

COVID-19 Cases are on the Rise!

Continue to take measures against the spread of COVID-19!

Announcement from Fukuoka City. January 21, 2022

△ New information has been highlighted in red.

In response to the dramatic increase of COVID-19 cases in Fukuoka Prefecture, the Fukuoka Prefectural Government is urging residents to avoid going out to crowded places and is requesting foodservice providers in Fukuoka City to shorten their business hours.

You are urged to comply with the points below from January 24 until February 20, 2022:

1. When going out or travelling

- Even if you have been vaccinated, you should wear a mask when going out and ensure you disinfect your hands and fingers and take your body temperature at destination.
- Also check the infection situation in your destination, and carefully check that any facilities you will visit are taking measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Avoid going to crowded places or places that have a higher risk of COVID-19 transmission.
- Do not travel across prefectures unless essential, especially to regions under a state of emergency or official emergency measures to halt the spread of COVID-19.
- If travel to other prefectures is absolutely unavoidable, take a PCR or other test to check that you and everyone in your group are free of the virus.
- If you display any symptoms such as a fever, do not leave the house or travel **but instead go and see your doctor to take a COVID-19 test.**

2. Preventative Measures

Basic Measures

- Be thorough with basic measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as washing your hands, gargling, wearing a mask, properly ventilating the room and avoiding the 3C's:
 - Crowded places
 - Close contact
 - Confined spaces
- Wear a mask at all times when using public transport and refrain from talking loudly.

Eating & Drinking

- **When eating out, choose establishments that are following industry guidelines** such as displaying an Infection Prevention Certificate issued by Fukuoka Prefecture, and **avoid going to establishments that are not taking thorough preventative measures against the spread of COVID-19.**

△ Infection prevention certified establishments are those which have been certified to meet

- all 40 of infection prevention criteria, and display a golden Infection Prevention Certificate.
- Do not visit establishments outside of business hours.
 - Restrict the number of people to 4 people or less per table. However, 5 or more people per table can sit together if the establishment is registered in the COVID-19 Vaccination and Test Package System and all individuals in the group have had a PCR or other test to confirm that they are all free of the virus.
 - Do not bring alcoholic drinks into establishments that are not providing alcohol.
 - If there are not sufficient preventative measures in place, the risk of you catching the virus increases regardless of how many people you are with. **Be thorough with the following measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.**
 - Wear a mask when not eating and do not raise your voice. (This includes gatherings at private homes.)
 - Refrain from eating in groups for **two hours or more**, as you are more likely to become over-excited and careless and raise your voice over time. **(This includes gatherings at private homes.)**
 - Be thorough with preventative measures even outdoors such as keeping social distancing, wearing a mask, and avoid raising your voice.
 - Check your temperature and sanitize your hands whenever entering an establishment.

Using karaoke facilities

- Wear a mask even when singing and maintain social distancing of two meters or more.
- Disinfect the microphone before passing it on to the next singer.
- Sit one meter or more away from other users, and do not sit opposite one another.

You can take a free PCR or antigen test until Sunday February 20, 2022.

- **Regardless of whether you have been vaccinated, you can take the test for free if you do not have any symptoms but are in an environment with a higher infection risk and are worried.**

**Fukuoka Prefecture Website (Free COVID Testing for People with No Symptoms)
(Japanese only)**

→<https://www.pref.fukuoka.lg.jp/contents/muryou1.html>

If you have a fever or any cold-like symptoms, contact your local doctor or medical facility by telephone for advice first.

If you are unsure of where to call or have any worries about the virus, call the COVID-19 Hotline for advice:

**COVID-19 Multilingual Hotline (available in 19 languages)
Telephone: 092-687-5357 (24-hour service)**

Announcements about COVID-19 from Fukuoka Prefecture and Fukuoka City are continually updated, so keep checking the links below to keep up to date.

Fukuoka Prefecture Website

<https://www.pref.fukuoka.lg.jp/contents/covid19emergency-details.html>

Fukuoka City Website (Support for Foreign Residents)

<https://www.city.fukuoka.lg.jp/shisei/gshien/index.html>

Fukuoka City Website (Advice for Foreign Residents Struggling due to COVID-19)

<https://www.city.fukuoka.lg.jp/soki/kokusai/shisei/COVID19gaikokujinsoudanj.html>

Fukuoka City COVID-19 Vaccination Program website below:

https://www.city.fukuoka.lg.jp/soki/kokusai/shisei/japanese/COVID19vaccine_SJ.html

3. Restricting Business Hours for Food and Other Service Providers

○ From Monday, January 24 until Sunday, February 20, 2022:

In Fukuoka City, restrict business hours as follows if your establishment is legally permitted to serve food products under the Food Sanitation Act. This includes food stalls such as *yatai*, but excludes delivery and takeout services.

