

自立支援医療費制度（精神通院医療）  
JIRITSU SHIEN IRYOUHI SEIDO (Seishin Tsuuin Iryou)  
(Financial Support for Outpatient Cost of Mental Disorder)

This is a welfare program for those who need continuous psychiatric outpatient treatment.

Eligible diseases includes schizophrenia, mood disorders, substance abuse, mental disorders due to physiological conditions and epilepsy, etc.

It subsidizes medical fees, prescription fees and home visiting nursing if approved. The validity period is one year from the date of application and must be renewed within 3 months prior to the expiration date.

A medical certificate by medical doctor is required for the first application and every two years for renewal.

Generally the self-pay rate for medical expenses will be reduced from 30% to 10% if the application is approved, but upper limit for a month would be set based on household income, four steps from 2,500¥ to 20,000¥.

The amount paid in each month would be checked in the dedicated passbook.

Application would be accepted at City Office with:

- a filled out application form
- a medical certificate in the dedicated form(issued within 3 months)
- health insurance card
- certification of household income or agreement to income verification by the city

It is also possible to apply for mental disability certificate at the same time, which could grant patients tax deductions and discounts on fees at various facilities including bus fare.

The certificate needs some conditions to apply, so please ask your doctor prior to application.