



Nursery Schools and Daycare Centers



Education and childcare facilities

Classification	Features
Kindergarten	Provides early childhood education to prepare children for elementary school and subsequent education.
Nursery school	Provides childcare on behalf of parents who are unable to care for their children at home.
Certified children's center	Provides both kindergarten and nursery functions and offers community-based child-rearing support.
Community-based childcare services	Home-based childcare facility
	Small-scale childcare facility
	Workplace childcare facility
	In-home childcare service

Kindergarten

Ages: 3–5 years old

Nursery school

Ages: 0–5 years old

Only when there is a need for childcare.

Certified children's center

Ages: 0–5 years old

For children under three years of age, only when there is a need for childcare.

Community-based childcare

Ages: 0–2 years old

Only when there is a need for childcare.

*The age of children accepted may vary by facility.



Approval on the necessity for childcare

When applying to use an education and childcare facility, please submit an application for certification for education and childcare benefits for your child.

Child's age	Childcare needed		No need for childcare	
Aged 3 or older	Type 2 certification for education and childcare benefits		Type 1 certification for education and childcare benefits	
	Available facilities ¹	- Nursery school - Certified children's center	Available facilities	- Kindergarten² - Certified children's center³
Under 3 years of age	Type 3 certification for education and childcare benefits		Not eligible for certification	
	Available facilities	- Nursery school - Certified children's center - Home-based childcare facility - Small-scale childcare facility - Workplace childcare facility - In-home childcare service	Parents cannot use any of the facilities listed on the left on a full-time basis, but may use temporary childcare services.	

*1 Two-year-old children can also use home-based childcare facilities, small-scale childcare facilities, workplace childcare facilities, and in-home childcare services.

*2 For subsidized private kindergartens, refer to the Certification of Eligibility for the Use of Facilities, etc. (see p. 15).

*3 Some certified children's centers do not have a set capacity for children with Type 1 certification. For details, please contact the facility where you would like to enroll your child.



Reasons for needing childcare and periods of eligibility for childcare services

To be certified for Type 2 or Type 3 with a recognized need for childcare, parents must meet both of the following conditions.

- (1) Both the parent/guardian and the child must be residents of Nagoya City.
- (2) Each parent/guardian meets one of the conditions on the next page (reasons for needing childcare).

Reason for needing childcare	Parents' specific circumstances	Certification period
Work	Working 64 hours or more per month on a regular basis	Until the end of the month that includes the last day of the period during which the condition indicated on the left is expected to continue
Before and after childbirth	Childcare is necessary during the period from eight weeks before the estimated date of delivery (14 weeks in the case of multiple births) until eight weeks after the date of delivery.	From the date of birth to the end of the month in which the day following the 8th week after the birth falls
Illness or injury	The parent's illness or injury can be verified by a medical certificate prepared by a physician. Or, one of the disability handbooks listed on the right has been issued.	(1) If the parent holds any of the following handbooks, until the end of the month in which the expiration date of the handbook falls: Physical Disability Certificate (Grade 1–4); Protection Handbook (<i>Aigo-techo</i>); or Mental Disability Certificate. (2) In other cases, until the end of the month in which the end date stated in the medical certificate or equivalent document prepared by a physician falls.
Care of a family member	Regularly providing care for a cohabiting family member or relative for at least 16 days per month and at least 16 hours per week.	
Recovery after a disaster	Engaged in disaster recovery work at home or in the surrounding community.	Until the recovery is expected to be completed
Job seeking	Engaged in job-seeking activities with the intention of gaining employment.	Until the end of the month that includes the date 90 days after the certification start date
School attendance	Being enrolled in a vocational training program at a vocational development facility or studying at a university, junior college, or high school established under the School Education Act for 16 days or more per month and 16 hours or more per week.	Until the end of the month in which the scheduled date of graduation (or completion) falls
Developmental support	Not falling under other categories, but caring for a child, generally aged three or older, with a developmental delay that meets the disability criteria specified separately.	Until the end of the month in which the day before the child's elementary school enrollment date falls
Childcare leave	On childcare leave for a younger child and providing home care for an older child at least three years old (or four if born on April 2) as of April 1.	Until the end of the month that includes the last day of the childcare leave period

The certification period is, at most, until the day before the child enters elementary school (or until the day before the child turns three if the child is under three years old).