1) If you have an Infection Prevention Certificate (COVID-19 Safe Certified Shop):

- Restrict your business hours to between 5 a.m. and 9 p.m. and serve alcohol only between 11 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. (last order). Or, restrict your business hours to between 5 a.m. and 8 p.m. and do not serve alcohol.
- Display your Infection Prevention Certificate (gold) issued by Fukuoka Prefecture on a place visible from outside. Also, you must display your certificate inside the establishment so customers can see it.
- Restrict the number of people to 4 people or less per table. However, 5 or more people per table can sit together if the establishment is registered in the COVID-19 Vaccination and Test Package System and all individuals in the group have had a PCR or other test to confirm that they are all free of the virus.

2) If you do not have an Infection Prevention Certificate (COVID-19 Safe Certified Shop):

- Restrict your business hours to between 5 a.m. and 8 p.m.
- Do not serve alcohol.
- Restrict the number of people to 4 people or less per table.

△ Businesses complying with business hour restrictions can receive financial support from the Fukuoka Prefectural Government. Check the official Fukuoka Prefecture website often for the latest details.

1) If you restrict your business hours to between 5 a.m. and 9 p.m. and serve alcohol only between 11 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. (last order):

Small to medium-sized businesses receive ¥25,000 to ¥75,000 per day depending on sales

Large businesses receive up to ¥200,000 per day depending on sales losses

- 2) If you restrict your business hours to between 5 a.m. and 8 p.m. and do not serve alcohol:
Small to medium-sized businesses receive ¥30,000 to ¥100,000 per day depending on sales
Large businesses receive up to ¥200,000 per day depending on sales losses

Fukuoka Prefecture Website

<https://www.pref.fukuoka.lg.jp/contents/covid19emergency-details.html>

△ For facilities offering karaoke

- Disinfect the microphone and remote control after each customer leaves. Put disinfectant products in each karaoke box room.
- Be thorough with infection preventative measures such as ensuring customers do not create 3C situations and thoroughly ventilating the room.
- Snack bars and karaoke cafés share karaoke equipment between large numbers of unspecified people. Be especially thorough with ventilating the venue and ensuring social distance.

△ Food service operators must take care with the following measures:

- ventilate the venue thoroughly every 30 minutes by completely opening two windows in different locations for five minutes at a time.
- set up hand sanitization equipment and disinfect the business premises.
- measure customers' temperatures and have them sanitize their hands when entering.
- tell customers to wear a mask when talking and not to raise their voices.
- provide shatterproof acrylic screens or other appropriate physical barriers to prevent droplet transmission when appropriate social distancing cannot be maintained.
 - do not serve food standing. Customers should be seated.
- install a sign at the entrance of your business refusing entry to anyone who is unwell, not wearing a mask, or removes their mask when not eating.
- tell customers to keep their stay to two hours or less.
- try and obtain Infection Prevention Certificate issued by Fukuoka Prefecture.

4. Event Restrictions

(From Monday, January 24 to Sunday, February 20, 2022)

- ① Events without raised voices/cheering for 5,000 people or more
 - Event organizers must create an infection-prevention and safety plan and submit it to the Fukuoka Prefectural Government for confirmation.
 - Events must be help for the maximum of 20,000 people, or up to the maximum capacity if all participants had a PCR or other test to confirm that they are all free of virus.
 - The maximum capacity for events is 100%.

② For events where the above does not apply:

For events that do not create an infection-prevention and safety plan, you must publish how the event is complying with the *Necessary Preventative Measures to Prevent Infection when Holding Events*, and store this information for one year after the event.

- For events with a set capacity-
Maximum attendees: up to 5,000 people. Furthermore, attendance ratio should be set to 50% at events with raised voices or 100% at events without raised voices.
 - For events without a set capacity-
- Events with raised voices must ensure sufficient social distancing (2 meters where possible, at least 1 meter). If you cannot maintain these limits, rethink whether the event should be held.
 - Events without raised voices must ensure sufficient space so attendees do not come into physical contact.

③ Events must follow the New Normal and industry guidelines. Follow basic COVID-19 preventative measures, such as arranging seating to prevent the 3C's, ensuring social distancing, wearing masks etc.

Create a record of the names and contact details of the attendees.