



# Niigata English Journal

Edited & Issued by the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation

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## NIEF Spring Japanese Classes

Applications for spring session Japanese classes are now open! Morning and evening classes are available in various beginner or intermediate levels. Stop in to the Friendship Center (CrossPal 2F) to pick up an application and get more information. Application forms are due by March 9<sup>th</sup> (Mon) and classes begin on March 31<sup>st</sup> (Tue).

Class Content and Schedules		Days of the Week	Times	Class Duration	Total Class Hours	Class Fee
1	Study beginner level materials while pursuing the basics of daily-life conversational skills.	T & Th	10:00-12:00	3/31~	72h (36 classes)	15,000 yen
2		T & F		3/31~		
3		W & F		4/1~		
Integr. (Wed)	Comprehensively study Japanese while striving for proficiency in practical Japanese conversation.	W		4/1~	36h (18 classes)	9,000 yen
Integr. (Fri)		F		4/3~		
I	Study beginner level materials while pursuing the basics of daily-life conversational skills.	T & Th		18:30-20:00	3/31~	54h (36 classes)
II		F	4/3~		27h (18 classes)	7,000 yen
Integr.	Review beginner level materials while studying Japanese more comprehensively.	T	3/31~		27h (18 classes)	7,000 yen

### Chinese Lunar New Year Celebration

Celebrate the lunar new year with food, drink, entertainment, and presentations by guest speakers from China. Feel free to bring food and drink to share! Sign up using the code.

**Date:** February 14<sup>th</sup> (Sat) 12:30-14:00

**Location:** CrossPal 5F Exchange Hall

**Fee:** General: ¥1,500; Students: ¥1,000

**Contact:** NIEF ☎: 025-225-2727



### Free Legal Consultation for Foreign Residents

Get free consultation on work issues, contracts, financial compensation, marriage or divorce trouble, and more! If you need an interpreter, please let us know and one will be provided for free.

**Date:** February 28<sup>th</sup> (Sat) 13:00-16:40

**Location:** CrossPal 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

**Spots:** 5 time slots (40 minutes per person)

**Fee:** Free!

**Sign up:** NIEF ☎: 025-225-2727,

✉: kyokai@nief.or.jp



### St. Patrick's Day Celebration



Enjoy this Irish holiday with a parade, live Irish music, beer, and more. Make sure you wear green! Scan the code for more details.

**Date:** March 21<sup>st</sup> (Sat) 11:00-16:00

**Location:** Furumachi 7, Furumachi Refuru

**Fee:** Free to attend



### Salon Exhibit: Introduction to Indonesia



An introduction to Indonesia, featuring photos from the Fun Japanese Class Social event held in November of last year.

**Date:** January 24<sup>th</sup>-March 30<sup>th</sup> 9:00-17:00

**Closed:** Sundays, holidays, February 24<sup>th</sup> (Tue) & March 23<sup>rd</sup> (Mon)

**Location:** NIEF Exchange Salon (CrossPal 2F)

### Free Administrative Scrivener Consultation

Get free consultation on visa qualifications, applying for permanent residency, doing business in Japan, car registration, traffic accident compensation, and more! No need to sign up or contact in advance.

You can also seek consultation via LINE!

Scan the code below to become friends with the Niigata Prefecture Administrative Scrivener Society.

**Date:** March 22<sup>nd</sup> (Sun) 10:00-16:00

**Location:** CrossPal, 3F Room #308

**Fee:** Free!

**Contact:** Niigata Prefecture Administrative Scrivener Society ☎: 070-1189-8555



**Information**

<p><b><u>New NIEF Website</u></b> As of October 2025, the NIEF website has been renewed. The new site features an updated layout and is easier to navigate. Use the site to stay up to date with events and get information during disasters. Check it out!</p>	<p><b><u>Spring Noh Performance</u></b> This year's spring Noh performance is <i>Kurama Tengu</i>. It tells the story of Ushiwakamaru (a young Minamoto no Yoshitsune) learning martial arts from the tengu on Mt. Kurama. Tablets with English narration are available for ¥500. Check the website for more information. <b>Date:</b> April 11<sup>th</sup> (Sat) 13:30-16:00 <b>Tickets:</b> Varies by seat <b>Location:</b> Ryutopia <b>Contact:</b> ☎ 025-224-5521</p> 	<p><b><u>International Cooking Class</u></b> <b>Menu:</b> (February) Hina Matsuri Feast Hina chirashi sushi, clam soup, Hina Matsuri side dishes, lotus root manju buns, and more! <b>Date:</b> Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> 11:00-14:00 <b>Fee:</b> Foreign residents, students: ¥2,000; General: ¥4,000 <b>Location:</b> Ms. Ueno's residence in Akiha Ward Call to sign up. Must sign up at least 3 days before class. For March's menu and dates, please contact Ms. Ueno. <b>Contact:</b> Ms. Ueno, ☎:0250-24-6859</p>
<p><b><u>Become a NIEF Contributor!</u></b> The Niigata City International Exchange Foundation (NIEF) is seeking individuals and organizations who are interested in supporting our foundation. NIEF is a public foundation that organizes and supports international events, offers Japanese classes and multilingual support to foreign residents, and more. Contributors benefit from reduced admission fees at certain NIEF events, discounts at certain businesses and facilities, a discount on advertisement space in our newsletters, and more. Call, email, or stop by for more information! See bottom of page for contact details.</p>		<p><b><u>Niigata International Animation Film Festival</u></b> See animated films from around the world here in Niigata! Featuring films from Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and the Americas, there is something for everyone. <b>Date:</b> Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> (Fri)-25<sup>th</sup> (Wed) <b>Fee:</b> Varies for each film <b>Location:</b> Various venues in the Bandai &amp; Furumachi area (Chuo Ward)</p> 

