

## The 6th Reiwa Year Information of Entering Childcare Facilities in Ashikaga-shi

(Abridged version)

## 【Contact】

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## I Available Facilities

The following facilities are available for the families who are not able to look after children at home due to work or other reasons.

Categories		Contents
Facilities	Licensed nursery school	When a parent is unable to care for a child at home due to work or other reasons, it is a child welfare facility that aims to provide childcare on behalf of the parents.
	Certified Childcare Center (Nintei Kodomoen)	It is a facility that provides integrated services for both education and daycare. The child who is 3 years old or older can stay at the same center regardless of his or her parents' working situation.

## &lt; Age Chart by Class 2024 (The 6th Reiwa year)&gt;

The class of the facility will be decided depending on the age of the child as of April 1st, 2024 (the 6th Reiwa year).

**For instance:** a child was born on April 27th, 2023 (the 5th Reiwa year), the child's class would be a 0-year-old children's class until the end of the 5th Reiwa year, even though she or he turned 1.

Class	Date of birth
5-year-old children's class	April 2, 2018 ~ April 1, 2019
4-year-old children's class	April 2, 2019 ~ April 1, 2020
3-year-old children's class	April 2, 2020 ~ April 1, 2021
2-year-old children's class	April 2, 2021 ~ April 1, 2022
1-year-old children's class	April 2, 2022 ~ April 1, 2023
0-year-old children's class	April 2, 2023 ~

## 2 Regarding Certification of the Education and Childcare Facility Benefit

You need to get certified for the Education and Childcare Facility Benefit to prove your child needs a daycare service in the case of using a licensed nursery school.

There are four categories of certification: “Type of certification”, “Circumstances necessitating childcare”, “Required amount of childcare”, and “Certification period”. A notice of certification will be issued 1 copy per child.

### (1) Type of Certification

Type of Certification varies depending on the age of a child and the facility you use.

Type of Certification	Applicable Child	Main types of facilities available
Type 1 Certification (Educational standard hours)	Guardians seeking kindergarten for a 3-year-old and over child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kindergarten</li> <li>• Certified Childcare Center (Kindergarten section)</li> </ul>
Type 2 Certification (Childcare Certification for over 3-year-old child)	A child must be over 3 years old. Guardians are unable to care for a child at home due to work or other reasons. And the child needs care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licensed nursery school</li> <li>• Certified Childcare Center (Nursery section)</li> </ul>
Type 3 Certification (Childcare Certification for under 3-year-old child)	A child must be under 3 years old. Guardians are unable to care for a child at home due to work or other reasons. And the child needs care.	

When you switch a certification from Type 2 (under 3 years old) to Type 3 (over 3 years old), Ashikaga city will send you a new notice of certification after your child turns 3 years old.

### (2) Circumstances Necessitating Childcare

To get certified in Type 2 or Type 3 certification, you must fulfill one of the “Circumstances Necessitating Childcare” criteria listed below :

- ① Employment …Working more than 64 hours per month
- ② Pregnancy and childbirth …When a parent is unable to care for a child due to pregnancy and childbirth.
- ③ Illness and disability … When a parent is unable to care for a child at home due to illness or injury, or mental or physical disability.
- ④ Nursing or Caring for relatives living together or who have been hospitalized for a long period of time …  
When a parent is unable to care for a child at home due to nursing or caring for relatives living together or who has been hospitalized for a long period of time, the nursing or caring hours will meet the condition of work requirements.

- ⑤ Disaster Recovery... When a parent is unable to care for a child at home due to restoration from the disaster such as an earthquake, storm and floods, or fire.
- ⑥ Continuous Job Hunting Activities ... When a parent is unable to care for a child at home due to constant job hunting activities or preparing for starting a business. You will get 3 months childcare certification. When we can't confirm your employment circumstances in 3 months, your child must leave the childcare facility.
- ⑦ Schooling... In the case that a parent goes to school more than 64 hours a month.
- ⑧ Childcare leave ... When a parent has a child who is already using the childcare facility and requires continued childcare service, they must generally return to work within 1 year after giving birth.
- ⑨ Other special reasons ... Having difficulty taking care of the child due to special reasons.

(3) As Required Amount of Childcare and Certification Period

Required amount of childcare and certification period will be decided depending upon the circumstances necessitating childcare. Requested amount of childcare has 2 classifications, standard childcare hours and short childcare hours. According to the chart below, if there are circles in both ( ) parentheses of standard childcare hours and short childcare hours, it will be decided depending upon the working hours or other reasons.

Circumstances Necessitating Childcare	Requested amount of childcare		Period of certification
	Standard time	Short time	
Employment	※○	○	Until enrolling in elementary school. When a parent quits a job, he or she will be treated as continuous job hunting activities.
Pregnancy and childbirth	○	○	From 2 months prior to the expected date of delivery until the end of the 2nd month after the child's birth.
Nursing or caring relatives living together or who have been hospitalized for a long period of time/ Disaster recovery	○	○	Until the necessitating childcare is gone.
The Job Hunting Activities	×	○	For 3 months. You can change your certification from the job hunting activities to employment in the case that you find a job within 3 months and start working.
Schooling	○	○	Until the end of the school period
Childcare Leave	×	○	In the case that a parent has a child who is already using the childcare facility. Up to 1 year from the birth of a younger child

※In the case that both parents work over 120 hours per month.

### 3 Application Steps

Have a look around the facility in advance. Please be sure to make contact with the facility before you visit.

