

Fuchu City Partnership Vow Guide



○ Reservations, Consultations and Program Information

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**Diverse Society Promotion Section
Civic Collaboration Promotion Department
Seventh Edition**

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1. About the Partnership Vow Program

(1) Objective

Although social awareness of sexual diversity has gradually increased in recent years, sexual minorities still face discrimination and prejudice in everyday life, and many of them undergo hardships.

In light of this, Fuchu City launched the Fuchu City Partnership Vow initiative on April 1, 2019, with the goals of eliminating prejudice and discrimination against sexual minorities and building an inclusive society that recognizes and respects diversity.

Although the partnership vow certificate has no legal effect, the city will promote understanding of the purpose of this initiative to citizens and businesses.

(2) What is the partnership vow program?

This program certifies that two people, one or both of whom are sexual minorities, are in a partnership.

A. What is a partnership?

As defined here, a partnership is a relationship between two people, one or both of whom is a sexual minority (a person who has a gender identity or sexual orientation that is not considered typical), who have made a commitment to live together in mutual cooperation as life partners or who are already living together on that basis.

B. What is a vow?

In this program, two people vow to the mayor of Fuchu City that they are indeed in a partnership as defined above.

2. Partnership Vow Eligibility

Both parties must meet all of the following criteria:

- **Must be in a partnership***

***Partnership:** A relationship between two persons who are life partners with each other, and one or both of whom are sexual minorities (see page 3).

- **Must be of legal age**

- **One of the following must apply to the applicant's address:**

- **Both parties who wish to take the vow must reside at the same address in Fuchu City (hereinafter referred to as "the City")**
- **One of the parties who wish to take the vow must have an address in the City and the other party must have plans to move to the same address**
- **Both parties who wish to take the vow must have plans to move to the same address within the City**

- **Must not be in a legal marital relationship**

- **Must not be in a partnership with a different person**

- **The two parties must not be direct blood relatives, collateral blood relatives within the third degree, or lineal relatives by affinity (This excludes persons related by adoptions based on partnerships.)**

Examples of direct blood relatives, collateral blood relatives within the third degree, and lineal relatives by affinity

- **Direct blood relatives: Grandparents, parents, children, grandchildren, etc.**
- **Collateral blood relatives within the third degree: Siblings, uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces**
- **Lineal relatives by affinity: Child-in-law, parent-in-law, grandparent-in-law, etc.**

3. Necessary Documents

You will need the following to take a formal vow:

- **Copies of residence certificates of all household members**

Notes:

1. Both parties must bring one copy each (issued within the past three months)
2. Domicile and relationship to head of household are not required
3. If both parties are in the same household, however, one copy with information for both parties is acceptable
4. If you are planning to move to Fuchu City, you must submit a document to prove this fact (sales contract, lease contract, etc.). Once you move in, please submit a copy of your residence certificate showing all household members as soon as possible.

- **Document to prove that you do not have a legal spouse (family register extract, single status certificate, etc.)**

Notes:

1. Both parties must bring one copy (issued within the past three months)
2. You can obtain single status certificates and family register extracts from the municipality administering your home address
3. If you are a foreign national, you must attach a Japanese translation to the document (certificate of no impediment to marriage, etc.)

- **Personal identification documents**

- Individual number (My Number) card; driver's license; passport; residence card; license or permit, certificate of qualification or the like issued by a government office (documents must have your facial photo)

Note: We may ask you to submit documents other than those listed above if the mayor deems it necessary.

If you wish to use an alias

- **Present documents to prove that you use your alias regularly**

Note: If you use an alias and wish to have that alias listed on the certificate, please submit a copy of a document that shows you use the alias on a daily basis (mail addressed to the alias, employee ID card, etc.)

Note: If you present the certificate your alias is listed on, you may be asked to present or submit documents to confirm the name listed on your family register.

If you wish to have name(s) of your children etc., listed on the certificate

- **Present documents that prove you and any children have the same livelihood and that the child (or children) are minors (copy of residence certificate, etc.).**

Note: Not required if this information is listed on the copies of the residence certificate the parties taking the vow submit

4. Flow of Procedures

1. Make an appointment (at least seven days before your desired date)

Please contact the **Multicultural Coexistence Subsection, Diverse Society Promotion Section** using one of the methods below, and inform them of your desired date to take the vow. We will coordinate and confirm the vow date, time and required documents.

- (1) Use the two-dimensional code at right
- (2) Call 042-335-4131 (hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays)



2. Submit documents

- Both parties must come to the venue in person on the appointed date
- Bring the necessary documents with you
- Date and time available for vows: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays (may be available after 5 p.m. upon request)
- Location: Gender Equality Center “Futur”

3. Have documents reviewed

- Your documents will be checked to confirm that you meet the partnership vow requirements
- Your vow date may be postponed if you have incomplete or missing documents or other issues

4. Obtain partnership vow certificate

- You will receive two copies of the partnership vow certificate and a copy of the actual vow

Partnership vow certificate (front)

