

Classes are grouped by the age of the child as at 1 April 2024. The same applies for applications received throughout the year.

Class Age	Date of Birth	Class Age	Date of Birth
0-year-old class	2 nd April 2023 ~	3-year-old class	2 nd April 2020 ~1 st April 2021
1-year-old class	2 nd April 2022 ~1 st April 2023	4-year-old class	2 nd April 2019 ~1 st April 2020
2-year-old class	2 nd April 2021 ~1 st April 2022	5-year-old class	2 nd April 2018 ~1 st April 2019

1. How to enroll in a Kodomoen^{*1} or Hoikuen^{*2}

*1 Center for Early Childhood Education (CECE); *2 Nursery School/Daycare Center

In order to make use of childcare services at a *Kodomoen*, etc., a "reason for requiring childcare" from the below table is required. You need to apply for certification (*nintei*), recognizing your need for childcare (Type 2 or 3) (see page 2).

Re	ason for requiring childcare	Parent's Circumstances	Period in which enrollment is possible
1	Employment	Parent is working (over 60 hours per month).	For duration of employment
2	Pregnancy/Delivery	Child's mother is pregnant or has given birth recently.	From the first day of the month 2 months (4 months for a multiple pregnancy) prior to the due date, to the last day of the month 8 weeks after delivery.
3	Illness/Disability	Parent has an illness, injury, or physical/mental disability.	Until recovery from illness, etc.
4	Nursing/Caring for Relative	Parent is nursing/caring for a relative (over 60 hours per month).	Until the need for nursing/care ceases
5	Post-Disaster Recovery	Parent is engaging in recovery efforts after a natural disaster such as an earthquake, fire, windstorm, or flood.	Until recovery efforts are complete
6	Job Seeking	Parent is in the process of job seeking or starting a business.	3 months *1
7	Studying/ Vocational Training	Parent is going to school or receiving vocational training (over 60 hours per month).	Duration of Studies/Vocational Training *2
8	Prevention of Abuse /Domestic Violence	When necessary in order to prevent the occurrence of child abuse/domestic violence	Duration deemed necessary

One of the above reasons must apply to each of the child's parents.

*1 Please submit an employment certificate within 3 months of the child's enrollment. If, in order to keep job searching, you wish to enroll your child for longer, you will need to reapply (enrollment may not always be possible after adjustments have been made). *2 If you are not sure whether you are eligible for certification due to Studying/Vocational Training, please contact the Childcare Support Division at one of the ward offices.

2. Education/Childcare Benefits Certification (for Residents of Shizuoka City)

Those who applied for certification when applying to use an approved childcare facility will be sent a certificate. <u>This certificate is not an</u> <u>acceptance notice for enrollment</u> but it is needed for enrollment so please keep it safe.

Types of Certification

 1900001							
Туре	Age	Length/Type of Childcare	Available Facilities				
2	3 years of age and over		Accredited Kodomoen and Hoikuen				
3	Under 3 years of age	Authorization for " Standard Childcare Hours" (up to 11 hours per day) or Authorization for " Short Childcare Hours" (up to 8 hours per day)	Accredited <i>Kodomoen,</i> <i>Hoikuen,</i> Small-scale Childcare Facilities, etc.				

* The certificate comes with an expiration date, so an application for renewal must be made before it expires (refer to pg. 7).

* Please refer to the separate "List of Facilities" for information on childcare hours and eligible ages for each facility (Japanese).

Amount of Childcare Required (A reason is required for each parent)

	Reason for requiring childcare	Standard/Short hours	Notes
1	Employment	Standard or Short	Standard: In principle, working 120 hours per month or longer. Short: In principle, working between 60 hours and 120 hours per month
2	Pregnancy/Delivery	In principle: Standard	Can be reduced to short hours through application
3	Illness/Disability	Standard or Short	Evaluated on a case-by-case basis depending on severity of illness or disability, inpatient/outpatient status, etc.
4	Nursing/Caring for Relative	Standard or Short	Standard: In principle, 120 hours of nursing/care or more per month Short: In principle, between 60 and 120 hours of nursing/care per month
5	Post-Disaster Recovery	In principle: Standard	Can be reduced to short hours through application
6	Job Seeking	In principle: Short	Can be extended to standard hours only if objective and rational reasons exist
7	Studying/ Vocational Training	Standard or Short	Standard: In principle, 120 hours of school/vocational training or more per month Short: In principle, between 60 and 120 hours of school/vocational training per month
8	Prevention of Abuse /Domestic Violence	In principle: Standard	Can be reduced to short hours through application

*When the amount of childcare required differs between the child's mother and father ("standard hours" for one and "short hours" for the other), the authorization will be for "short hours".

