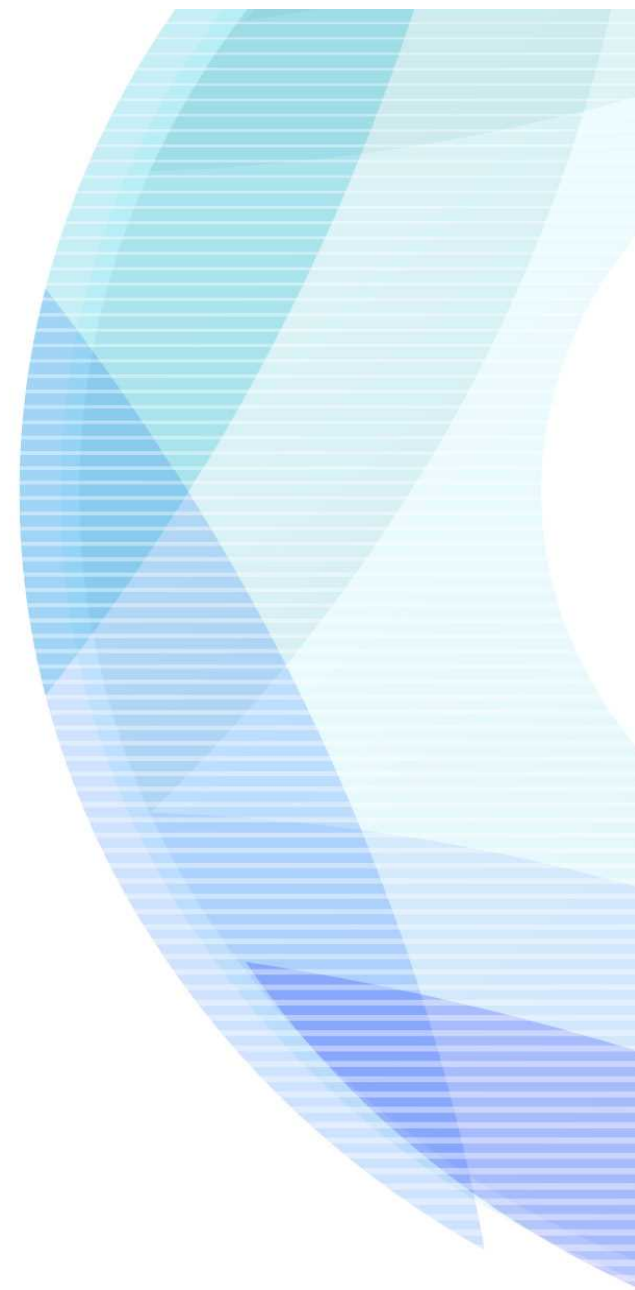


# Package of Emergency Economic Measures MEXT

April 7, 2020



# Support for the reopening of schools

(※Underlined measures are included in the FY2020 supplementary budget. )

In order to converge the nation's efforts for suppressing as soon as possible the spread of the novel coronavirus epidemic, many businesses cooperated in temporarily shutting down their operations in March. After that, however, the numbers of newly infected persons, particularly in urban areas, increased, as well as the number of infected persons whose route of infection was unclear. Depending on the situation in each region, preparations for recovery, including the reopening of schools, need to move forward, without letting up at all in continuing precautionary measures against COVID-19.

For the reopening of schools, support will be given for the purchase of masks and disinfectants that will be necessary for ensuring measures against the reoccurrence of the coronavirus are thoroughly taken. Efforts will also be made to support supplementary lessons to make up for areas not taught yet, ensure the mental health of children, and lessen the financial burden on parents and students.

## Measures against COVID-19 at schools

- MEXT will aim at the distribution of two cloth masks from April (one mask in April and one after May) to students and teachers at all elementary schools, junior and senior high schools, schools for special needs education, upper secondary specialized training schools, etc. MEXT will also support school operators in purchasing cloth masks, disinfectants, non-contact-type thermometers, and other hygiene supplies.
- Cloth masks will be distributed to kindergarten teachers, and support will be provided for purchasing children's masks, disinfectants, and other supplies for preventing infections.
- Support will be provided for efforts by school operators to reduce the risk of infection on school buses for students of special needs education schools (reducing the number of students riding one bus, etc.).
- MEXT will revise health education texts for teachers as well as health education materials for elementary and junior and senior high schools in order to help teachers and students cope with and follow anti-coronavirus measures.
- Schools will improve their hygienic environment, such as restrooms, etc., and prepare an environment that ensures students can study and live safely and securely.

