

At a glance information

Fire Fighting Mutual Aid Fund

*Relief and safety support network
for people who protect lives!*



Protect volunteer firefighters and their family members

Introduction

The Mutual Aid Fund for Official Casualties and Retirement of Volunteer Firefighters (hereinafter called the Fire Fighting Mutual Aid Fund) was established in 1956 as an organization implementing the mutual aid system throughout Japan for smooth execution of municipal-level compensation programs for volunteer firefighters and other associated members. In 1964, a mutual aid system for retirement benefits for volunteer firefighters was added to the duties. In fiscal year 1997, the organization was privatized by removing the institutional monopoly of the operations and reorganized due to minimization of the government involvement, which resulted in further revitalization of the management and promotion of efficient service performances.

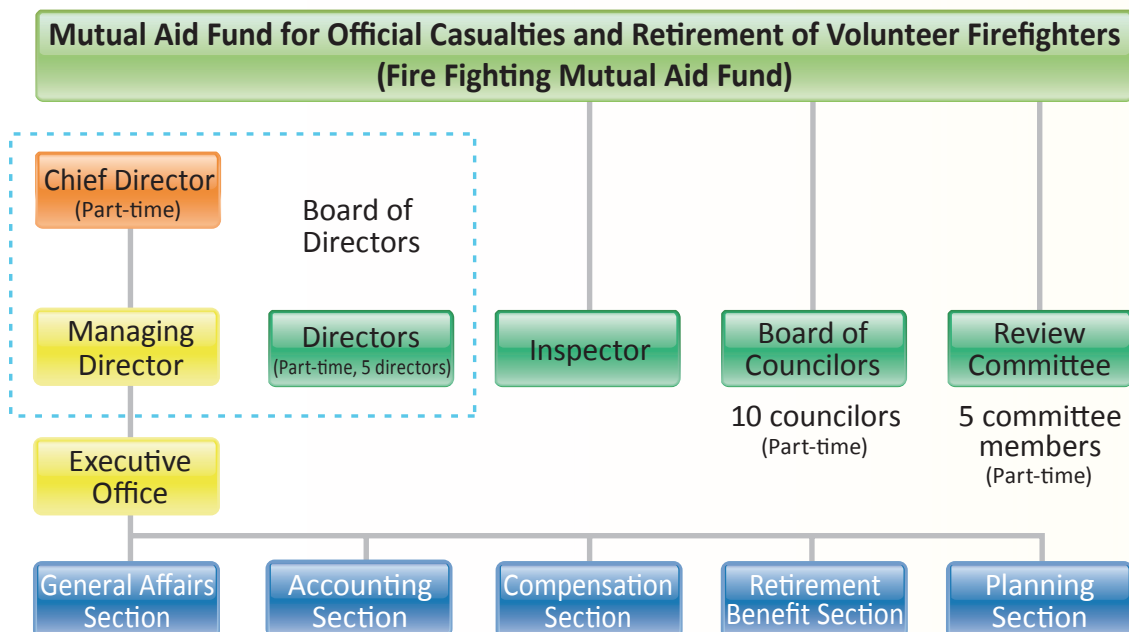
The Fire Fighting Mutual Aid Fund is not intended to make profit, and, since its foundation, compensation and retirement benefit operations are maintained, supported by proper installments to make sure the same level of services are provided to all places in Japan. This Fund has been providing smooth implementation of compensation and retirement benefit payments for volunteer firefighters working in all municipalities in Japan.

Allocation of the Fire Fighting Mutual Aid Fund

The Fire Fighting Mutual Aid Fund makes contracts with municipalities in accordance with the law and pays expenditures required for compensation or retirement benefit payments executed by municipalities.

