

## **Services offered after childbirth**

We support families with children with various parenting services.

## 🎓 Services that require application 🎓

### W Medical subsidy for children

This subsidy covers medical expenses for children as shown below. Please have a pediatric medical certificate issued and present it together with your health insurance card at the medical institution when seeing a doctor.

- Eligibility: The subsidy is provided until the first March 31 after the child turns 18 years of age.
- Inquiry: Ward Office Health Insurance & Pension Division / Branch Office Resident Welfare Division

### 😝 Birth report (home visit by a midwife or public health nurse)

To promote the health of mother and child, please fill in the birth report form (postcard) attached to your mother-child health handbook and send it to the public health center of your ward. A midwife or public health nurse will visit you at home to give parenting advice, such as on the growth of the baby, baby care, and maternal health after birth.

- Eligibility: Mother of a baby up to around four months old
- Inquiry: Public health center

# Support Money for Child-Rearing Families (Provided as Childbirth and Child-Rearing Support Money by the national government)

Upon registering a birth, 50,000 yen is provided per newborn child. Application forms will be sent to eligible persons by the municipal government. For more details, please see the official website of the Nagoya Municipal Government.

### Child allowance\*

Child allowance is provided as shown below. Be sure to apply for the allowance if you are eligible.

- Eligibility: Family with a child up to the 3rd year of junior high school
- Amount: The monthly amount corresponding to the age group shown in the table below is provided per eligible child.

\*If the household income is at or above the designated income limit but is below the designated upper income limit, then a uniform amount of 5,000 yen will be provided per child monthly regardless of their age.

■ Inquiry: Public & Child Welfare Section of the Public & Child Welfare Division of the local ward office or Assistance & Child Affairs Section of the Residents' Welfare Division of the branch office of the ward

Age group		Monthly amount		
From 0 up to 3 years	Each child	15,000 yen		
From 3 years to graduation from elementary school	First and second child	10,000 yen		
	Third and subsequent child	15,000 yen		
Up to graduation from junior high school	Each child	10,000 yen		

<sup>\*</sup>A household whose income exceeds the designated limit is not eligible to receive the child allowance.





To promote the health of infants, medical checkups are provided at appropriate stages of their growth. Please take your child for these checkups as scheduled below.

	Newborn hearing screening	General medical checkup for infants		
Туре	_	First medical checkup	Second medical checkup	
When to take medical checkup	Three days after birth	One month after birth	Nine months after birth	
Date		To be determined individually		
Venue	Medical institution of your choice (Please apply individually.)			
	None			
Fee	yu can use the newborn hearing reening voucher (新生児聴覚検査 診票) attached to your other-child health handbook.  You can use the general medical checkup for infants voucher (乳児一般健康診査受診票) attached to your mother-child health handbook.			
	*If you choose to take a newborn hearing screening and/or general medical checkup at a medical institution outside of Aichi Prefecture, you are entitled to reimbursement of screening and/or checkup expenses except the second medical checkup. (There is an upper limit on the amount of reimbursement.)			
Notification of date, etc.	None			

	Medical checkup for infants		
Туре	Medical checkup for three- (four-) month-old infants	Medical checkup for one-year and six-month-old infants	Medical checkup for three-year-old infants
When to take medical checkup	From three to five months after birth	From one year and six months to one year and nine months after birth	From three years to three years and three months after birth
Date	To be designated by the public health center		
Venue	Public health center		
Fee	None		
Notification of date, etc.	Notification will be mailed to your home.     Information is given in the ward-specific section in the Nagoya News magazine.		

Inquiry: Public health center

### **W** Regular vaccinations

Vaccinations against rotavirus; pneumococcal disease in children; hepatitis B; combination of diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, polio, and Hib; BCG; measles and rubella; chickenpox; Japanese encephalitis; DT; and cervical cancer are provided at designated medical institutions in Nagoya City. If you choose to vaccinate your child at a medical institution outside of Nagoya City, for example, because you returned to your hometown to give birth, you need to file an application in advance.

- Eligibility: Please refer to your mother-child health handbook, brochure "予防接種を受けましょう (Have your child vaccinated.)" and other sources.
- Fee: None Inquiry: Public health center

### 😈 Voluntary vaccinations

The Nagoya Municipal Government offers a subsidy to partly cover the expenses for voluntary vaccinations against the following diseases. You can have your child vaccinated at a designated medical institution by paying your share of the cost.

T		No. of injections required
Type Eligibility	Eligibility	Amount to be paid individually (yen)
Mumps	After turning one year of age until the last fiscal year before starting	One injection
vaccine "	elementary school	3,000 yen/injection

\*Municipal-tax exempt households and households on welfare are entitled to exemption of the left vaccination fees.

■ Inquiry: Public health center

### 😈 Consultations on breastfeeding and other childcare-related issues

Advice on breastfeeding and child growth and development is offered. (Prior application is required.)

