

Public Assistance

Those whose residence has suffered damage as a result of a natural disaster may be eligible to receive public assistance.

To utilize these programs, a Risai Shomei-sho (disaster victim certificate) is required. Make sure to document any damages done to your residence with photographs and apply in-person for a Risai Shomei-sho. For more details about what kinds of public assistance programs are available, please inquire at the nearest municipal building (city hall, etc.).

Types of Public Assistance

- Condolence Money

Condolence Money is contributed in the event of a family member's death resulting from a natural disaster.

In the case of the death of the head of household, the maximum amount given is 5 million yen

For all other family members who resided in the same house, the maximum is 2.5 million yen

- Disability Compensation

Disability compensation is contributed in the event that serious and permanent injuries (blindness, loss of limb, etc.) are incurred due to a natural disaster.

If the head of household suffers these types of injuries, the maximum amount given is 2.5 million yen

For all other family members residing in the same house, the maximum is 1.25 million yen

- Disaster Loan

If the head of household suffers injuries or there are damages to your residence and/or household items, you may take a loan of up to 3.5 million yen.

- Temporary Housing

If you become displaced due to a natural disaster and are unable to find accommodations on your own, temporary housing will be provided for you through a relief program offered by the city hall.

- Relief Compensation (relating to construction and/or repairs of damaged residence)

If you are unable to live in your residence due to partial destruction (hankai) or complete destruction (zenkai), you are eligible to receive compensation in the amount of 750,000 yen to 3 million yen.

- Free Replacement of School Materials

Any textbooks, materials, stationary, etc. which were lost due to a natural disaster will be supplied to students in need.

This includes items used for commuting to and from school.

- Compulsory Schooling Assistance and Tuition Fee Reductions for High School Students

In the event that a natural disaster results in the inability of guardians and/or students to pay tuition fees, there are financial and other assistance programs available to those in need.

Other Types of Assistance

- Public Utilities and Usage Fees

Public utilities such as electricity, gas and telephone fees may be reduced for victims of a natural disaster. For further information, please contact your utility companies.

- Filing a Claim with your Insurance Company

In the event of a natural disaster, if you have insurance on your home or household items, you are entitled to compensation in proportion to your damages. For further information, please contact your insurance company.

- Financial Assistance for the Unemployed

If a natural disaster results in the temporary suspension of your place of employment, unemployment benefits are available. Please note that there are requirements for utilizing these programs for longer than a 6 month period. For further information, contact the nearest Hello Work.

- Residence Reconstruction Loan

In the event of a natural disaster, you may apply for a loan to repair/rebuild your damaged residence or to purchase a second-hand residence. There are restrictions regarding the usage of this loan, so please contact the Japan Housing Finance Agency for more information.

- Loan Repayment Assistance

If a natural disaster results in the inability to repay existing loans (house, car, education, etc.), you are eligible for reductions or discharge of your loans. For more information, please contact your lending agency or the closest Bar Association.

- Interpretation Services

Be aware that there are limitations to what interpretation services can provide. These services assist those who have trouble communicating, but wish to make an inquiry to a place of business.

BeBorn Co. Phone Number: 092-687-5137 (Available 24 hours)

Available languages: English, Chinese (Mandarin), Korean, Thai, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Portuguese, Spanish, French, German, Italian, Russian, Tagalog, Nepalese, Malay

Bricks Co. Phone Number: 050-5814-7230 (Available 24 hours)

Available languages: English, Chinese (Mandarin), Korean, Portuguese, Spanish

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