you are at your new address.

**Q Can I still apply if I have a child (under 20 years old※) living separately from me?**

- A** • You may apply if both you and the eligible child are living in Ota City. Please be aware the means of support will be checked for the child living separately.  
\* However, children married who are under 20 years old※ are not eligible.

**Q Do I fill in the school my child is currently enrolling, or their school of enrollment starting April?**

- A** • Please write in the grade and school of enrollment as of April.

**Q Can I still apply if my child's school of enrollment in April is not decided yet?**

- A** • You may apply. Please include the school you plan on enrolling your child when filling out your application. A new application does not need to be filled out if the school of enrollment changes.

**Q My eldest child's school of enrollment (high school/college) is not decided, or is working. What should I put under school name or occupation?**

- A** • Graduates of junior high school (15 years and above) do not need to be filled. If filling in, please write in "Expected to enroll in high school", "Expected to enroll in university / college", or "Workplace: Expected to start work at \_\_\_\_\_"  
\* Please be sure to include the (elementary/junior high) schools of eligible second-born and onwards.

**Q Do I include children who are not enrolled in school as well?**

- A** • Include children under 20 years old※ as of April 2 in your application.  
• Please only fill out one application form for one household if you have received multiple forms.  
• Please only fill out two application forms and send it together in one envelope if your family has seven or more children.

**Q My second child is (will be) enrolling in a private kindergarten, children's facility, or early childhood education and care center. Do I need to apply?**

- A** • You do not need to apply for this subsidy.  
• There is a separate subsidy system for private kindergartens, children's facilities, and education and care centers. Please contact the Children Affairs Division (☎ 0276-47-1942).

**Q My only child brought home this application from school. Am I required to apply?**

- A** • You do not need to apply. You must be raising at least two children under 20 years old※ to be eligible for this subsidy. Please understand applications are sent to all children in order to ensure no one is omitted from receiving one.

※"under 20 years old" in the sentences above means children who were born on / before April 2, 2000.

**【Contact Information Regarding Subsidies for School Meals】**

- ◆Ota Board of Education School Facilities Management Division School Meals Section ☎0276-20-7086
- ◆Frequent questions are posted on the Ota City Homepage (please visit V Education and Learning)

<https://www.city.ota.gunma.jp/005gyosei/0020-007kikaku-kouryu/kokusaikouryu-eng/guidefordailyife-en.html>