- Eligibility: Those who have concerns about breastfeeding and/or child growth and development
- Fee: None Inquiry: Public health center

### To Dental checkup and fluoride application

Dental checkups and guidance on maintaining dental and oral health are offered. You may have fluoride applied to the teeth of your child if you wish.

- Eligibility: Infants aged one year and six months, two years, and three years, infants prone to tooth decay, and their parents (Fluoride application is for infants only.)
- Fee: None (720 yen for fluoride application\*)
- Inquiry: Public health center
- \*Households on welfare can be exempted from payment.

### 💔 Medical benefits for premature infants

Medical benefits are offered to cover the medical expenses for premature infants who receive inpatient treatment at a designated medical institution.

■ Inquiry: Public health center

### ♥ Medical benefits for children with disabilities/specific infantile chronic diseases

When a child with a disability or specific infantile chronic disease receives inpatient or outpatient treatment at a designated medical institution, medical benefits are offered to cover the medical expenses.

■ Inquiry: Ward Office Welfare Division / Branch Office Resident Welfare Division

# Other parenting support programs and services



### 💔 Nagoya Waku-Waku Present Program

To support children who are born and grow up in Nagoya City and their parents, this program offers childcare goods and services that can be selected from among a variety of options as a gift. You can find the goods and services available for the program by entering "名古屋市" and "Baby Yell!" in the search box.

- Eligibility: Children born in Nagoya City who live in Nagoya City until at least the end of the birth month. (Eligibility is also granted to children who move in Nagoya City by the day preceding the first birthday and live in Nagoya City until at least the end of the month of moving-in.)
- How to receive the gift: There is no need to apply. For more details, please see the official website of the Nagoya Municipal Government.

### **Parenting** workshops

The workshops offer opportunities for parents to learn about various parenting- and health-related issues, including child development, rhythm of life, accident prevention, and starting infants on solid food. You can participate with your child.

For venues and other details, please inquire at the public health center in your local ward. We will also help you build relationships with other parents in the community.

- Eligibility: New and expectant parents
- Inquiry: Public health center

### W Newborn baby home visit

A senior child welfare commissioner or district child welfare commissioner visits families with a newborn baby to provide information on available local parenting support services.

■ Eligibility: Families with a first-born child ■ When to visit: Around three to seven months after birth

Fee: None

■ Inquiry: Ward Office Civil Affairs & Children Division

### Support service for families with multiples, e.g. twins

Support is offered to reduce the burden and anxiety of parents over multiple pregnancy, multiple birth, and raising multiples (e.g. twins). Basically, families with multiples aged up to three years are eligible for the support.

- (1) Online pre-family class during pregnancy (For details, please see p.4.)
- (2) Accompanying parents to medical checkups and vaccinations for infants
- (3) Telephone consultation (For details, please see p.19.)
- (4) Home-visit by a midwife



Please visit the official website.

### 😝 Subsidy for housing improvement pertaining to safety

When fall prevention measures, etc. are implemented in a housing unit occupied by an eligible household, one-half of the construction cost, etc. (maximum 200,000 yen per unit) will be subsidized.

- Target: Households with children up to 12 years old, etc.
- Inquiry: Housing Planning Division of the Housing & City Planning Bureau 8972-2942

### 😈 Interest subsidy system for acquiring previously owned housing

Interest subsidies (for 0.25% per year) will be provided to those who acquire previously owned housing in the city utilizing the Flat 35S or Flat 35 Renovation programs of the Japan Housing Finance Agency (JHF).

- Eligibility: Households with children up to 18 years old, etc.
- Duration: Up to five years (maximum amount of 500,000 yen)

# Reduction of rent of long-term housing units and Nagoya City Housing Supply Corporation municipal housing

Housing Rent will be reduced by 20% for households with children newly moving into long-term housing units and Nagoya City Housing Supply Corporation municipal housing units. (Long-term units: rent after reduction will not be less than 60,000 yen / municipal units: maximum reduction is 40,000 yen, applied to housing with a floor space above a certain size)

- Eligibility: Households with children up to 18 years old, etc. that moved in on or after April 1, 2024.
- Duration: Up to 10 years
- Inquiry: Nagoya City Housing Supply Corporation for inquiries about long-term housing

  \*\* 523-3882\*

  Nagoya City Housing Supply Corporation municipal housing

  \*\* 523-3879\*

### WMunicipal housing for households with children and young-couple households (Income restrictions apply.)

Municipal housing tenancy applications are accepted four times per fiscal year (May, August, November, and February), of which a certain number of housing units are reserved for households with children and young-couple households.

- Eligibility: Households with children up to 18 years old and couple-only households aged 40 and under

# **Baby-Care Advice**





# Caring for your baby can be tough, but this advice from more



### Don't say "you've got to," say "let's!"

Instead of telling your partner he's "got to do" such-and-such, phrase it as "let's do" such-and-such. That way, both partners feel like they're working together as a team, and it's more fun for everyone. The sight of your baby's smile will bring you such joy that any annoyances will simply fade away.