パートナーシップ宣誓書受領証	
ここにお二人が、府中市パートナーシップの宣誓の取扱いに関する要綱に基づき、パートナーシップの宣誓をされたことを証します。	
宣誓日 <u>平成31年4月1日</u>	
本人	パートナー
<u>宮町 太郎</u> 様	<u>片町 次郎</u> 様
生年月日 <u>昭和61年5月1日</u>	生年月日 <u>昭和60年4月1日</u>
住 所 <u>東京都府中市宮町2丁目24番地 府中アパート101</u>	住 所 <u>東京都府中市宮町2丁目24番地 府中アパート101</u>
平成31年4月1日 府中市長 印	

Partnership vow certificate (back)

<p>○ 府中市は、一人一人が互いに人権を尊重し、多様性を認め合いながら、誰もが認め合う共生社会の実現を目指しています。この受領証により法律上の効果が生じるものではありませんが、お二人のパートナーシップを尊重することで、互いを人生のパートナーとして、生き生きと輝き活躍されることを期待しています。</p> <p>○ 受領証の掲示を受けた方は、この趣旨を十分ご理解くださいますようお願いいたします。</p>
戸籍上の氏名（通称を使用している場合） ・本人 _____ ・パートナー _____
特記事項

5. Procedures after Taking the Vow

(1) If your certificate is lost or damaged

- If you need to have your certificate reissued due to loss or damage, please submit a partnership vow certificate reissue application

• Flow of procedures

1. Make a reservation (at least seven days before your desired date)

Please contact the **Multicultural Coexistence Subsection, Diverse Society Promotion Section** using one of the following methods and inform them of your desired date for the reissue. We will coordinate and confirm the date, time, and required documents.

- (1) Use the two-dimensional code at right
- (2) Call 042-335-4131 (hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays)



2. Submit documents

- The person who wishes to have the certificate reissued must come to the venue in person on the appointment date
- Bring **both copies of your partnership vow certificate** (personal identification required for losses)

- Date and time available for reissue: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays (may be available after 5 p.m. upon consultation)
- Location: Gender Equality Center “Futur”

3. Have documents reviewed

- Your documents will be checked to confirm that you meet the requirements for reissue
- We may not reissue your certificate if you have incomplete or missing documents or other issues

4. Obtain new partnership vow certificate

- Your partnership vow certificate will be reissued

(2) If there is a change in your address, name, etc.

- If your name, address or other key information changes, you must apply to have your partnership vow certificate reissued. In such cases, you must return your old certificates.

The procedures are the same as for reissues due to loss or damage. If you took the vow with plans of moving into Fuchu City, you must also complete reissue procedures after you actually move in.

- You do not have to submit a copy of your new residence certificate after changing addresses. The city will confirm your address change before issuing a new partnership vow certificate.

(3) Returning partnership vow certificates

- You must return your partnership vow certificate to Fuchu City as soon as possible if the partnership dissolves, one party dies, when one or both parties move out of the city, etc. Return both copies of the certificate along with a return notification for them.
- You can download the return notification for the partnership vow certificate from the Fuchu City website
- Return certificates to the Gender Equality Center “Futur” (Steza Fuchu Nakagawara 4F, 1-84 Sumiyoshicho, Fuchu City 183-0034). You can also send your documents in via postal mail.

6. FAQ

(1) Will my privacy be protected when I use this program?

- A. Vital personal information, such as documents submitted and the information contained therein, will be protected. You may request a private room to complete vow procedures to protect your privacy.

(2) Is there a fee for taking the vow and receiving partnership vow certificates?

- A. No. However, you are responsible for fees related to obtaining documents necessary for the vow.

(3) What does it mean to be “living together in mutual cooperation”?

- A. This refers to the act of cooperating and living with each other, sharing the necessary expenses and supporting each other in your daily lives.

(4) What is the difference between the partnership vow program and marriage?

- A. Marriage is performed according to the law, which means that the couple becomes a legal family with various rights and obligations, such as inheritance and other property rights, tax deductions and support obligations. On the other hand, Fuchu City’s partnership vow program is based on a Fuchu City outline (internal city regulations) and has no legal effect.

(5) If the vow has no legal effect, what is the point of the system?

A. The program is designed to show that your partnership is respected, Fuchu City introduced this program with the aim of eliminating prejudice and discrimination against sexual minorities. In addition, some private services have gradually begun to recognize relationships based on partnership vow programs and provide related services.

Example: Family discount plans for cellphone services, shared frequent flyer miles at travel companies, pair bank loans related to housing, life insurance beneficiaries, etc.

(6) Are partnership vow certificates issued on the same day?

A. Yes, if your documents are complete and your vow is deemed appropriate. It may take some time to confirm the contents of your documents even if the certificate is issued on the same day, however. Please note that you must make an appointment in advance to take the vow.

(7) Can I have someone else apply on my behalf?

A. No. When applying and taking the vow, both parties must come to the venue.

(8) What should I do if I'm moving out of Fuchu City?

A. You must return the partnership vow certificate to Fuchu City as soon as possible if the partnership is dissolved, one party dies, or when one or both parties move out of the city. You must also submit a return notification for the partnership vow certificate when returning the certificate.

(9) Will there be any changes in my family register or residence certificate after I take the vow?

A. No. Since this program has no legal effect, there will be no changes to legal documents such as family registers and residence certificates.