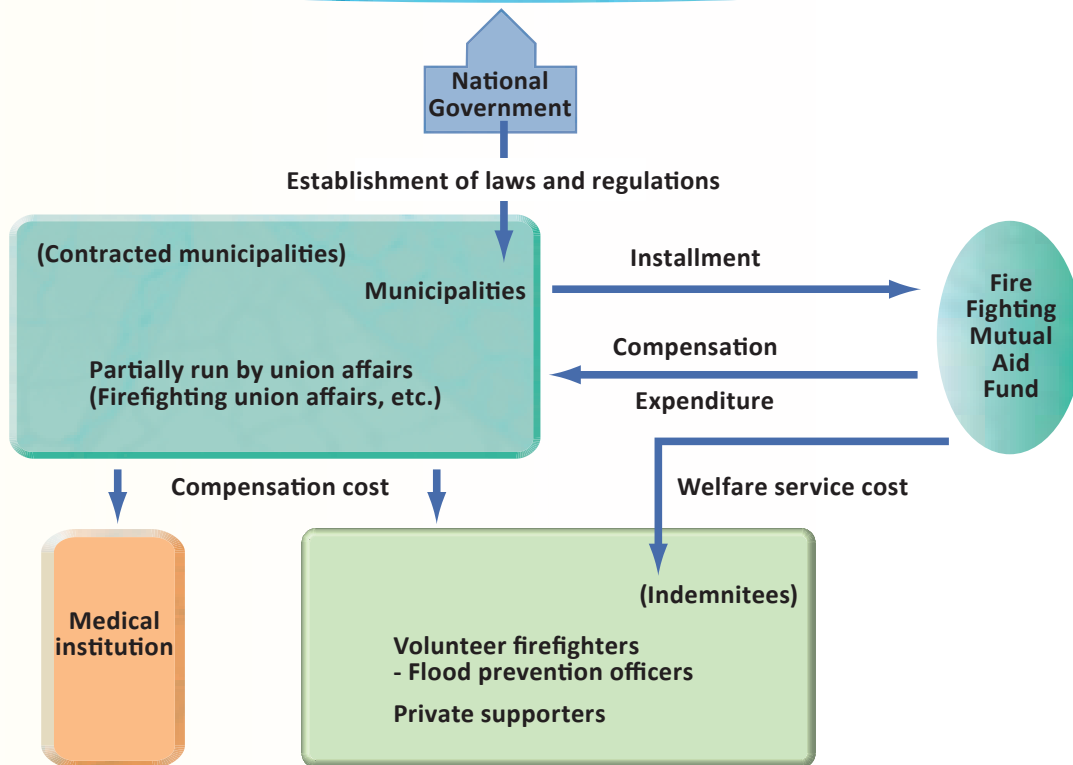
Additionally, the Fire Fighting Mutual Aid Fund executes services that are necessary for providing welfare services for victimized volunteer firefighters or bereaved families on behalf of municipalities, as well as services required for preventing official duty-related accidents.