### Say clearly what you want

 After childbirth, the baby has to be your top priority, and the baby's dad often ends up as an afterthought. But just like you, he's doing the best he can. Rather than expecting him to guess what you want him to do, tell him clearly. It'll make things less stressful for both of you. When you've just had a baby, you'll be feeling more anxious than usual. But keep reminding yourself that this is normal and temporary. Don't lean into those mood swings.

### Use your words

It helps to verbally express your appreciation to your partner for the care and consideration he's showing you. My partner verbally expresses gratitude and affection quite frequently as well, so when I hear him do that, it makes me want to try harder too, and it makes me appreciate him as well as the baby. It's important to express these feelings in actual words.

### Tips for minimizing stress

I think the secrets of stress-free baby-care are to talk to your partner about everything, even the small things, not to bottle up your anxieties, and not to push yourself too hard. You're in this together.

### When the birth happens after sudden hospitalization

 I developed pregnancy-induced hypertension in week 35 of my pregnancy, so I was quickly transferred to a different hospital, and I ended up having an emergency C-section. Even after my baby was born, I was told to rest quietly in bed for a week. Except for a photo taken by my partner in the newborn nursery, I wasn't even able to see the baby, and I got depressed. However, before the birth, he and I had both read childbirth information leaflets, so he took care of all the post-birth paperwork at the hospital and the municipal office. I'm so grateful to him for turning up at the hospital every day, and cheering me up when I was depressed.

My partner is a sound sleeper, so he doesn't get up very often when our baby cries at night (smiles). But he does go to work every day, so I think it's fair enough for me to do the night duty. (My partner does make a point of apologizing for not getting up during the night.)



### Breastfeeding, 1

 Even if you're breastfeeding, it's best to give the baby a bottle feed from time to time. During my maternity leave, I went to a leaving party at work. I'd expressed some milk, but the baby wouldn't take the bottle, and cried hysterically until I got home.

### Breastfeeding, 2

When my baby was a newborn, I couldn't breastfeed properly, and I got depressed for a while. When I took the baby out for a stroll, old and middle-aged ladies we passed on the street would say "Oh, what a cutie!" and often go on to ask if I was breastfeeding. The very word became painful to me, and I blamed myself for my failure. But now, my baby is 11 months old, and I'm worrying about night-crying, and weaning, and transitioning to baby food, because I persisted with breastfeeding. I kind of wish I'd started bottle-feeding back then, and not pushed myself so hard to battle on with breastfeeding. Bottle-fed babies do just as well as breastfed babies, so if you need to bottle-feed, don't worry about it.







# experienced moms and dads will ease your anxieties.





# Tips from more experienced dads

### The three main things

Have a conversation with your partner every day, don't get mad, and have fun. Those are the three things to prioritize when you're caring for a baby.

# Understand how hard it is to be a new mom

• When she's just had a baby, your partner is faced with all kinds of baby-care stresses and irritations that are completely new to her. As the dad, you're at work all day, and you don't see how things usually are at home, so it's not obvious to you what your partner is getting upset about. It helps if you can understand what a hard time she's having, and co-operate with her in caring for the baby.



The things you want to do for your partner are not necessarily the things she wants you to do. There's a tendency to be at cross-purposes, with the mom thinking "I wish he'd do things without being asked," and the dad thinking "I don't know what I should do unless she tells me." So it's a good idea to take the time to communicate, and work as a team to care for the baby.

# Take your partner's feelings into account

● Because she's experiencing childbirth and childcare for the first time, your partner will be feeling anxious. Try and make allowances for her anxiety. Then go ahead and enjoy meeting and caring for your new baby.



### New dads need a bit of kindness too

• I was very glad that my partner kindly let me sleep on when the baby cried at night, because I had to get up for work the next day. But by the same token, it's a good idea to let her sleep a little bit later in the mornings. Also, rather than lounging around at the weekend, it helps if you take the baby out with you for a while, so that your partner can have a bit of time to herself to recharge.

### Go for walks as a couple

- The days just before your baby's due date are a precious time for you and your partner, so be sure to enjoy them together. Making sure your partner still gets some social contact is the secret of staying happy together while you're raising your baby. Stay on top of four things changing diapers, bottle-feeding, baths and bedtime and you'll enjoy caring for your baby!
- So that I can see for myself how the baby is growing and developing day by day, I let my partner stay home while I take the baby out for a stroll, or to the grocery store.

# Let Dad take care of bath time!

• When it comes to bathing the baby, Dad's hands provide more stability, because they're bigger than Mom's hands, so the baby feels more secure in the water. So it's a good idea to let Dad take over at bath time whenever possible.



I know that caring for a baby takes everything you've got, but even so, spare a thought for Dad.

# A monthly trip to Higashiyama Zoo

Higashiyama Zoo's annual pass is a bargain. We go about once a month now.



• When we need to speak sharply to our small child, just one of us does it, while the other one says nothing. We take care not to both yell at the child at once.