Childcare cost to be paid by parents

The user fee for education and childcare facilities will be determined according to income tiers, based on the total amount of municipal tax paid by the parents (including those in a de facto marriage) and the head of household, within the upper limits shown in the table below.

Certification category	Maximum user fee				As of April 2025
Type 1 certification for education and childcare benefits	0 yen				
Type 2 certification for education and childcare benefits					
Type 3 certification for education and childcare benefits	Standard childcare hours	64,000 yen	Short childcare hours	63,000 yen	

User fees are reviewed every September. The fees may be reduced for families that meet certain criteria, including families with multiple children. For details, please refer to the "Notice of User Fees" or "*Kokonago*."



To use education and childcare facilities

If your child aged three or older is not certified as needing childcare (meaning your child has Type 1 certification) and you wish to use a kindergarten or a certified children's center, please contact the facility directly. For details, please see p. 15.

If your child is certified as needing childcare (Type 2 or Type 3) and you wish to use a childcare facility or service, please contact the Civil Affairs and Children's Division at your ward office or the Resident Welfare Division at your branch office.

Eligible age and period for using childcare facilities and services

The age of children eligible to use childcare facilities or services varies depending on the facility.
The period of childcare also varies depending on the reason for needing childcare and other factors.

Hours of use for childcare facilities and services

During the opening hours of childcare facilities (generally from around 7:30 a.m. to around 6:30 p.m.), the required childcare hours will be certified as either "standard childcare hours" or "short childcare hours," taking into consideration the reasons why the family requires childcare and their household circumstances.

*The actual hours of use are determined by the facility director, within the maximum allowable hours, taking into account the parents' circumstances.

If childcare services are used beyond the maximum authorized childcare hours for each category, the service will be considered extended-hours childcare.

Required hours of childcare	Maximum service hours
Standard childcare hours	Up to 11 hours a day
Short childcare hours	Up to 8 hours a day

Application to use childcare facilities and services

Applications are accepted at the Civil Affairs and Children's Division of your local ward office or the Resident Welfare Division of your local branch office. If the number of applications exceeds the capacity of childcare facilities, enrollment will be determined based on the level of need for childcare, giving priority to children with the highest level of need.

Applications for childcare services for the new fiscal year (starting in April) are accepted from October to December. Results will be announced in mid-February. If there are still vacancies after the initial notifications, additional applications will be accepted until early March. For details, please see the ward-specific section in the September or October issue of the *Koho Nagoya* community newsletter.

For applications to start using childcare services in the middle of the fiscal year, applications are accepted until the 15th of the month prior to the desired start date (or the next business day if the office is closed on that day). You will be notified of the screening results around the 22nd of the month preceding the desired start date of childcare.

Documents necessary for application

- Application Form for Certification for Education and Childcare Benefits (Types 2 & 3) and Application Form for Childcare Services
- Status confirmation form for children applying for enrollment at nursery schools/daycare centers
- Documents confirming inability to provide childcare at home
- Documents verifying income and taxation status
- Other required documents

For details, please see "*Kokonago*."

Information on childcare facilities and services

You can view a list of facilities and service providers on *Kokonago*, an education and childcare information website, or on the Nagoya City official website. In addition, each ward office and branch office has Childcare Concierges (Hoiku Annai-bito) that provide consultations for parents seeking childcare, offering information on childcare resources and services suited to their individual needs and circumstances.

Koko de Search, an open database of childcare services

You can search for information about nearby nurseries and other childcare services.



Koko de Search



Kokonago

Education and childcare information website (*Kokonago*)

This website allows users to easily search for education and childcare facilities and services available for preschool children.

Types of childcare services

Infant care Provides childcare for children under one year old.

