

System for Pregnancy Healthcare Fee Assistance

Outline

This system helps with pregnant people's medical co-payments (out-of-pocket expenses for treatments covered by insurance.) There is no income cap, but proof of one's own and one's partner's income is required, so as to calculate the amount of assistance, and to determine eligibility for prefectural medical fee assistance.

Who is Eligible?

Pregnant people with an Oshu city address, from the first day of their 5th month of pregnancy to the last day of the month after they give birth. However, if any of the following applies, you are not eligible.

- 1) People receiving public assistance/welfare
- 2) People enrolled in national insurance in a municipality other than Oshu
- 3) People eligible for Disability Healthcare Fee Assistance or Single Parent Healthcare Fee Assistance

Details about Fee Assistance

Co-payments are fully covered, when receiving treatment at a healthcare center.

Medical Fees that Are Not Covered

Medical fee assistance does not cover the following cases.

1. Meal fees during inpatient care
2. Things not covered by health insurance, such as physical exams, vaccinations, paperwork, hospital beds that incur an extra charge, transit fees for home medical care, fees for medicine containers, etc.
3. When receiving treatment for illness or injury caused by a third party, such as a car accident, food poisoning from a restaurant, fights, a bite from someone else's dog, etc.
4. Treatments covered under other medical insurance laws, for which funds can be received

Getting Your Recipient Certificate

Bring the following items and apply at the relevant counter at city hall. You cannot apply after birth.

- 1) Mother/Parent-Child Health Handbook
- 2) Health insurance card
- 3) Savings account bankbook
- 4) Spouse's My Number card or income tax certificate (if spouse's address isn't in Oshu)

Receiving Assistance

For Healthcare Centers in Iwate (Benefits in Kind)

Show your medical fee recipient certificate to the healthcare center, and payment isn't necessary for the amount covered by insurance (benefit-in-kind format.)

For Healthcare Centers Outside of Iwate, or: If You Didn't Show Your Medical Fee Recipient Certificate (reimbursement through application at city hall)

After making a one-time payment at the healthcare center, you can apply for funds at the relevant city hall office, and receive medical fee assistance via bank transfer (reimbursement format.) To apply for funds, you'll need the receipt for the healthcare fees.

If Medical Fees for Insurance-Covered Healthcare Were Fully (100%) Out-of-Pocket (reimbursement through application at city hall)

If you couldn't show your health insurance card at the front desk of the healthcare center, or if therapeutic orthoses (a back brace under doctor's orders, etc.) were made, you must pay the full medical fees at the front desk of the healthcare center. You can apply to receive healthcare funds (70-80% of the medical fees) via your insurer (the issuer of your health insurance card.) After receiving the funds, you can apply at the relevant city hall office, and receive medical fee assistance via bank transfer (reimbursement format.)

What to Bring

- 1) Receipt showing that care is covered under insurance (the original, but if it was submitted at the time of applying for care fees, a copy is OK)
- 2) Medical fee recipient certificate
- 3) Health insurance card
- 4) Personal *hanko* seal (only for expensive medical fees)
- 5) Medical fee recipient certificates for any other publically funded healthcare systems
- 6) Notice of approval to receive healthcare funds (only if you're receiving healthcare funds from your insurer)

City Hall Application Counters

Main City Hall (Mizusawa) Health & Children's Dept. Insurance & Pension Division (0197-34-2902)

Esashi Gen. Branch Office Citizen Living Group (0197-34-2520)

Maesawa Gen. Branch Office Citizen Welfare Group (0197-34-0272)

Isawa Gen. Branch Office Citizen Living Group (0197-34-0318)

Koromogawa Branch Office Citizen Welfare Group (0197-34-2368)