### Hyogo Prefecture Partnership System Starting April 1, 2024

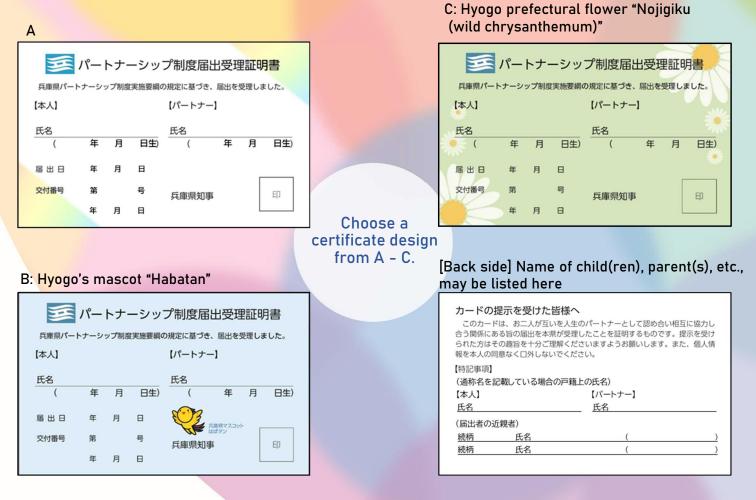
# What is the Hyogo Prefecture Partnership System?

- This system is designed for two people who recognize each other as life partners to notify the prefectural government of their commitment to continuously cooperate with each other in their daily lives and for the prefectural government to certify that the notification has been accepted by issuing a Certificate of Acceptance.
- It aims to help solve daily problems and concerns of same-sex couples whose marriages are not legally recognized in Japan and common-law couples who have not registered their marriages for various reasons and to create an environment where everyone can live in peace and security in cooperation with their life partners.

\*Unlike legal marriage, this system has no legal effect and benefits such as inheritance, tax deductions, etc. will not be granted to couples.

### Examples of daily problems and concerns

- When your partner or their child (parent) is hospitalized, you are denied permission to see them or be informed of their condition. You are also denied to perform their emergency hospitalization procedures or accompany them.
- You cannot move into public housing with your partner, who is not a legal relative of yours.
- You are denied permission to visit or accompany your partner's parent in a nursing home or other facility.
- You feel that your relationship with your partner is not accepted or rejected by the community.
- When you drop off or pick up your partner's child at daycare or attend events with the child, people do not understand your relationship with the child.



\*Upon request, the names of the child(ren), parent(s), and others who share the same household finances may be listed on the Certificate of Acceptance.

#### Eligibility

- (1) Both individuals must be legal adults (18 years of age or older).
- (2) One or both individuals must be a resident of Hyogo Prefecture or be planning to move in.
- (3) Neither individual has a spouse under the Civil Code.
- (4) Neither individual is in a partnership relationship with any other individuals.
- (5) The two individuals are not close relatives, between whom the Civil Code prohibits marriage (excluding cases of adoption based on partnership relationship).

\*All nationalities are eligible.

\*All genders, sexual orientations, and gender identities are eligible. This system is intended for samesex couples and heterosexual couples who have not registered their marriage.

## How to use this system: Please submit the designated notification form along with items (1) through (4).

[Required documents]

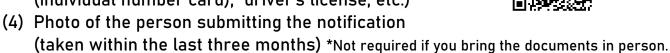
- (1) Document confirming your address (copy of resident record, certificate of items stated in resident record, etc.)
- (2) Document confirming that you are not married (abridged copy of family register, single certificate, etc.)
- (3) Document confirming your identity ("My Number Card (individual number card)," driver's license, etc.)

Please scan here for more information.

Documents may be

by mail, or in person.

submitted electronically,



\*If you wish to include the name of child(ren), parent(s), etc., or use your common name on the certificate, additional documentation is required.

By presenting the Certificate of services are also available. Acceptance, administrative services (moving into public housing, visits to public hospitals, etc.) will be more readily available. Some private

Please refer to the Hyogo Prefecture website for details.

Hyogo Prefecture Partnership System (兵庫県パートナーシップ制度)

Professional staff from sexual minority support groups are available to provide counseling on matters such as sexual orientation, gender identity, and SOGIE harassment.



18:00 to 21:00 on Saturdays (excluding year-end and New Year holidays)

(Consultation is free of charge, but callers are responsible for call charges.) time

## Contact information

Hyogo Prefecture LGB1

5-10-1 Shimoyamate-dori, Chuo-ku, Kobe 650-8567 Human Rights Promotion Office, General Affairs Division, Community & Civic Engagement Department, Hyogo Prefecture Telephone: 078-362-9135; Email: jinken@pref.hyogo.lg.jp

Date

and