3. Enrollment Applications

- The documents necessary for application can be picked up and submitted at your first-choice facility or at the Childcare Support Division of each Ward Office._
- Please submit the application form and supporting documents to your first-choice facility or the Childcare Support Division of your Ward
 Office.

(1) For Enrollment from April 2024

> Applying for Initial Selection

Application period	<u>Mon 2 October 2023 – Tue 31 October 2023</u>
Interview with Child	An interview will be held at your first-choice facility between mid-November and early December. *

	If you wish to change the contents of your application, such as your choice of childcare facility, please submit a 'Notification of Change' by <u>Thurs Wed 30 November</u> .
Notification of results	Scheduled for around early-to-mid January 2024

*If possible, please apply by **Mon 16 October**, so that we can let you know the date of your interview.

Applying for Secondary Selection

	,
Application period	<u>Wed 1 November 2023 – Mon 5 February 2024</u>
Interview with Child	An interview will be held at your first-choice facility by around mid-February 2024. *
Precautions	If you wish to change the contents of your application, such as your choice of childcare facility, please submit a 'Notification of Change' by <u>Mon 5 February</u> .
Notification of results	Scheduled for around late February 2024

Candidates for secondary selection are those who applied in the above application period, and those who were waitlisted in the initial selection.

· Openings in each facility, after the initial selection, are scheduled to be posted on the city website in early-to-mid January (Japanese).

• Those who are waitlisted after applying for April entry are eligible for future selections throughout the 2024 fiscal year (for enrollment starting from up to March 2025). You do not have to reapply every month.

* Those applying for secondary selection should arrange an interview date with their first-choice facility, and receive an interview.

* Depending on your child's development status and the allocation of nursery school teachers, you may be waitlisted following the interview.

(2) Enrollment starting between May 2024 and March 2025

The monthly application deadlines for enrollment are indicated on the table below. Enrollment is from the first of each month.

Month of entry	Application Deadline	Month of entry	Application Deadline	Month of entry	Application Deadline
Мау	Fri 5 April	September	Mon 5 August	January 2025	Thur 5 December
June	Tue 7 May	October	Thur 5 September	February 2025	Mon 6 January
July	Wed 5 June	November	Mon 7 October	March 2025	Wed 5 February
August	Fri 5 July	December	Tue 5 November		

* An interview with your child will take place at the facility to which you have been tentatively accepted (depending on your child's development status and the allocation of nursery school teachers, you may be waitlisted following the interview).

* In principle, enrollees from February to March are selected from among candidates who have been tentatively accepted for enrollment from April of the following fiscal year.

(3) Precautions when applying

Application for enrollment after childcare leave

- <u>New applications cannot be submitted</u> during the childcare leave period.
- If you will be returning to work after childcare leave, you can set your desired enrollment month for one month prior to the month you return to work
- After enrolling your child, a "Certificate of Return to Work" (Shizuoka City format) or other document showing you have returned to work must be submitted.
- If the parent does not return to work by the last day of the month after the month the child begins enrollment, the child's enrollment may be discontinued
- In accordance with amendments to the Childcare and Caregiver Leave Act, the Post-Birth Paternity Leave System
 and Split Acquisition Childcare Leave System have been established. Scan for the QR code for details on how the
 establishment of these systems affects certification.



> Other

- If you have applied for enrollment from partway through fiscal year 2023 as well as for enrollment from April 2024, and you are accepted for enrollment from partway through fiscal year 2023, your application for enrollment from April 2024 will be canceled.
- The length and contents of childcare differ between facilities. Please attend observations, etc. and consider which facilities you wish to apply to.
- If you are to be newly employed, you can set your desired enrollment month for one month prior to the month when your employment begins.
- If your child has any food allergies, please consult with the childcare facility in advance.

(4) Childcare for children who require special consideration in a group-living environment

Children aged 3 or older as of 1 April 2024 for whom group childcare is possible, but special consideration is required for safe childcare due to physical or mental disability, developmental disorder, etc. can apply to <u>Municipal Accredited Kodomoen between</u> <u>Mon 2 October and Fri 13 October 2023 (for enrollment from April 2024).</u>

*It is necessary to arrange a trial childcare session and interview beforehand, so please consult with each Municipal Accredited *Kodomoen* or the Enrollment Section (*nyuen kakari*) of the Childcare Support Division at your Ward Office **as soon as possible**.

*In order to enroll, it must be determined at the special interview and screening panel to be held from October 2023 that group childcare is possible.

