

# 【Especially important】

## Mayor's Message 4

A State of Emergency Declared for 7 Prefectures, and 4 New Cases Confirmed in Fukushima City

Increased Awareness of Danger and Action to Prevent the Spread of Infection!

A state of emergency was today declared for 7 prefectures (the Tokyo Metropolis, Kanagawa Prefecture, Saitama Prefecture, Chiba Prefecture, Osaka Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, and Fukuoka Prefecture).

In addition, a cluster-like infection of 4 people was confirmed in Fukushima City, raising the sense of danger to the next level. At this point in time, those who have been recognized as persons that have been in close contact are under health observation in their homes. We are cooperating with the prefecture and related municipalities to expediently proceed with assertive epidemiological investigations and to ascertain additional persons who have been in close contact, and are putting the utmost effort into taking action to prevent the spread of infection.

Furthermore, with regards to those 12 persons who were in close contact with first patient at their place of work, they are today completing their health observation, and it has been confirmed that all have received negative results in PCR testing.

Under such a situation, all Fukushima City Municipal Elementary, Junior High and Special Education Schools will be temporarily closed for two weeks from tomorrow (April 8<sup>th</sup>) until April 21<sup>st</sup>. Those students or children for whom a place cannot be secured will be cared for at schools and after-school childcare.

To all citizens, based on this situation, we request that you are all the more aware of the danger with regards to the spread of infection, and on top of this remain calm and behave so as to prevent the spread of infection. Please make reference to previous mayor's messages and the information provided from the city to date, and act with the thought of not letting it be passed on, not only to yourself, but also to those you hold dear.

Going forward, please be thorough in things such as, avoiding places where the ‘3 Cs’ (closed spaces with poor ventilation, crowded places with many people nearby, close-contact settings such as close-range conversations) occur, along with first of all taking time off if you feel anything unusual in your physical condition. We also request that you avoid non-essential and non-urgent visitation to the 7 prefectures subject to the state of emergency.

Furthermore, some may take the declaration of an emergency situation as an opportunity to return home etc. move to Fukushima City from those areas subject, and it is feared that the infection may spread.

We strongly request that those who have moved, as well as those who are the accepting party (family home etc.), be thorough in implementing the following actions for 2 weeks after arriving in Fukushima.

To all citizens, starting with those who have moved, we strongly request that you do not cause any slander or discrimination related to the Novel Coronavirus.

<Actions to be Thorough in for 2 Weeks After Arriving in Fukushima City>

- ① Please refrain from leaving your place of stay. Please especially avoid any outside activities that involve coming into contact with acquaintances etc.
- ② When leaving is unavoidable, please be sure to wear a mask.
- ③ Please, as much possible, separate rooms from those you are cohabiting with in your place of stay (family home etc.), avoid contact and conversation, and wear a mask. Be aware of regular ventilation, and please sanitize hands, shared places and shared items.
- ④ If you notice any change to the condition of your health, or if there is anything you are concerned about, please consult over the phone with the City Health Center via the contact details listed below.
- ⑤ Those who have misgivings about cohabiting in their place of stay (family home etc.), and those from whom we have your understanding of infection prevention counter-measures, should please stay in a hotel or inn for the 2 weeks after arriving in Fukushima City.

Furthermore, even while staying at a hotel or inn please behave in the same fashion as ① through ③.

A variety of relevant information is being provided on the Fukushima City Home Page etc. Please frequently pay attention to information announced by the national government, prefecture, and city, and be thorough in carrying out infection prevention countermeasures.

Going forward, alongside cooperating with the nation, prefecture, and medical facilities, I wish to unite will all citizens to overcome this crisis.

April 7<sup>th</sup> 2020

Kohata Hiroshi, Mayor of Fukushima City

<b>Novel Coronavirus Consultation Phone Service</b>	<b>Returned Persons &amp; Contact Persons Consultation Center</b>
<b>☎ :024-535-8661</b>	<b>☎ :024-535-8662</b>
<b>🕒 :8:30-17:15 (incl. weekends &amp; public holidays)</b>	<b>🕒 :24-hour (incl. weekends &amp; public holidays)</b>
<b>●</b> For those who have any concerns or are at all worried in regards anything from to their physical condition or coming into contact with someone.	<b>●</b> Those who have had cold-and-flu symptoms and a fever above 37.5 for more than 4 days. <b>●</b> Those who are experience strong tiredness (fatigue) or are having difficulty breathing (labored breathing) <b>●</b> Those who have no sense of taste or smell, and who have a cough and fever.  *If the above situation has continued for more than 2 days for the elderly, those with an underlying condition or for those who are pregnant.