

Reserving Public Facilities Online By KARLEE KEYSER April 2016

Have you ever wanted to make a special meal for friends or an event, only to remember that you don't have an oven at home? What about a secret desire to see what it's like to be in a band? Maybe you just want to have a meeting place away from home, where you can talk or do activities with people in your social circle? Hiroshima City public facilities may be the answer! I recently learned about the Hiroshima Public Facilities Reservation System, which makes it easy for regular citizens to reserve and/or check the availability of public facilities – online! Here's a list of facilities included in this system:

Online Reservations & Availability Check	Online Availability Check Only
Community Centers (kouminkan)	Ward Sports Centers & Yuki Gymnasium
Hiroshima City Youth Center	JMS Aster Plaza & Ward Cultural Centers
Yui Port (Gender Equality Center)	Youthtopia (Working Youth Home)
GOJINSHA Wendy Hito-Machi Plaza	and more!

The one thing to remember: You can't start reserving facilities on a whim. Though you don't need to log in just to see different facilities' availability, you *do* need to log in if you actually plan to reserve them online. This means that you need an account number and a password, which you can receive by following Step 1, below. Do all this and you can enjoy making convenient, online reservations of city facilities!

Reservation Process		
Step 1	Register for an Account	
	First, fill out and submit a hardcopy application form to your local ward office's	
	help desk (<i>madoguchi</i> , 葱口), from whom you'll receive your account number	
	and password. (Skip this step if you are only interested in checking facility	
	availability.)	
Step 2	Check Facility Availability	
	Second, check facility availability by accessing the Public Facilities Reservation	
	System website (<u>https://yoyaku.e-harp.jp/hiroshima</u>) and clicking 空き施設検索.	
	From here, you can enter search criteria such as facility name, geographic area,	
	type of activity (e.g. sports and cultural activities), date, and time.	
Step 3	Submit Your Reservation	
	Third, submit a reservation request to a facility. Depending on the facility and	
	your desired reservation date, the facility's calendar may indicate that	
	reservations are by phone only ($(\begin{smallmatrix} e)$), or can be made over the internet ($igodot$). Note	
	that internet reservations are subject to the approval of each respective facility.	
Step 4	Submit Necessary Forms/Fees (When Applicable)	
	Lastly, fill out any forms or fees specific to your reserved facility (please ask	
	your desired facility about this step).	