- > Children aged 2 or younger as of 1 April 2024 may be waitlisted depending on their development status and the allocation of nursery
- school teachers, etc. at your chosen childcare facility. Please consult with your chosen childcare facility or the Childcare Support Division at your Ward Office in advance.
- > For private childcare facilities, please inquire directly to the childcare facility.

(5) Regarding enrollment of children who require medical care at Shizuoka Municipal Kodomoen

> We accept applications for children between the ages of 0 to 5 who require medical care and to whom the following applies:

- · Child and parents must live in Shizuoka City
- Child must be able to communicate using gestures, facial expressions, etc.
- · Child must be intellectually and physically able to function in a group-living environment.
- Child must be found eligible for group childcare at the selection meeting on Tue 17 October 2023
- > Applicable medical care:
- Tube feeding; mucus suctioning; urinary catheter; other (please consult the Kodomoen Division 2054-354-2654)
- Applications can be made from Mon 2 October to Fri 6 October 2023 (For enrollment from April 2024)
- Please consult with your chosen Kodomoen or the Enrollment Section of the Childcare Support Division at your Ward Office before applying.

4. Documents Required for Application

(1) Documents required from all applicants

(Forms can be picked up at each childcare facility or the Childcare Support Division of each Ward Office)

	Required Documents	Notes
1	Application Form For Education/Childcare Benefits Certification & Use of Childcare Services (Type 2 & 3)	One form per child
2	Child's Household Status Questionnaire	If you are applying for siblings, attach copies to the younger children's applications.
З	My Number Declaration Form*	Please submit this form in its own dedicated envelope.
4	Documents supporting your "reason for requiring childcare" (see below table)	 These documents must be submitted for both the child's parents (father, mother, etc.). If you are applying for siblings, attach copies to the younger children's applications.

*Applicants living outside of Shizuoka City must please submit the My Number Declaration Form after moving into the city.

	Reason	Required Documents (The Employment Certificate and Personal Statement/Written Pledge have a specific format for Shizuoka City).
4. Documents	Employment	Employment Certificate ^{*1}
supporting "reason for requiring	Pregnancy/Delivery	Personal Statement/Written Pledge (<i>moshitatesho ken seiyakusho</i>) (hereafter referred to as "Personal Statement") + Copy of Maternal and Child Health Handbook (cover page and page showing the due date)
childcare"	Illness/Disability	Personal Statement + Doctor's Certificate ^{*2,} (filling in the diagnosis on the Personal Statement is acceptable)

•	Nursing/Caring for Relative	Personal Statement + Doctor's Certificate ^{*2} , Nursing Care Insurance Card (showing level of nursing care), or copy of care plan, etc.
•	Post-Disaster Recovery	Disaster Victim Certificate
•	Job Seeking	Personal Statement + In principle, a copy of the Hello Work registration certificate, etc.
•	Studying/Vocational Training	Personal Statement + Documents indicating period of enrollment and lecture times such as a Certificate of Enrollment, timetable, etc.

*1 Please submit an "Employment Certificate" that was issued after 15 September 2023 and within 3 months of the application date. Please make sure there are no mistakes in the Employment Certificate, including with regards to the above, before submitting.

*2 Please submit a Doctor's Certificate that was issued within 3 months of the application date. Not required for those with a disability certificate, etc.

(1) Documents only required from those applicable

- Applicants residing abroad as at 1 January 2023 (admissions from April to August 2024)
 Declaration of income for determining childcare fees to be borne by user (Shizuoka City format)
 + Materials confirming the amount on the declaration of income (income for 2022)
- Applicants residing abroad as at 1 January 2024 (admissions from September 2024 to March 2025) Declaration of income for determining childcare fees to be borne by user (Shizuoka City format)
 - + Materials confirming the amount on the declaration of income (income for 2023)

*Not required if municipal residence tax is being paid in Japan

*Please make sure to attach a Japanese translation.

*Please submit by the 20th of the month prior to enrollment.

5. Applying from Outside of Shizuoka City or to Facilities Outside of Shizuoka City

(1) Those who live outside of Shizuoka City and wish to apply to a childcare facility in Shizuoka City:

- > Where to apply:
 - The childcare division of the municipality where you live

> Application deadline:

- See pg.3 (must arrive at the Enrollment Section of the Childcare Support Division at one of Shizuoka City's Ward Offices by the relevant deadline)
- Please apply at least 7-10 days prior to the application deadline, to ensure that the documents reach Shizuoka City in time.

Required documents:

- Please use the forms from the municipality where you live
- Please use the Shizuoka City form for the Child's Household Status Questionnaire (can be downloaded from the city website).