● Organization Chart

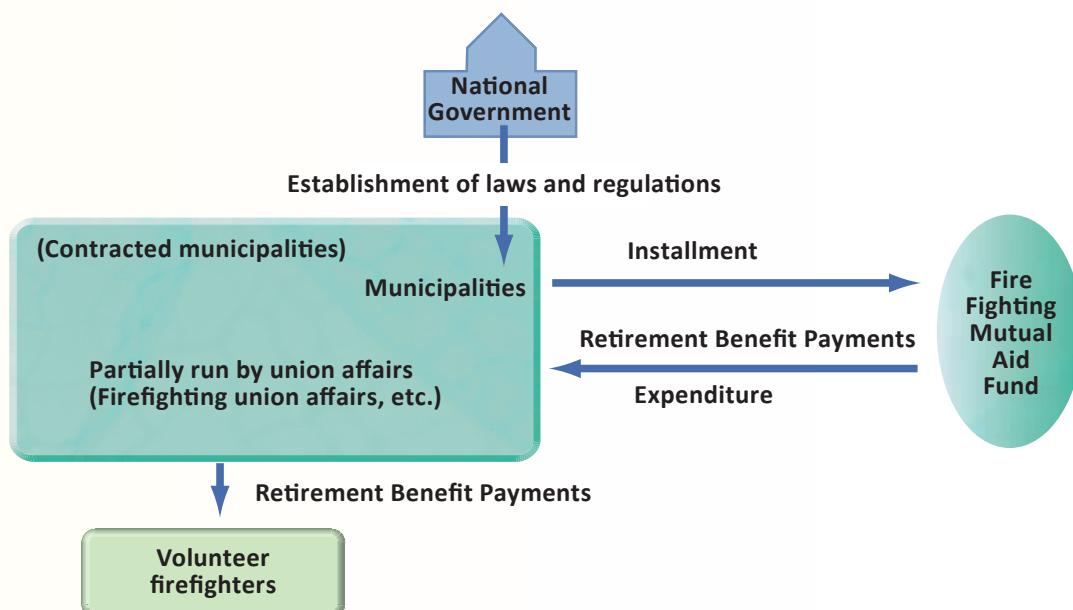


Flow chart for the two major networks of the Fire Fighting Mutual Aid Fund that support safety and welfare of volunteer firefighters

Mechanism of the Mutual Aid Fund for Official Casualties of Volunteer Firefighters



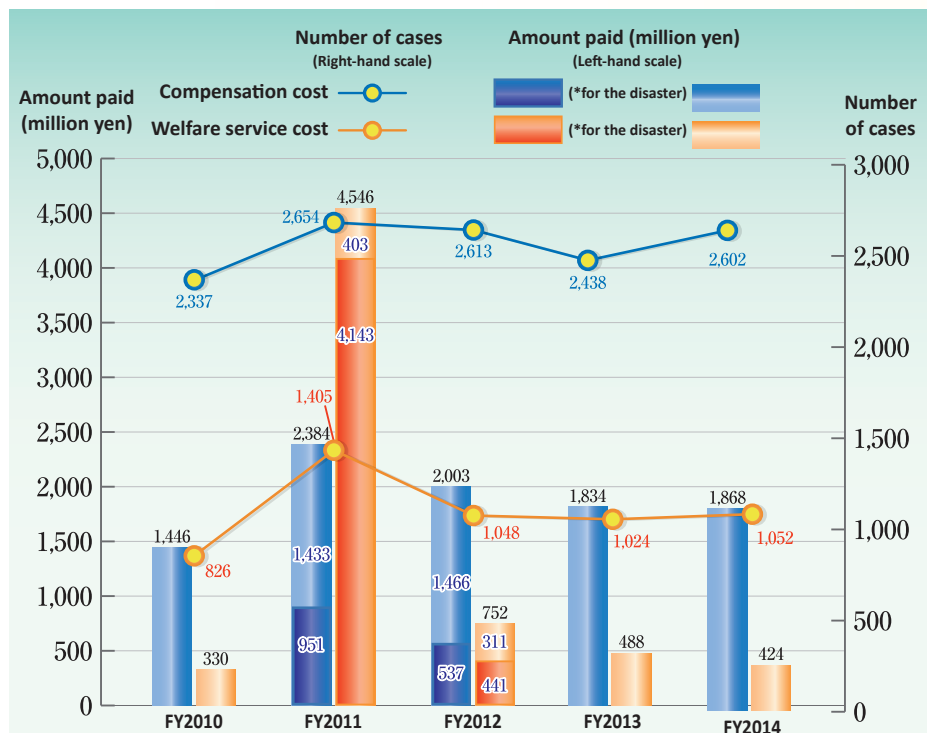
Mechanism of the Mutual Aid Fund for Retirement of Volunteer Firefighters



Provide expenditures required for compensation for accidents occurring during official duties

When injury, illness or death occurs during the performance of the official duties of a volunteer firefighter, the amount required for the compensation is paid to the municipality that initiates the compensation. Additionally, on behalf of the municipality, various types of payments required for providing welfare services are paid to a victimized volunteer firefighter or his/her bereaved family.

Amounts of compensation/welfare services spent in last five years



*For FY2011 and FY2012 data, the amounts paid were calculated by separating those used for disaster-related compensation and those used for compensation unrelated to disaster.