## Learning instruction, mental care

- MEXT will place additional instructors at schools to support instruction in curriculum areas not taught yet as a result of the temporary school closures, as well as help cover necessary expenses for the additional assignment of teachers.
- MEXT will support the covering of necessary expenses for the additional placement of teachers and school counselors in order to provide mental health care to children whose daily life rhythm has been disrupted by the temporary shutdowns of schools, businesses, etc.

## Experiential learning activities for children

- In order to rejuvenate children and ensure their healthy development, MEXT will support and enhance outdoor activities for children to experience nature conducted by youth education groups and others, opportunities for children to enjoy playing sports safely and securely, and opportunities for children to engage in high-quality cultural and art activities.



## Cancellation, postponement of school trips, responding to stopping of school lunches

- **In regards to cancellation charges arising due to the cancellation or postponement of school trips because of the temporary closing of schools, MEXT will provide a fixed amount of necessary funds to local governments and other school operators** in order to ease the financial burden on parents.
- MEXT will request school operators to **refund to parents the cost for school lunches** during the temporary closure period. **MEXT will provide support to school operators to cover the costs for the refunds to parents and lunch cancellation charges.**

## Support to students in hardship situations

- MEXT will **provide support** to high school students whose family finances have been suddenly changed, **through exemption from tuition payments and provision of High School Supplemental Scholarship Fund**. Additionally, the ministry **has requested municipal boards of education that financial support for school attendance in compulsory education should be dealt flexibly.**
- MEXT will **provide support through scholarship loans, scholarships and tuition exemptions** to students whose families need financial assistance due to a sudden change in their household finances.
- **The national government will provide support to enable universities and other higher educational institutions to give careful consideration, including the postponement or exemption from payment of tuition fees,** to students facing financial hardships due to the impact of the COVID-19 crisis
- JASSO will **provide repayment assistance, including the postponement of repayment or reduction of the repayment amount,** to those facing difficulty repaying scholarship loans.
- MEXT will **request economic organizations to provide sufficient relevant information to job-hunting students and to prevent the withdrawal of employment offers** to students scheduled to graduate, and **will ask universities and other institutions to provide support to students.**



New Financial Support System for Higher Education



Scholarship loans



## Flexible support to Japanese and international overseas students

- MEXT will **exercise flexibility in the handling of scholarships, etc. for Japanese overseas students for whom it is difficult to return promptly to Japan** because of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, **for Japanese overseas students who continue to study online at the universities they studied at abroad after their return to Japan, and for international overseas students who cannot come to Japan as scheduled** to ensure that they have opportunities to learn.
- MEXT will **ease the financial burden** on Japanese students study abroad again.

In addition to the above measures, MEXT's "Guideline for the Reopening of Schools Closed due to the Novel Coronavirus" and "Guideline for the Temporary Closing of Schools due to the Novel Coronavirus" are available through this QR code.  
([https://www.mext.go.jp/a\\_menu/coronavirus/mext\\_00001.html](https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/coronavirus/mext_00001.html))



# Ensuring children's learning during the school closures

Even in emergency periods like the temporary school closings due to COVID-19, MEXT supports children's learning through a combination of home learning including online learning and interviews with teachers to support children's learning and ascertain their learning progress so as to ensure that children can continue their learning. In line with this, MEXT is rapidly moving forward with support for preparing environments that will allow children to utilize ICT to continue to study at home and elsewhere.

## Support to prevent the interruption of children's learning

- Depending on the situation of the school and students, MEXT supports home learning, such as **learning utilizing paper texts, television broadcasts, etc., learning utilizing online materials, and learning utilizing interactive online instruction.**
- ※ MEXT will soon announce that teachers are **allowed to evaluate students' learning and its results the same way as in regular classes** when students who cannot attend school learn at home by **utilizing ICT**, such as through interactive online lessons and learning with online materials.



### ✓ Learning utilizing hard copy learning materials, TV broadcasts, etc.

- For children whose families do not have Internet access, **appropriate hard copy learning materials will be provided** to them, and teachers will provide support through telephone consultations, home visits, etc.
- **TV broadcasts will be utilized**, such as NHK ETV (special editions continued until May 1).