Precautions:

- Applicants planning to move to Shizuoka City must complete the moving procedure by the end of the month prior to the month you will start using the childcare facility. After the procedure is complete, **please apply again using Shizuoka City forms** at the Enrollment Section counter of the Childcare Support Division at your Ward Office. Please also provide a My Number Declaration Form at the same time. If you do not submit these documents, your child's enrollment may be canceled.
- The selection of candidates not planning to move to Shizuoka City will take place after selection of Shizuoka City residents.

(2) Those who live in Shizuoka City and wish to apply to a childcare facility in another city:

> Where to apply:

The Enrollment Section of the Childcare Support Division at your ward office in Shizuoka City.

*Applications by mail are not allowed. Please apply in person

Application deadline:

- Please confirm with the childcare division of the municipality where you want to enroll.
- Please apply at least 7-10 days prior to the application deadline of the municipality where you want to enroll.

Required documents:

- Please use the Shizuoka City forms (see 4(1) on pg. 5)
- Any other forms required by the municipality where you want to enroll. (Please confirm with the municipality where you want to enroll.)

6. How Candidates Are Selected For Tentative Acceptance

The Childcare Support Divisions of each Ward Office confirm the capacity of each facility and select candidates from the applicants to each facility in order of highest score (highest priority) according to the "Shizuoka City Childcare Use Criteria".

*These criteria can be found on the city website (Japanese only)

7. Fees to be Borne by the User (Childcare Fees)

(1) Determination of Childcare Fees

- There are no childcare fees for children attending 3-to-5-year-old classes and for children attending 0-to-2-year-old classes who come from households exempt from municipal residence tax, households receiving welfare payments, or foster parents households.
- The childcare fees of the eldest child from families not exempt from municipal residence tax attending 0-to-2-year-old classes are
 - calculated according to income, etc. There are no childcare fees for the second child onwards. (See 7(2) regarding reductions for multiple siblings)
- *Lunch fees, learning material expenses, etc. are required in addition to childcare fees.
 - Childcare fees are calculated based on the municipal residence tax amount of the parent who lives with the child and contributes the most to household finances.
 - Fees are set using brackets according to the child's certification type, the amount of childcare required, and the amount municipal residence tax (income portion), etc. levied on the household.
 - Even when the child reaches 3 years of age and certification type shifts from Type 3 to Type 2, the fees for certification type 3 will continue to apply for the remainder of that fiscal year.
 - If, under tax law, the child or their parents are the dependents of the child's grandparents, or if the child's parents have close to no
 income, the municipal residence tax amount of the highest-earning grandparent with the living with the child will be included in
 calculating childcare fees.
 - Childcare fees are reviewed every year in September. (The fees up until August are decided based on municipal residence tax for the 2023 fiscal year, and the fees from September to March are decided based on municipal residence tax for the 2024 fiscal year.)
 - If you do not declare your municipal residence tax, your childcare fees may be set at the highest bracket (D16). Even if you do not have an income, please make sure to declare your municipal residence tax.

(2) Reduction for multiple siblings

Regardless of bracket for childcare fees, there will be no childcare fees for the second child onwards when attending 0-to-2-year-old classes. Children in the household are numbered in order of age from amongst the children in custody of and sharing finances with the parents, regardless of siblings' ages or whether they are enrolled in a childcare facility.

(3) Other payment reduction measures

Households failing into bracket B, C, or D1-D4 for the childcare fees of their first child attending 0-to-2-year-old classes, to whom any of the below applies, may receive a fee reduction starting from the month after making a request.

- > The child, parent, or a member of their household has a physical disability certificate, a medical rehabilitation handbook, or a mental disability certificate.
- Single-parent households (does not include separated households undergoing divorce agreement/mediation)

(4) How to pay the childcare fees

- Public Accredited Kodomoen, Daycare Center for Waitlisted Children, Private Hoikuen:
 - In principle, payment is made via bank transfer to the City of Shizuoka.
 - The transfer date is the final day of each month, or the next working day if the bank is not open on that day.
- Private Accredited Kodomoen, Small-scale Childcare Facilities, Workplace Childcare Facilities:
 - Please pay directly to the facility. Inquire directly to the childcare facility regarding payment dates and methods.

*The childcare fee chart, instructions on how to determine your municipal resident tax income portion amount, etc. can be found on the city website.



(Scan the QR Code; Japanese only)

8. When You Are Required to Submit Extra Forms After Application

After submitting an application, if any of the following apply, please contact the Childcare Support Division and submit the necessary documents (as listed on the chart below). Also note that your certificate (*ninteisho*) has an expiry date, even after being accepted into a childcare facility. Therefore, if you wish to continue using childcare services, please apply for an extension as early as possible.

