

# Child Allowance

*The Child Allowance system is a system that provides an allowance to anyone who is raising a child until the child graduates from junior high school (up to the 31<sup>st</sup> March following the child's 15<sup>th</sup> birthday). After registering as a resident at your local ward office, please visit the Child Rearing Support Section to apply for the Child Allowance.*

## Eligibility

Anyone caring for a child can claim child allowance until the child graduates from junior high school (up to the 31<sup>st</sup> March following the child's 15<sup>th</sup> birthday).

*As a rule:*

- If both parents are caring for a child, the allowance is paid to the parent with the highest regular income (the main breadwinner).
- The child must live in Japan.

## How to Apply

When a child is born or you move from another municipality or foreign country, you must submit (apply for) a "request for certification" to the municipality of your current address.

Once certified by the municipality, the allowance will normally be paid from the month following the month in which the application was submitted. You should therefore apply as soon as possible.

## 15 Day Rule

Child allowance is usually paid from the month following your application. However, if the date of your child's birth or the date you move to your current address (change date) is near the end of the month, you will be paid for the month in which you claim, even if you apply in the following month, as long as you claim within 15 days of the day after the date of your child's birth or the date of your move.

Contact

*Health and Welfare Section of your ward/branch office*