Immediate transactions at the time of the Great East Japan Earthquake

Immediately after the Great East Japan Earthquake occurred on March 11, 2011, many volunteer firefighters were deployed and provided selfless support. Unprecedented number of volunteer firefighters were killed by the large tsunami during the activities, especially when closing sluice gates or performing evacuation guidance. The Fire Fighting Mutual Aid Fund immediately processed the transactions for payments for the official casualty compensation to the bereaved families of the 198 volunteer firefighters.



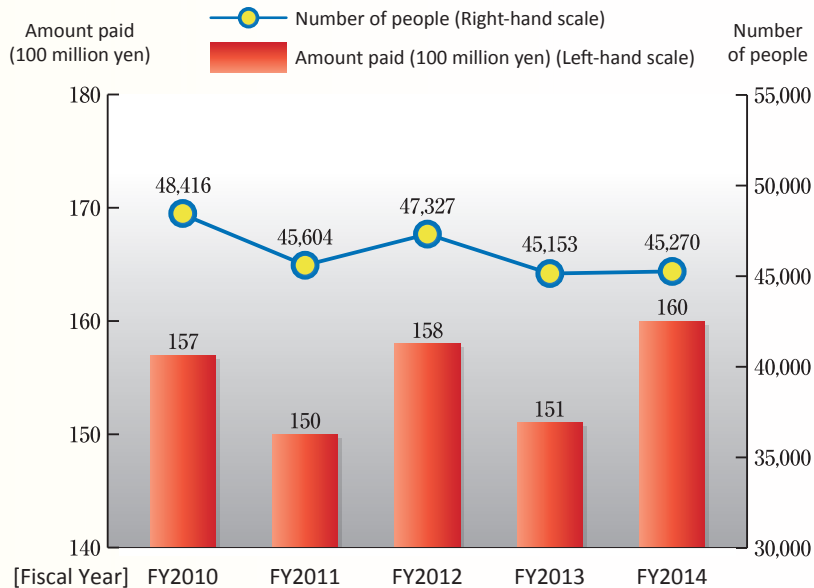
Firefighters performing search operations
(Left-Sendai City Wakabayashi volunteer firefighters, Right-Iwate Otsuchi Town volunteer firefighters)

Provide expenditures required for retirement benefit payments

The retirement benefit is a monetary reward to be paid by municipalities for volunteer firefighters who have provided long years of services, at the time of retirement.

In accordance with the law, the Fire Fighting Mutual Aid Fund pays the amount required for the retirement benefit to the contracted municipalities. The amount is calculated based on the relevant ordinance and was significantly increased in fiscal year 2014.

Amounts spent in last five years



Provide information

The Fire Fighting Mutual Aid Fund issues publications such as public relation brochures (seasonal issuance) and provides training opportunities for the responsible personnel from prefectures and municipalities to ensure smooth execution of the operations.

