

“Babysitter and Temporary Childcare Subsidy” Information Session (2026/4/22)

– Questions and Answers

1. Working Hours During Business Trips and Use of Babysitter Discount

Vouchers

[Question]

Regarding the use of babysitter discount vouchers, we were told that actual working hours must be recorded in the attendance sheet.

However, in the case of a one-day business trip—for example, if I work in Tokyo until 16:30 and then travel back, I may not arrive home until after 18:30. In such cases, I cannot make it in time for after-school care pickup and would like to use a babysitter.

If the actual working hours do not match the time when a babysitter is needed, does that mean the discount voucher cannot be used?

[Answer]

Use of discount vouchers

Commuting time and business-trip travel time are included in the hours eligible for voucher use. Therefore, the travel time from the end of work until returning home is also covered.

Attendance sheet

If you record “business trip” in the attendance sheet, we can confirm that you were away due to business travel.

2. Post-Application for April Use and the Need for User Registration

[Question]

Use in April can be applied for retroactively, and applications and receipts must be submitted by Monday, June 1.

In this case, is user registration still required?

[Answer]

User registration is required whenever you use discount vouchers, including for April use. You must submit documents that verify your household situation at the time of registration.

Without these documents, we cannot confirm the status of your child or spouse. Therefore, user registration is mandatory even for retroactive applications.

3. English-Language Materials and English Support

[Question]

Are English-language materials available, and will future guidance also be provided in English?

[Answer]

The TUMUG Support Programs provide English-language user guides and application forms as follows. Notebook LM's AI chat support is also available in English and can help users check program details and answer questions.

DEI Center Website

- **TUMUG Support Programs** : https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/en/support_program/tumug/
- **NotebookLM Chat Support (FAQ)**

Discount Voucher Course : <https://notebooklm.google.com/notebook/266d228b-70c9-440e-9af5-24d7dea6c668?pli=1>

TUMUG Course : <https://notebooklm.google.com/notebook/f800d731-51b9-4e34-8a6d-816c1fe9653c>

- **Application Forms** : https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/en/support_program/tumug/#List-of-Application-Forms

However, some babysitter service providers offer Japanese-only support.

In particular, English support is limited among providers in Sendai City. Users who primarily use English should check language availability with the provider in advance.

4. Eligibility of Full-Time Faculty Members for the TUMUG Course

[Question]

Can full-time faculty members employed by the university use the TUMUG Course?

[Answer]

Full-time faculty members are eligible to use the TUMUG Course.

However, if discount vouchers can be used, they should be used first. Apply for the TUMUG

Course only when vouchers cannot be used.

Please note that the TUMUG Course has a limited budget, and applications may be rejected or reduced depending on the review.

5. Limited Number of Babysitter Providers in Sendai City

[Question / Comment]

There are very few babysitter providers in Sendai City that accept discount vouchers, which is a major issue in regional areas of Japan.

Please continue to strongly advocate for increasing the number of providers eligible for the national program.

[Answer]

We have already communicated the shortage of providers in Sendai City and are urging efforts to increase the number of providers eligible for the national program.

We recognize the significant regional disparities and will continue working toward improvements.

6. Differences in How Babysitter Providers Handle Discount Vouchers

[Question]

It seems that the handling of discount vouchers differs by provider. What are the differences?

[Answer]

Each provider has different procedures and timing for applying the discount.

For example, with Kidsline, users pay the full amount upfront and receive a cashback later.

Other providers apply the discount immediately at the time of payment.

Please check each provider's usage procedures in advance.