### ✓ Learning utilizing online materials

- Enhancement of MEXT's **"Children's Learning Support Website"**
  - ※ Inclusion and updating of **tables listing videos and learning materials organized by the area and units** for each subject.
- Collaboration with METI's "Future Classroom" project

### ✓ Teaching interactively online

- Interactive online instruction utilizing smartphones or families' personal computers (e.g., using video conferencing systems).
- **Providing online materials corresponding to the contents of textbooks** so that online lessons using textbooks can be conducted smoothly.
- Maintaining **communication between school/teacher and student /family** by **confirming online learning progress and monitoring student's health**.
- **Preparation of guidelines** for using tablets provided by schools at home.
- **Support for assigning instructors or additional teachers** to assist children in self-study and learning who are cared for at schools while regular lessons are suspended.



## Primary, secondary education: Prompt preparation of ICT environment



- Provision of **"1 computer per 1 student" at the compulsory education stage ahead of scheduled target** of 2023, and support for **provision of assistive data I/O devices for students with disabilities**.
- Support for **provision of LTE communications environment (mobile routers)** for families without Wi-Fi access.
- Support for **provision of communications devices like webcams, microphones, etc. for teachers** to facilitate smooth, interactive communication between the school and students.
- Support for **enhancement of teacher ICT training** conducted by local governments, through assigning of ICT education advisors, curriculum specialists, etc.
- **Prompt implementation** of revisions to the Copyright Act in 2018 to **promote smooth utilization of copyrighted materials for online instruction**.



## Higher education: Preparation of environment for distance learning at universities

- **Full dissemination to all students of universities' ability to flexibly deal** with the authorization of credits and graduation at universities and colleges of technology through the **utilization of distance learning** and supplementary lectures.
- Full dissemination to all students that it will be **possible to take interactive distance learning classes at home** and that cap rules on credits even if some parts of regular lessons are conducted as distance lessons will not be applied.
- Support for **preparation of technical environment**, including online equipment (webcams, microphones, etc.) for teachers and mobile routers for students, necessary **for conducting distance education**. MEXT will also **compile and disseminate good examples of distance classes** and support the efforts of all universities.
- MEXT will consult with telecommunication carriers in collaboration with other relevant **ministries to reduce the communication costs for students**.
- MEXT will facilitate the **prompt implementation** of revisions to the Copyright Act in 2018 to **promote the smooth utilization of copyrighted materials for online instruction at universities, etc.**



## Securing places for children

- Communities and schools will collaborate and cooperate to **ensure that children who cannot stay at their home** while schools are temporarily closed **have a place to stay and receive learning opportunities**.





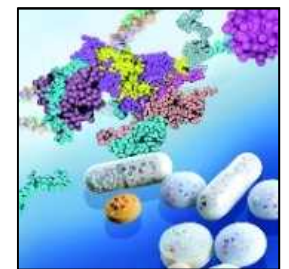
# Support to university hospitals, etc. for infectious disease research

At this time, MEXT particularly extends its gratitude to everyone involved in treating the novel coronavirus on the frontlines at hospitals and who are engaged in related research and development. The establishment and strengthening of treatment systems at frontline hospitals and the development of drug treatments and vaccines are urgent issues.

For this, MEXT will make all efforts for: 1) the strengthening of the research base and the acceleration of research for developing countermeasures against COVID-19, and 2) the strengthening of treatment systems and training at hospitals.

## Strengthening of the research base and acceleration of research related to COVID-19

- By helping to strengthen research centers for infectious diseases in the Asian region and promoting research using these centers, MEXT will contribute to the prompt development of therapeutic drugs, etc.
- In order to accelerate R&D for treatment drugs, MEXT will strengthen support platforms for drug discovery research for academia and private-sector companies.
- MEXT will support R&D for rapid testing methods that can greatly reduce the time for testing, which will contribute to the prompt detection of COVID-19 cases in Japan.
- MEXT will prioritize the authorization of procedures requiring the MEXT Minister's confirmation based on the Cartagena Act necessary for the conducting of genetic recombination experiments.
- MEXT will promote research by moving up the schedule for the trial use of the supercomputer Fugaku, and putting up for temporary offering the utilization of the computational resources of university and NIER supercomputers.
- MEXT will promote the acceleration of research by supporting the preparation of research infrastructure facilities at national universities for research showing prospects for the development of vaccines, the establishment of new testing methods, etc.
- MEXT will open a portal site for researchers and others providing information regarding important points for infectious disease research, research results in conjunction with MEXT, research equipment at research institutes that may be used by those engaged in research activities, etc. ([https://www.mext.go.jp/a\\_menu/coronavirus/mext\\_00004.html](https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/coronavirus/mext_00004.html))



