



GINOWAN CITY NEWSLETTER



1-1-1 NODAKE | 098-893-4119
@GINOWANCITY.MULTILINGUAL



Applications for 2026 April Enrollment into Public Daycare and Kindergarten - Starting Soon

Application Information (For All Programs)

Application Period: October 6 (Monday) – October 24 (Friday) (Excluding weekends and holidays)

Hours: 9:00–11:30 / 13:00–17:00 *Last application at 16:30

Location: 1st Floor, Childcare and Early Childhood Education Division, Ginowan City Hall

Forms available from October 1 on the Childcare and Early Childhood Education Division website

Tip: Bring photo ID and start early — Certificate of Employment takes time to prepare.

For details, check the Ginowan City Childcare and Early Childhood Education Division website.



Daycare (Licensed / Certified / Community-Based Daycare)

- Only Ginowan City residents aged 3 months–preschool (as of April 1, 2026)
- Must be certified as needing daycare (both parents working, etc.)
- A clinical psychologist will help with applications for children with special needs. Please call to book an appointment.
- Not first-come-first-served. Apply early.
- Applications for school transfers also accepted.
- Applications accepted for children to be born by December 31, 2025.
- School address and number of available slots can be found in the application package.



098-893-4156 Admissions Section

Childcare and Early Childhood Education Division

Public Kindergarten

Eligibility: Ginowan City residents only

For Kindergarten: Born April 2, 2020 – April 1, 2021 (unlimited slots)

For Pre-K: Born April 2, 2021 – April 1, 2022 (30 slots per school)

Morning session is free of charge (small fees for supplies and snacks may apply).

Admission Area: Same as elementary school district

Class Hours:

Monday/Wednesday/Friday 8:15–12:00

Tuesday/Thursday 8:15–14:00 (Bring-Your-Lunch days)

Applications available at the schools from October 6

All children must attend an interview (You'll be notified of your date/time)

098-893-4649 Kindergarten & Childcare Support Section, Childcare and Early Childhood Education Division

Public Kindergarten & Afterschool Daycare (Extended Hours)

Afterschool Daycare at Public Kindergarten

Eligibility: Children needing after-school care (both parents working, etc.) *Children starting kindergarten in 2026 are also eligible to apply.

Class hours: Weekdays after kindergarten finishes – 18:30
Spring/Summer/Winter Break: 8:15–18:30

Closed on weekends, public holidays, Okinawa Memorial Day, 12//29 - 12/31, and other days determined by the principal.

Free of charge (some small fees for snacks etc. may apply)

Other information: Catering available on days when school lunches are not provided.

October 2025 Mandatory Health Checkup for Children Starting Elementary School Next Year

In accordance with the School Health and Safety Act, health checkups will be conducted for children before they enter elementary school.

What Will the Doctor Check:

- Developmental milestones (physical & intellectual), Nutrition, Allergies,
- Vaccination status, ENT, Dental health, Vision, Hearing,
- Other illnesses

What You Have to Bring: Health Check Notice for Elementary School Admission, Vaccination Record, Mother and Child Health Handbook

You can also ask the doctor questions if you have any concerns.

Health Check Notice will be mailed out in mid-September. If you do not receive it, please contact the office below. (Children attending municipal kindergartens, will receive it from their current school.)

Location: Ginowan City Gymnasium, Mashiki 4-2-1

Eligibility: Children born between April 2, 2019 - April 1, 2020

Schedule

Date	Elementary School District	Registration
Oct 23 (Thurs)	Oyama, Ginowan, Hagaromo	13:20 - 15:30
Oct 30 (Thurs)	Futenma, Ojana, Shimashi	
Nov 6 (Thurs)	Futenma Daini, Kakazu, Nagata	

098-892-8283 Academic Affairs Division

Population as of August

Total Population	100,271 (-42)
Total Households	48,712 (+6)
Foreign Residents	2,367 (-20)
Nationalities	55(±0)



Public After-School Children's Centers (Gakudo) in Ginowan City for April 2026 Start

Public after-school centers (Gakudo) are now accepting applications from residents for **children starting elementary school in April 2026**.

These clubs provide safe and fun care after school for children whose parents are working/sick or cannot be at home during the day.

On school days, care is available from after school until 18:00.

During school vacations (summer, winter, and spring), care is available from 8:30 a.m. to 18:00.

