

(Program implementation period: FY2015-FY2017)

Starting April 2015

- Insurance premiums have been further lowered for low-income earners (partially implemented). Premiums have been reduced for low-income earners. The maximum reduction on standard premiums for Level 1 individuals is 0.45 percent. In addition, the number of premium levels according to income level premiums has been increased from six to nine.
- Eligibility criteria for long-term care provider social welfare facilities have changed. New applicants to long-term care provider social welfare facilities (special nursing homes for the elderly) must be certified at long-term care need level of 3 or greater.

Starting August 2015

- Premiums have changed for users with a certain level of income or greater. The co-payment for users with a certain level of income or greater is 20%.
- Users are issued a long-term care insurance certificate indicating their co-payment. The municipality issues the user a long-term care certificate (indicating their co-payment of either 10% or 20%).
- Changes will be made to some conditions applying food and living expense reductions. If the spouse of a low-income earner user has income subject to resident tax taxation, or if their savings is higher than a specified amount, the individual will not be eligible for food and living expense reductions.
- Some changes will be made to ceilings on some high-cost long-term care services. Household payments will be raised for individuals with incomes comparable to working persons in medical insurance.

Starting April 2016

- Small-scaleday care services will be shifted to community-oriented services (as of April 2016). Small-scale day care services with a capacity of 18 will be shifted to community-oriented services.

Starting April 2017

- Greater insurance premium reductions for low-income earners will be fully applied. If the standard user payment is subjected to the maximum reduction, Level 1 are responsible for a co-pay of 30%, Level 2 for a 50% co-pay, and Level 3 for a 70% co-pay.

**The program will start at different times depending on the municipality.**

- Changes will be made to some services for those certified as support need level of 1 or 2. Those certified as support need level of 1 or 2 receiving visiting care for long-term care prevention and day care for long-term care prevention will be provided with Long-term care need prevention and comprehensive daily living support program instead. This shift will result in a diverse variety of services offered in each locality. (The program will start at different times. Depending on the municipality, it could be anywhere from FY2015 to FY2017.)

Structure of the Long-Term Care Insurance System	.....	3
Long-Term Care Insurance System Procedure	.....	5
Services Available	.....	7
• Preparation of care plan	.....	7
• Services given at home	.....	7
• Services given at a facility, etc.	.....	9
• Service given at a facility	.....	1 1
• Other services	.....	1 3
Long-term Care Saervice Costs to Be Paid by the User	.....	1 5
Measures to reduce the payment by the user	.....	1 5
Community Support Service	.....	1 7
• Community Support Service		
• Comprehensive community support center		
• Long-term Care Need Prevention and Comprehensive Daily Living Support Program		
Long-Term Care Insurance Premiums	.....	1 9
How to Choose a Long-term Care Service Provider	.....	2 2
• Long-term Care Information Publication System		
• Evaluation conducted by Assigned Evaluation Institution		
Contact points	.....	2 3