## Strengthening of treatment systems and personnel training at university hospitals

- Without being bound by conventional schemes (subsidy rate: 10/10), in order to overcome the little understood COVID-19, MEXT will support the provision of medical equipment such as ECMO ventilators to national, public, and private university hospitals, and the training of advanced medical personnel.
- MEXT will support the installation of ventilators, sterilizing equipment, etc. at national university hospitals, which are centers for regional healthcare, and the training of advanced medical personnel engaged in infectious disease healthcare.

# Support for sports, cultural activities

(※Underlined measures are included in MEXT's FY2020 supplementary budget.)

MEXT again expresses its gratitude to organizations taking the lead in cooperating to follow the restrictions on sports and cultural events requested by the Government. At the same, we are aware that, with these restrictions, the suspensions have had a great impact on freelance workers and others engaged in these activities.

In response to persons greatly affected by the Government's suspension request, the Government, with the cooperation of all relevant ministries and agencies, will make unified efforts to support individuals and organizations that have suffered damage to their business operations and daily lives as a result of the suspension of events and performances, to assist in anti-coronavirus measures for the reopening of sports and cultural facilities and the resumption of events, performances, etc. and to support the resurgence of interest and enthusiasm for sports and cultural activities.

## Support to sports-affiliated persons

◆ : Efforts by whole govt. ○ : Efforts by MEXT, Japan Sports Agency

### Society again realizes the value of sports

#### STEP. 3 Support for resurgence of interest in, enthusiasm for sports

- Support for advertising/PR expenses to secure stable, continuing fan base for sports events
- Expenses support for holding exchange events, sports events for revitalization of local community/region
- ◆ Holding of fixed-period, **public-private campaigns to encourage consumption** targeting sports events and entertainment programs (**providing discounts, point coupons to consumers who purchase tickets for sports/entertainment events**)
- Publicizing/implementation of plans for creation of exercise/sports opportunities to alleviate problem of children's lack of exercise due to cancellation of sports events, closing of schools

#### STEP. 2 Support for reopening in safe, secure environments

- Expenses support for measures (thermometers, disinfectants, etc.) to prevent spread of coronavirus at sports events
- Refurbishment of public sports facilities with installation of ventilating fans, air conditioning, etc.
- Improvement of air conditioning system to prevent infection and strengthening of counseling system for the top athletes in order to use the Japan High Performance Sport Center safely

#### STEP. 1 Support for maintenance of employment, continuation of operations

- Presentation to sports organizations of government's overall support package to sports bodies, individuals
  - ◆ **Increase of emergency loans, loan guarantees** by Japan Finance Corp., etc.
  - ◆ **Large expansion of special measures for Employment Adjustment Subsidies**
  - ◆ **Emergency special small-scale loans, etc.**
- ◆ **Establishment of new system of subsidies** for SMEs, individual proprietors and households facing distressed business operations and livelihoods
- Tax revision allowing refund amount for cancelled tickets to be deducted as contribution

## Support to artists, others involved in cultural activities

(※Underlined measures in red are included in MEXT's FY2020 supplementary budget.)

### Actions through provision of loans, subsidies (by entire govt.)

- ▶ **Expansion of loans, loan guarantees** through Japan Finance Corp., etc.
- ▶ **Expansion of special measures** for Employment Adjustment Subsidies
- ▶ **Expansion of small-scale loans**
- ▶ **Support to SMEs, individual proprietors** facing distressed business operations

- ▶ New benefits for households facing hardships in daily life (**Temporary Benefits for Daily Life Support [tentative title]**)

※ Information will be provided to artists, etc. regarding what specific support systems they can utilize, based on their individual needs.  
※ Govt. will cooperate to base support on special characteristics of needs of artists and a wide range of culture-related businesses.

▶ Initiatives in cooperation with other ministries, agencies

- ▶ **Providing discounts, point coupons** to consumers who purchase tickets for sports/entertainment events held over fixed period (**in collaboration with METI**).

