

# Guide to Living in Hiroshima

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Many foreign nationals live in Hiroshima Prefecture, including Chinese, North and South Koreans, Filipinos, Vietnamese and Brazilians.

With the aim of creating a “society of multicultural coexistence,” where the human rights, cultures, lifestyle and values of all people are respected regardless of nationality or ethnic background, and where each individual can play an active role while fully exercising their individuality and abilities, the Hiroshima Prefectural Government is striving to create an environment where everyone can live comfortably and participate fully in their local community.

To build a local society where all residents—both Japanese and non-Japanese—live together in harmony as members of the same community, it is important that all residents of the prefecture deepen their understanding of each other’s culture, lifestyles and values, as well as the circumstances and historical reasons that made foreign residents come to Hiroshima. It is also important to solve various issues surrounding foreign residents. To create a society of multicultural existence, we have been promoting various measures.

As part of such efforts, we have continuously revised the “Guide to Living in Hiroshima,” originally published in 1995, while taking into account the opinions of foreign nationals residing in Hiroshima Prefecture. However, we recently carried out a complete revision of the Guide alongside the renewal of Live in Hiroshima.

We will continue to work in cooperation with municipal governments and relevant organizations, in order to enhance activities to raise public awareness of multicultural coexistence, and to improve the provision of daily life information and consultation services to foreign residents.

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# What is multicultural coexistence?

Multicultural coexistence is defined as follows:

“Local multicultural coexistence refers to people of different cultures and ethnic backgrounds living alongside one another as contributors to civil society, and the building of bridges between each other through the acceptance of each other’s culture.”

(“Research Report on the Promotion of Multicultural Coexistence,” released by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications in March 2006)

## Note

1) In Using the Guide to Living in Hiroshima

Please note that for most of the social welfare and administrative services described in this guidebook, eligible persons will be entitled to receive a service or benefit only by filing the relevant application. If you wish to use any of the services, be sure to contact the relevant municipal government office for detailed information such as the application procedures.

2) Contact and Website Information

The offices and websites listed in the contact information box in this guidebook might not provide information in foreign languages.