Available centers:

- Oyama Children's Center (22 spots) ☎098-890-0015
- Aragusuku Children's Center (22 spots) ☎098-892-8888
- Ganeko Children's Center (23 spots) ☎098-897-6767
- Nagata Children's Center (25 spots) ☎098-892-3330
- Ojana Children's Center (25 spots) ☎098-897-4117



The **monthly fee** is 5,000 yen per child.

Parents are responsible for daily pick-up and drop-off.

Clubs are closed on 2nd and 4th Saturdays, Sundays, public holidays, and Okinawa Memorial Day.

Application forms

Form Pickup: October 1 - 31 10:00 - 12:00, 13:00 - 18:00 (17:00 on the last day)

Submission: October 6 - 31 10:00 - 11:30, 13:00 - 17:30

Applications will be reviewed based on family circumstances and need for childcare.

Notice: Supplementary Benefit (Shortfall Benefit) for Fixed-Amount Tax Reduction (FY 2025)

Tax relief is being provided to help households cope with rising prices. A fixed reduction on income tax and resident tax is given to each person.

If your tax is lower than the reduction amount, you will receive a cash benefit.

If you received a "Payment Notice", no action is needed unless you want to change your account or decline the payment.

If you received an "Eligibility Confirmation Form", you must complete the required procedures in person, by mail, or online.

You must apply if (1) you were taxed in other municipalities in FY2024 or (2) if you and your dependents were not eligible for the fixed-amount tax reduction, and your household does not qualify for low-income benefits.

Applications start Tuesday, September 16, 2025. For details, forms, or questions, visit the city website or call the Supplementary Payment Call Center at 0120-606-465.

Notice: Temporary Closure of the City Library

Duration: October – November 2025
(Subject to change depending on construction progress)

Reason: Renovation work

During Closure: A temporary book-lending counter will be set up.

Mobile library service will be available

For Updates: Please check the City Library website

We apologize for the inconvenience. Thank you for your understanding.

☎ 098-897-4646 **City Library**



2025 National Census Conducted Once Every Five Years

Foreign residents are required to participate. Get counted!

3 Things You Need To Do

After mid-September, you will receive a **blue envelope** containing the census documents. Please open it and reply as instructed.

Use the QR code to send your details using your smartphone or computer. We recommend responding online – it's simple and convenient! (You can also mail your response or submit it to a census staff when they visit you.)

Please respond by the deadline.
Deadline for Online /Mail Responses: Wednesday, October 8

☎ 098-893-4103 Statistics Section
Policy Planning Division
Ginowan City Office



Beware of Scam Calls from Fake Police Officers



Okinawa Prefectural Police

Recently, many people in Okinawa have received scam calls from people pretending to be police officers. This is called "Ore Ore Sagi" in Japan, where scammers pretend to be a police officer, lawyer, immigration agent or someone you might know to take money from you.

Watch out for suspicious phone numbers

- Be careful if the phone number starts with "+" (plus) — this means it is an international call.
- Scammers often use international phone numbers to trick you.
- If you don't know the caller, do not answer or hang up immediately.
- You can use paid call blocking apps to block international calls.



Feeling stuck in Life or Worried About a Family Member?

Have you experienced any of the following recently?

- Hard to get up in the morning
- Avoiding people for days
- Frustrated with yourself
- A family member shutting themselves in their room, and not knowing what to do

Withdrawing socially (hikikomori) can sometimes be an important and valid choice, but it can also feel overwhelming. In recent years, we've seen an increase in people seeking support for this.

You don't have to face it alone!

Counselors at the Welfare General Affairs Division, Life Support Section, can help. We'll work with you to ease stress and connect you to support services if needed.

Consultations welcome for anyone — individuals, family, or close friends.

☎ 098-893-4480 (Weekdays 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM)
Welfare Administration Division

I think I will give them a call...



Free Dental Checkup for 75-79 Year-Olds Haisai Dental Checkup 2025

Get your teeth checked for free!

If you received your Haisai Dental Checkup voucher (sent in late August), please call the dental clinic listed on the voucher to make an appointment.

Validity of Voucher: September 1, 2025 (Mon) – January 31, 2026 (Sat)

Eligibility: Insured persons living in the city who are 75–79 years old as of April 1, 2025

(**Excludes** those certified as needing nursing care levels 1–5, those in nursing facilities, and those hospitalized for long-term)

Cost: Free (one-time only during the period)

Inquiries: ☎ 098-963-8013 Business Division
Okinawa Prefecture Elderly Healthcare Association