- (1) When the "reasons for requiring childcare" or the "certification period" listed on your benefits certificate (*shikyu ninteisho*) have changed. E.g. Changes from job searching to employment, from employment to pregnancy/delivery, from nursing care to employment, or extension of childcare leave.
- (2) When address has changed. *If you move out of Shizuoka City, your certificate will become invalid, even if the expiration date has not been reached.
- (3) When the child's home situation has changed (Family has increased or decreased due to marriage, divorce, birth of a sibling, grandparents moving in or out, etc.)
- (4) When working conditions have changed (place of employment, working hours, etc.)
- (5) When a person who submitted an Employment Certificate when scheduled to start working actually starts working.
- (6) When a person who applied during childcare leave returns to work.
- (7) When a person who applied during childcare leave changes date of return to work. *A change in the month that you will return to work may result in a change in the month from which you may apply to a childcare facility and/or a change to your benefits certificate.
- (8) When you wish to make changes to your choice of childcare facility.
- (9) When you wish to cancel your application as it is now possible to care for your child at home, etc.
- (10) When a new member of the household has a physical disability certificate, a medical rehabilitation

handbook, or a mental disability certificate, or a current member obtains, forfeits, or renews one.



•Change of Details List

Content of Change			hange	Required Documents
Change	Moved with			Change of Application Details Form (hereafter referred to as "Change of Details Form")
of Address			e city	Discontinuation of Childcare Form + Benefits Certificate *Please contact the Childcare Support Division if you wish to continue using the facility after moving away.
Change in contact details of parent/guardian		parent/guardian	Change of Details Form	
Change in Name	Either the c	child	or parent/guardian	Change of Details Form
	Marriage of parent/guardian (includes de facto marriages)			Change of Details Form + Benefits Certificate + Employment Certificate, etc. of new spouse (partner) + Consent Form of new spouse, etc. + information on personal circumstance of parents of new spouse, etc. + My Number Declaration Form
Channe	Divorce of		•	Change of Details Form + Benefits Certificate
Change in family			dparents, etc.	Change of Details Form + Consent Form *please inquire with the Childcare Support Division for details.
structure	disability ce you are livit	ertific ng w		Change of Details Form + copy of Disability Certificate (if they are not registered as a resident of Shizuoka City)
	Any other of (Birth, Sepa		on, Death, etc.)	Change of Details Form
	Employmer	nt	Starting to work/ Starting up own business	Change of Details Form + Benefits Certificate + Employment Certificate for new workplace
	Childcare	Acquisition of leave Change of Details Form + Benefits Certificate + Employment Certificate (which states the date		
	Leave		Returning to work after leave	Change of Details Form + Benefits Certificate + Employment Certificate (after return), Certificate of Return to Work, or copy of pay slip, etc.
	Pregnancy/Delivery		very	Change of Details Form + Benefits Certificate + Personal Statement + a copy of Maternal and Child Health Handbook (which shows the cover page & states the due date)
Deesen	Illness/	Tal	ken ill	Change of Details Form + Benefits Certificate + Personal Statement + Doctor's Certificate (can be stated on the diagnosis section of the Personal Statement)
Reason	Disability		ued with disability rtificate	Change of Details Form + Benefits Certificate + Personal Statement
	Nursing/Caring for Relative		for Relative	Change of Details Form + Benefits Certificate + Personal Statement + Doctor's Certificate or a copy of the care plan, etc.
	Job-seeking			Change of Details Form + Benefits Certificate + Personal Statement + a copy of the registration form to Hello Work employment agency
	Post-Disaster Recovery		ecovery	Change of Details Form + Benefits Certificate + Disaster Victim Certificate
	Studying/Vocational Training		onal Training	Change of Details Form + Benefits Certificate + Personal Statement + Certificate of Enrollment/ Copy of timetable, etc.
	Change in necessary childcare hours (standard to short hours or vice versa)			Change of Details Form + Reporting Contificate + Employment Contificate at
Change in certification period due to change in employment period or childcare leave period, etc.			Change of Details Form + Benefits Certificate + Employment Certificate, etc. *for details contact the Childcare Support Division	





Please attend observations, etc. and consider which facilities you wish to apply to.

Submit your "Application Form For Education/Childcare Benefits Certification & Use of Childcare Services" and the accompanying documents to your first-choice facility or to the Childcare Support Division at your Ward Office. (Application forms can be picked up from each childcare facility and the Childcare Support Divisions of each Ward Office.)

