

LIVING GUIDE MORIOKA

MORIOKA INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ASSOCIATION

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MOVING?

In Japan many people move in March and April because of their new school or job. If you are moving, you need to begin your moving process as follows, so that you can have a comfortable start at your new place.

Look for a new apartment / rented house

When you look for an apartment or a rented house, real estate agents will help. Find an agent in the city/town you're going to live and tell them, 1) up to how much rent you can pay, 2) how many bed rooms or floor space you need, 3) the distance and transportation to your school or work, and 4) if you need a parking space or not. The agent will show you the properties that you want to see. When you find an apartment or a rented house that would suits you, sign the lease. Generally you need someone who goes security for you to sign a lease. You also need the following costs:

- *Deposit (Shiki-kin)----- One to three months' rent to be paid to the owner. The deposit will be used to compensate for the unpaid rent or repairs, and the rest will be returned to you when you leave.
- *Key money (Rei-kin)----- One to two months' rent to be paid to the owner at the time of signing. The money will not be returned.
- *Commission (Chukai-ryo)----- Fee to the real-estate agent. About one month's rent.

When you are going to leave the apartment / rented house, you need to tell the agent or owner at least one month before leaving.



Ask a mover

Ask for estimates from more than one mover and pick one that suits your condition including the moving fee. Or you can rent a car and move by yourself.

Alien registration

Go to the municipality office of your new address within 14 days after you move in and change your address in your registration information. Take your Alien Registration Certificate to the office. If your new address is in Morioka, go to the Resident Registration Division at the 1st floor of the city hall. (Phone: 651-4111 ext.2133)

Health and Welfare

If you receive an allowance or benefit below, or you have National Health Insurance, notify the city office of your moving.

In Morioka:

- *Child benefit (Jido Teate) ----- the Child welfare Division at the 5th floor, the main building of the city hall. Phone: 626-7511
- *Disability certificate (Shogaisha Techo) ----- the Welfare Division for People with Disabilities at the 5th floor, the main building of the city hall. Phone: 626-7508
- *Infant medical allowance (Nyuyoji Iryo) ----- the 1st and 2nd sections of the health and welfare, the Medical Assistance Division, at the 1st floor, the annex of the city hall. Phone: 626-7528
- *National Health Insurance (Kokumin Kenko Hoken) ----- the National Health Insurance & Pension Division at the 1st floor, the annex of the city hall. Phone: 626-7527

Children's transfer to a new school

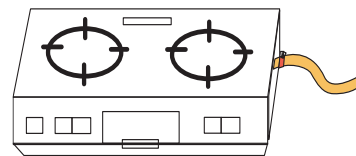
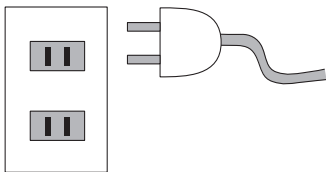
If you have school children, they need the procedure for the transfer to the school of your new address. For the transfer in Morioka, go to the School Management Division, Morioka School Board of Education at the 3rd floor, Tonan Office of the city hall. Phone: 639-9044

Utilities / Telephone

Tell your utility companies / telephone carrier your name, old/new addresses, phone number and relocation date. Your client number (*Okyakusama Bango*) on your utility bills or "notice of electricity/gas consumption" will help the process.

Utility companies/offices in Morioka are:

- *Electricity ----- Morioka Office of *Tbhoku Denryoku*.
Phone: 0120-175-266(toll free)
- *Water ----- Waterworks Department of Morioka City. Phone: 623-1411
- *Gas ----- Morioka Gas. Phone: 653-1241
- *Telephone ----- If you are a subscriber of NTT, dial 116. If you are a subscriber for any other carrier, call your carrier.



Mail

You can have your mails to your old address forwarded to your new address by informing the post office of your old and new addresses. Go to a nearby post office and fill in the form for relocation. Or mail or take to a post office a postcard that has information of 1) date of notification, 2) old and new addresses, 3) names of all the family members, 4) date to start forwarding and 5) your seal.

Massive garbage generated when moving

You cannot put out a large amount of garbage to the collection point of your neighborhood. Take it to the garbage treatment facility by yourself or ask a garbage collector. For more information, contact:

- *Morioka Area ----- the Sanitation Affairs Division (*Seiso Gyomuka*) at 622-2911
- *Tonan Area ----- *Morioka-Shiwa Kankyo Shisetsu Kumiai Seiso Center* at 697-3835
- *Tamayama-ku----- *Zeimu-Juminka of the Tamayama Branch Office* of the city hall at 683-3874

UPCOMING EVENTS

Takuboku Memorial Day ----- Fri. April 13

For the anniversary of the death of *Ishikawa Takuboku*, a well-known poet from Morioka of over a hundred years ago, a Buddhist service is held at *Houtokuji* Temple that is associated with *Takuboku* in memory of the poet who died young.



Morioka Sakura Matsuri (Cherry Blossom Viewing) ----- Mid-April ~ Early May

At the cherry-blossom-viewing season of the year you'll find a lot of stalls in Morioka Castle Site Park (*Moriokajo ato Koen*) and Takamatsu Pond. "*Ishiwari Zakura*" a national natural monument that has grown splitting a huge granite rock, will be at its best around this time of the year.