Post-maternity leave childcare

Provides childcare, in principle, for infants aged 57 days and older.

Childcare for children with disabilities

Provides inclusive childcare where children with developmental delays who are able to join group activities learn and grow together with their peers.

Extended-hours childcare

Nursery schools and daycare centers are usually open until around 6:30 p.m., but they can extend their hours if necessary due to unavoidable circumstances.

Nighttime childcare

Provides nighttime childcare for children whose parents are unable to care for them at home due to work or other reasons, until 1:00 a.m. (until 2:00 a.m. at Sakae Night Nursery).

Reservation for admission after maternity or childcare leave

You can secure a childcare facility or service in advance for your child when you return to work after maternity or childcare leave.

Daycare Services for All Children (Daycare System for Infants and Others)

For more details, please see p. 17, "Daycare Services for All Children (Daycare System for Infants and Others)."

Holiday childcare program

For details, please see p. 17, "Holiday childcare program."

Temporary childcare services

For details, please see p. 17, "Temporary childcare services" and "24-hour emergency temporary childcare services."

Daycare services for sick and convalescent children

For details, please see p. 18, "Daycare services for sick and convalescent children."

Community childcare support center

For details, please see p. 28, "Community childcare support centers."

Community-wide nursery service

Location See childcare facility maps by ward on p. 33 and onward.

This program brings together public and private childcare facilities to improve the quality of childcare and, in cooperation with relevant organizations, supports all children and families in the community. It is implemented at public nursery schools with dedicated staff, who provide local information related to childcare and offer advice and consultation on various parenting matters. If you have any concerns about childcare, please use this service. These initiatives support families in the community so they can smoothly access the childcare services and assistance they need.

For more details, please visit the Nagoya City official website (from the top page: [Community-wide nursery service](#) ).



Certification for the use of kindergartens, certified children's centers (education section), and unlicensed childcare facilities

Certification is granted under one of the following four categories, depending on the child's age and family circumstances.

