

For those interested in the "Okayama City Partnership Oath System"

Human Rights Promotion Division,
Citizens Cooperative Department, Citizens Cooperative Bureau,
Okayama City

Okayama City aims to create a city where all people respect each other, promote diversity and live just the way they are with dignity. As part of the approach, we have launched the "Okayama City Partnership Oath System" for sexual minorities in July, 2020. This system will be amended on September 1st, 2024 to include not only sexual minorities but also opposite-gender couples who wish to enter into a partnership.

Under this system, those who have pledged to be responsible to cooperate with each other in their cohabitation as each other's life partners swear an oath to the Mayor of Okayama City. Then the "Partnership Oath Receipt" and "Partnership Oath Proof Card" are provided by Okayama City.

*Unlike a marriage under the civil code, this system shall not ensure any legal rights or obligations.

1. Eligibility

- (1) Both parties must be 20 years old or over.
- (2) Both parties must officially reside in Okayama City including the case either one or both parties are scheduled to move into Okayama City.
- (3) Both parties must be unmarried.
- (4) Both parties must not in a partner-relationship with anyone else.
- (5) Both parties must not be in a kinship, of which marriage is not allowed by the civil code. However, you can take an oath in the case of adoption based on a partnership.

2. Oath procedures

- (1) Appointment for the oath date

You need to make an appointment to swear an oath. Contact by telephone, FAX or email at least seven days prior to the desired oath date (except for Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays and the year-end and new year's holidays). We will confirm the date, place and necessary documents.

*On Saturdays, you can swear an oath at Sankaku Okayama from 10am to 5pm.

Contact:

Human Rights Promotion Division

Tel: 086-803-1070

Fax: 086-225-1699

Email: jinkensuishin@city.okayama.lg.jp

(2) Oath of partnership

Both parties are kindly asked to come to Human Rights Promotion Division, Okayama City Hall on the day of your appointment to fill out an oath and confirmation and submit the necessary documents.

(3) Issuance of the oath receipt

If there are no deficiencies in the submitted documents, the "Partnership Oath Receipt" and "Partnership Oath Proof Card" will be issued.

3. Necessary documents

(1) Documents to be submitted

- Documents verifying your address
- A copy of the Residence Certificate or Certificate of Items Stated in Resident Register (The following items are unnecessary: your domicile of origin, name of the householder and your relationship to the householder, Resident Register Code, My Number (Individual Number))
- A copy of the Residence Certificate or Certificate of Items Stated in Resident Register is not necessary when presenting the identity verification document within the valid period which includes your current home address (e.g., driver's license, My Number Card, Residence Card, etc.)

- Single Status Certificate
- Certificate of Legal Capacity to Contract Marriage, etc. issued by the government in your home country, and its Japanese translation

(2) Documents to be presented

A proof of your identity (e.g., driver's license, My Number Card, passport, Residence Card, etc.)

4. Others

All procedures for the oath are done in Japanese: appointment, acceptance of your application, etc.