**Classes**

**Japanese Language Courses (NIEF classes and others)**

<p><b>NIEF classes:</b> Beginner through Intermediate 2</p>	<p>-Classes of varying difficulties are available throughout the week. -Pricing info &amp; the schedule for the current session: <a href="https://www.nief.or.jp/">https://www.nief.or.jp/</a></p>	<p>Ms. Kiyoko Tanaka ☎: (025) 225-2727</p> 	
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**Japanese Study Support Group for Children & Students: NicoPal Club (Free of charge)**

Day of the Week & Hours	Room No.	Content	For more info.
Every Wed. (contact for info)	202	Please contact Ms. Tanaka for more information.	Ms. Kiyoko Tanaka ☎: (025) 225-2727
Every Sat. 10:00 - 11:30 *except 2/7 *Please register beforehand*	201	This Japanese study circle offers support to children in the international community who are struggling with Japanese and other school studies.	

**Consultation**

<p><b>Niigata Help Association</b> ☎: 025-228-2212</p>	<p>Everyday 10:00-23:00 English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese, Filipino, Thai, etc.</p>	
<p><b>Niigata City International Exchange Foundation (NIEF)</b> ☎: 025-225-2727 ✉: <a href="mailto:kyokai@nief.or.jp">kyokai@nief.or.jp</a> URL: <a href="https://www.nief.or.jp/">https://www.nief.or.jp/</a></p>	<p>Monday-Saturday 9:00-16:00 English, Chinese, Korean, Russian, French</p>	
<p><b>Niigata International Association (NIA)</b> ☎: 025-241-1881 ✉: <a href="mailto:nia21c@niigata-ia.or.jp">nia21c@niigata-ia.or.jp</a> URL: <a href="https://www.niigata-ia.or.jp/">https://www.niigata-ia.or.jp/</a></p>	<p>Weekdays 10:00-17:00 English, Russian, Chinese, Filipino, Thai, Vietnamese</p>	
<p><b>Helpline for Foreigners</b> ☎: 0120-279-338 (toll-free)</p>	<p>Press 2 after the Japanese guidance</p>	
<p><b>Niigata Medical Care Information Network</b> URL: <a href="http://qq.niigata-iyaku.jp/">http://qq.niigata-iyaku.jp/</a></p>	<p>English, Chinese, Korean</p>	
<p><b>Hello Work, Foreigner Advisory Service</b> ☎: 025-280-8609 Niigata Misaki Godo Chosha #2 (1-2-1 Misaki-cho, Chuo Ward, Niigata City)</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Wed 13:00-16:00 English &amp; Chinese</p>	
<p><b>Immigration Bureau Consultation</b></p>	<p>3<sup>rd</sup> Tue. of the month (2/17&amp;3/17) 1pm-4pm Thai, Vietnamese, Russian</p>	<p>Make a reservation by phone or email in advance. <b>Place:</b> Multilingual Consultation Center of Niigata (formerly Foreign Resident Consultation Center) (2nd floor of Toki Messe) <b>Contact:</b> ☎: 025-241-1881 ✉: <a href="mailto:nia10@niigata-ia.or.jp">nia10@niigata-ia.or.jp</a> *All listed dates are subject to change. Please call or email to confirm.</p>
<p><b>Gyoseishoshi Association of Niigata Consultation</b></p>	<p>4<sup>th</sup> Wed. of the month (2/25&amp;3/25) 10am-5pm Chinese, Russian</p>	
<p><b>Free Legal Consultation for Foreign Residents</b> Length of Consultation: 40 minutes per person</p>	<p>3<sup>rd</sup> Thur. of odd numbered months (3/19) 1pm-5pm Russian</p>	
<p><b>Houterasu Free Legal Consultation for Foreign Residents</b> Length of Consultation: 40 minutes per person</p>	<p>3<sup>rd</sup> Mon. of even numbered months (2/16) 1pm-5pm English, Filipino, Russian</p>	
<p><b>Education Consultation</b></p>	<p>Every Tue. 13:00-17:00 English, Chinese, Thai, Vietnamese, Russian</p>	



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3-2086 Ishizuecho-dori, Chuo Ward, Niigata City 951-8055  
**Homepage:** <https://www.nief.or.jp/>  
☎: (025) 225-2727 ✉: [kyokai@nief.or.jp](mailto:kyokai@nief.or.jp)  
(Written and edited by Alyssa Williams & Ayako Homma)

CrossPal will be closed Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> and Mar. 23<sup>rd</sup>