### Measures related to cancellation fees borne by cultural facilities

MEXT will request that local governments appropriately manage cultural facilities introducing the designated administrator system that have lost revenues due to cancellations caused by the measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

### Revision of tax system to allow ticket buyers to waive the right for a ticket refund and declare the refund amount a tax deduction for a contribution

If persons who have purchased admission fees to cancelled cultural or artistic events waive the right for a refund, **the refund amount can be considered a deduction for a contribution.**

### Support for reopening cultural facilities

**Support for introduction of time-stagger system for people visiting cultural facilities as a measure to ease congestion and prevent spread of COVID-19.**

### Improvement of viewing environment using advanced technology (enhancing cultural facilities' profitability)

Through support for the production and distribution of videos, educational contents, and so on, museums will **improve their viewing environments, enhance their profitability, and build interdisciplinary collaboration models.**

### Art Caravans

**Art caravans hold performances and exhibitions throughout the country by artists,** including freelance artists, and **performing arts groups,** including students and amateurs.

### Creating opportunities for children to appreciate and experience art and culture

MEXT will support **cultural appreciation classes** forced to be suspended with the closure of schools and **activities for children to experience cultural activities.**

Self-restraint period

Reopening period

Come-back period





## Support for reopening schools

<p><b>Anti-COVID-19 measures</b></p>	<p>(Overall, other than below) Health Education and Shokuiku Division, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau (ext.2976)</p> <p>(Kindergarten) Early Childhood Education Division, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau (ext.2373)</p> <p>(School bus for special needs education schools) Special Needs Education Division, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau (ext.2430)</p> <p>(School facilities) (Public schools) Department of Facilities Planning and Disaster Prevention Local Facilities Aid Division (ext.3769)</p> <p>(National schools) Department of Facilities Planning and Disaster Prevention National Facilities Division (ext.2299)</p> <p>(Private schools) Private Education Institution Aid Division, Private Education Institution Department (ext.2774)</p>
<p><b>Learning guidance, mental health care, etc.</b></p>	<p>(Additional assignment of instructors) Financial Affairs Division, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau (ext.3704)</p> <p>(Additional assignment ) Financial Affairs Division, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau (ext.2038)</p> <p>(School counselors, etc.) Student Affairs Division, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau (ext.3289)</p>
<p><b>Experiential activities for children</b></p>	<p>(Nature experience activities) Community Learning Promotion Division, Education Policy Bureau (ext.2056)</p> <p>(Creating sports opportunities) Sports for Health Division (ext.3939)</p> <p>(Creating cultural appreciation/experience activities) Arts and Culture Division (ext.2835)</p>
<p><b>Cancellation, postponement of school trips, measures regarding suspension of school lunches</b></p>	<p>(Domestic school trips) Student Affairs Division, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau (ext.2389)</p> <p>(Overseas school trips) Education Reform and International Affairs Division, Education Policy Bureau (ext.3487)</p> <p>(School lunches) Health Education and Shokuiku Division, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau (ext.2694)</p>
<p><b>Support to students in hardship situations</b></p>	<p>(Support to high school students whose family finances suddenly change, support for school attendance in compulsory education) the Project Team for Financial Support in Elementary and Secondary Education, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau (ext.3578)</p> <p>(New Higher Education Support System, JASSO scholarships, employment assistance) Student Support and Exchange Division, Higher Education Bureau (ext.3050)</p> <p>(Tuition exemption) [National university] National University Corporation Support Division, Higher Education Bureau (ext.2494) [Private university] Private Education Institution Aid Division, Private Education Institution Department (ext.2545) [Private high school] Private Education Institution Aid Division, Private Education Institution Department (ext.2547) [Colleges of technology] Technical Education Division, Higher Education Bureau (ext.2501)</p>
<p><b>Flexible support to Japanese overseas students, international students in Japan</b></p>	<p>Office for Student Exchange, Student Support and Exchange Division, Higher Education Bureau (ext.3433)</p>