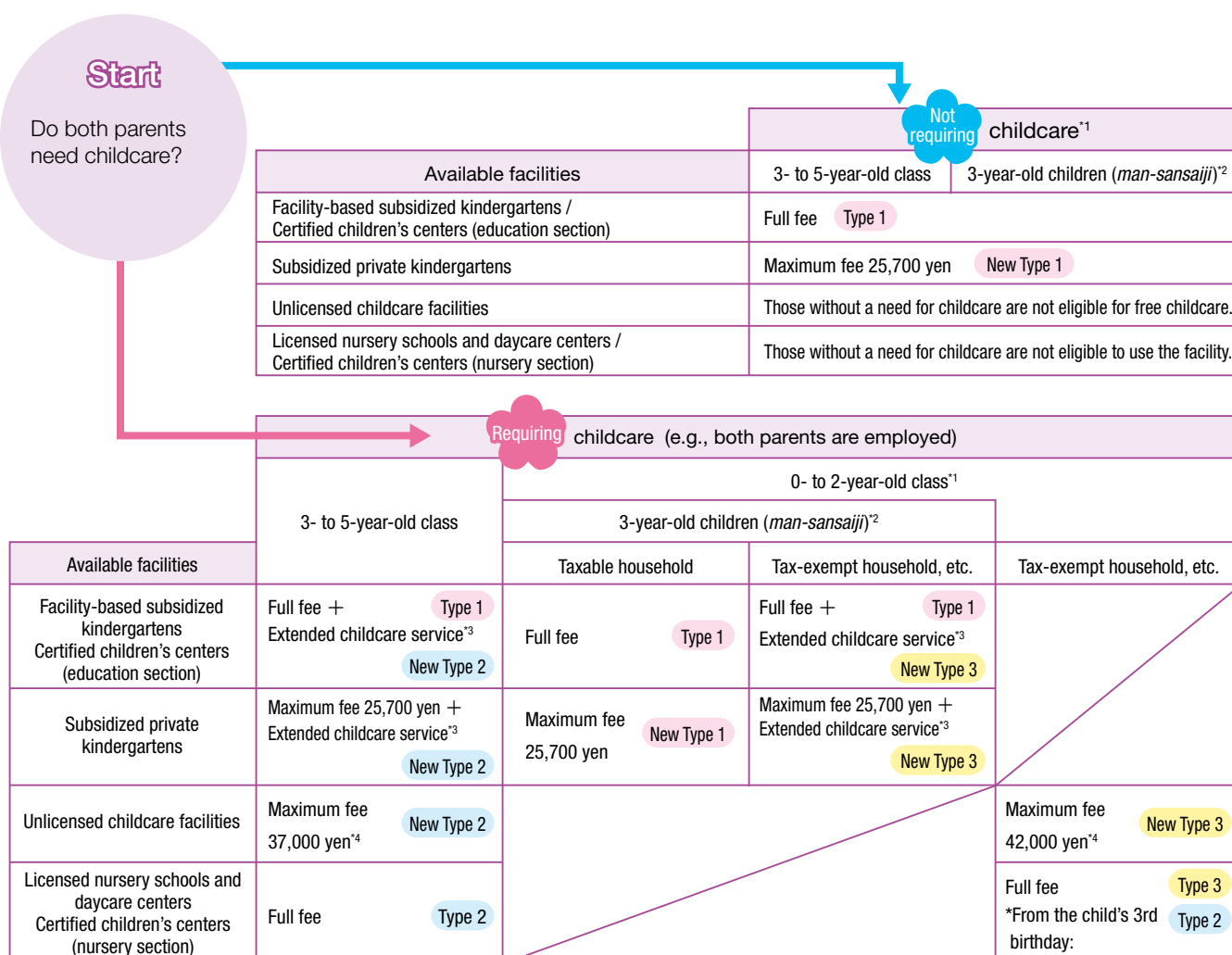
Type	Child's age and family circumstances
Type 1 certification for education and childcare benefits (hereinafter referred to as "Type 1 certification")	Children aged 3 years and older who attend facility-based subsidized kindergartens or certified children's centers (education section)
Type 1 certification for benefits related to the use of facilities (hereinafter referred to as "New Type 1 certification")	Children aged 3 years and older who attend subsidized private kindergartens and have not received New Type 2 or New Type 3 certification
Type 2 certification for benefits related to the use of facilities (hereinafter referred to as "New Type 2 certification")	Children in the 3-year-old class and older who are certified as needing childcare and attend kindergartens, certified children's centers (education section), or unlicensed childcare facilities
Type 3 certification for benefits related to the use of facilities (hereinafter referred to as "New Type 3 certification")	Children in the 0- to 2-year-old classes who are certified as needing childcare, come from households exempt from resident tax, and attend kindergartens, certified children's centers (education section), or unlicensed childcare facilities

Please also refer to pp. 12–13, "Reasons for needing childcare and periods of eligibility for childcare services," for details on the conditions for being certified as New Type 2 or New Type 3, including the certification period.



Eligibility for free childcare/facility use

Certification and exemption procedures differ depending on the child's age, household circumstances, and the type of facility use.



- As before, parents will continue to bear the cost of extended-hours childcare at nursery schools and daycare centers.
- If you live outside Nagoya City, please contact your local municipal office.

¹ Only resident tax-exempt households, etc. that are in need of childcare are eligible for free childcare in the 0- to 2-year-old class.

² "3-year-old children (*man-sansaiji*)" refer to children from the day they turn three until the first March 31 that follows. The age of children accepted varies depending on the facility.

³ Monthly cap for extended childcare fees: 450 yen × number of days used (up to 11,300 yen, or 16,300 yen for New Type 3 certification)

⁴ For children enrolled in a kindergarten, if the kindergarten does not provide extended childcare equal to or above the prescribed standard (8 hours per weekday and 200 days per year), the use of unlicensed childcare facilities or services also becomes eligible for fee exemption, up to the maximum amount for extended childcare (New Type 2: 11,300 yen; New Type 3: 16,300 yen).