## “Ensuring learning” for children during school closures

<b>Support to ensure children do not stop learning</b>	<p>(Overall, other than below) Media, Information and Foreign Language Education Division, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau (ext.2085)</p> <p>(Learning using ICT for children who cannot attend school) (School Curriculum Division, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau (ext.2367)</p> <p>(Assignment of instructors) Financial Affairs Division, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau (ext.3704)</p> <p>(Additional allotment of teachers) Financial Affairs Division, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau (ext.2038)</p>
<b>Primary, secondary education: Prompt preparation of ICT environment</b>	<p>(Overall, other than below) Media, Information and Foreign Language Education Division, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau (ext.2085)</p> <p>(Preparation of assistive ICT support devices for children with disabilities) Special Needs Education Division, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau (ext.3255)</p> <p>(Facilitation of utilization of copyrighted material for online education) Copyright Division (ext.2982)</p>
<b>Higher education: Preparation of distance learning environment at universities, etc.</b>	<p>(Overall, other than below) Technical Education Division, Higher Education Bureau (ext.2501)</p> <p>(Distance learning system) University Promotion Division, Higher Education Bureau (ext.3338)</p> <p>(Facilitation of utilization of copyrighted material for university distance learning classes) Copyright Division (ext.2982)</p>
<b>Securing places for children</b>	Community Learning Promotion Division, Education Policy Bureau (ext.3261)

## Support to university hospitals, etc. for infectious disease research

<b>Strengthening research infrastructure, accelerating research regarding COVID-19</b>	<p>(Accelerating research regarding COVID-19) Policy Division, Science and Technology Policy Bureau (ext.3907)</p> <p>Promotion Policy Division, Research Promotion Bureau (ext.4229)</p> <p>(Preparation of basic research facilities at national universities) National University Corporation Support Division, Higher Education Bureau (ext.3083)</p>
<b>Strengthening treatment system, personnel training at university hospitals</b>	Medical Education Division, Higher Education Bureau (ext.2578)

## Support for sports, cultural activities

<b>Support to sports-related persons</b>	<p><b>Step.1 Support for maintenance of employment, continuation of businesses</b></p> <p>(Overall govt. support to organizations, individuals) Contact numbers for information on measures by relevant ministries, agencies are provided on the website below. <a href="https://www.mext.go.jp/content/20200401-mxt_kouhou02-000004520_02.pdf">https://www.mext.go.jp/content/20200401-mxt_kouhou02-000004520_02.pdf</a></p> <p>(Regarding tax revision for waiving ticket refund and deducting refund amount as contribution)</p> <p>[Tickets for sporting events] Sports Organizations Support and Private-Sector Cooperation Division (ext.2686)</p> <p>[Event participation fee] Sports for Health Division (ext.2688)</p> <p>※After the “New Subsidy/Grant System” is established, the contact number will be provided on the JSA’s website.</p>
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## Support for sports, cultural activities (cont'd)

### Support to sports-related persons

#### Step.2 Support for reopening in safe and secure environment

(Support for expenses to prevent spread of COVID-19 at sports events)

[Organizers of nationwide leagues, events] Sports Organizations Support and Private-Sector Cooperation Division (ext.3943)

[Regional sports commissions] Community Development Division (ext.3931)

[Para-sports associations] Sports for Health Division (ext.3490)

(Refurbishment of public sports facilities) Community Development Division (ext.3934)

(Measures for preventing COVID-19 at the Japan High Performance Sport Center) Competitive Sports Division (ext.2678)

#### Step.3 Support for rejuvenating interest, enthusiasm in sports

(Support for costs of publicizing sports events)

Same as Step 2 "Support for expenses to prevent spread of COVID-19 at sports events"

(Support for expenses to hold regional revitalization/exchange events) Community Development Division (ext.3931)

(Creation of sports events for children) Sports for Health Division (ext.3939)

※After the public-private "Go to Campaign" for stimulating consumption targeting sporting and entertainment events" is established, the contact number will be provided on the JSA's website.

### Support to culture- and arts-related persons

(Measures to mitigate revenue loss from cancellation charges borne by cultural facilities introducing the designated administrator system)

Planning and Coordination Division (ext.4833)

(Support for reopening of cultural facilities) Planning and Coordination Division (ext.3056)

(Improvement of viewing environment through utilization of advanced technology)

[Museums] Planning and Coordination Division (ext.3056)

[Cultural and arts organizations ] Arts and Culture Division (ext.2084)

(Art caravans) Arts and Culture Division (ext.2084)

(Creation of cultural appreciation and experience opportunities for children) Arts and Culture Division (ext.2835)

(Tax revision for waiving ticket refund and deducting the refund amount as a contribution) Cultural Economy and International Affairs Division (ext.4764)

※Please see the ACA's website for information on measures by relevant ministries, agencies. Information is scheduled to be updated as measures are enhanced. [https://www.bunka.go.jp/koho\\_hodo\\_oshirase/sonota\\_oshirase/2020020601.html](https://www.bunka.go.jp/koho_hodo_oshirase/sonota_oshirase/2020020601.html)