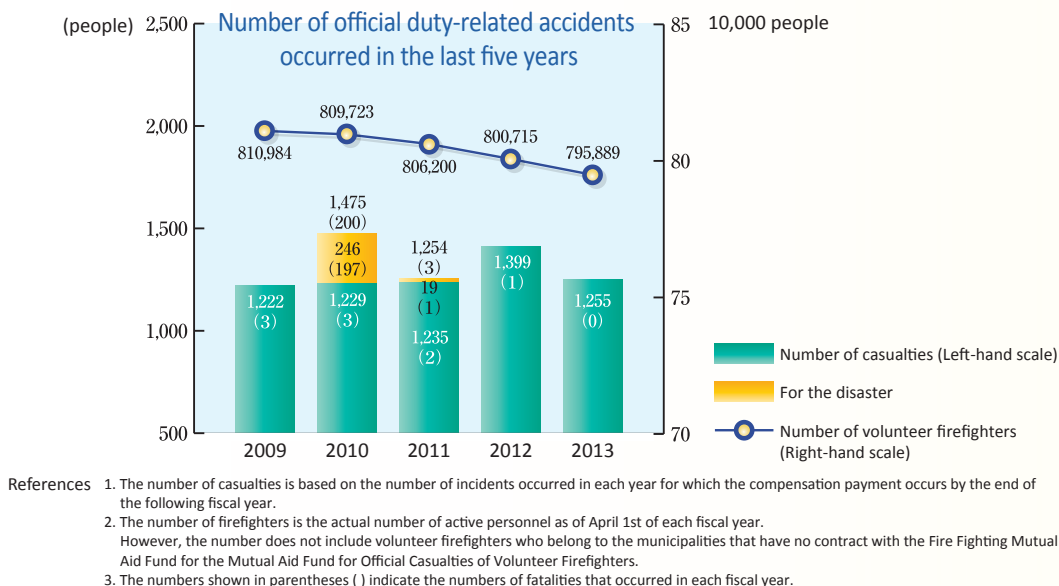


▲ Administrative operation briefing

For more details pertaining to the Fire Fighting Mutual Aid Fund, please visit our website (<http://www.syouboukikin.jp/>)

Support prevention of official duty-related accidents

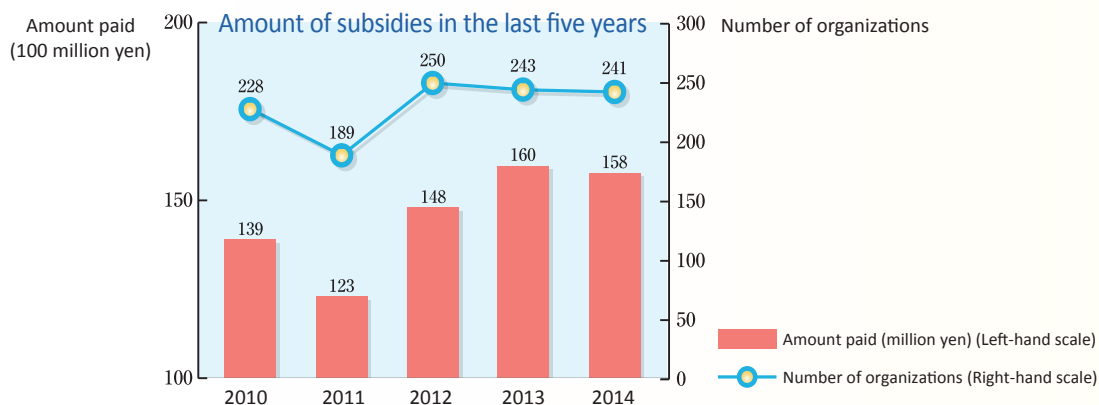
In an average year, more than 1,300 official duty-related accidents of volunteer fire fighters occur. Additionally, a total of nine volunteer firefighters have died on duty in the last five years, excluding those who were killed by the Great East Japan Earthquake.



The Fire Fighting Mutual Aid Fund provides proactive support for municipalities and other agencies that are seeking training opportunities for preventing official duty-related accidents or for safety equipment procurement to protect volunteer firefighters from accidents before they happen.

(1) Subsidy services for safety equipment procurement for firefighters, etc.

Subsidies are provided to municipalities that pursue procurement of safety equipment that is required for activities performed by volunteer firefighters.



Examples of subsidy services



Lighting equipment



Fireproof clothing



Life jacket



Cold weather clothing

(2) Official duty-related accident prevention training services for volunteer firefighters

For the purpose of protecting volunteer firefighters from official duty-related accidents, the Fire Fighting Mutual Aid Fund provides support for subsidy allocations to municipalities that implement the following four types of services to enhance safety and health-related training programs.

Volunteer firefighter safety management seminar

This seminar is intended to train volunteer firefighters for them to deepen the understanding of safety and health management.

S-KYT (risk prediction training for volunteer firefighters) training

This training is intended to train volunteer firefighters for them to obtain methods to develop abilities to predict risks associated with firefighting activities and take proper actions against the risks.

Health promotion seminar for volunteer firefighters

This seminar is intended to train volunteer firefighters for them to learn physical exercises that are useful for health management and health promotion to prevent official duty-related accident caused by physical and mental disease.

Disaster rescue stress management training for volunteer firefighters

This training is intended to train volunteer firefighters for them to learn how to manage disaster-related stress that could have built up during disaster rescue activities.

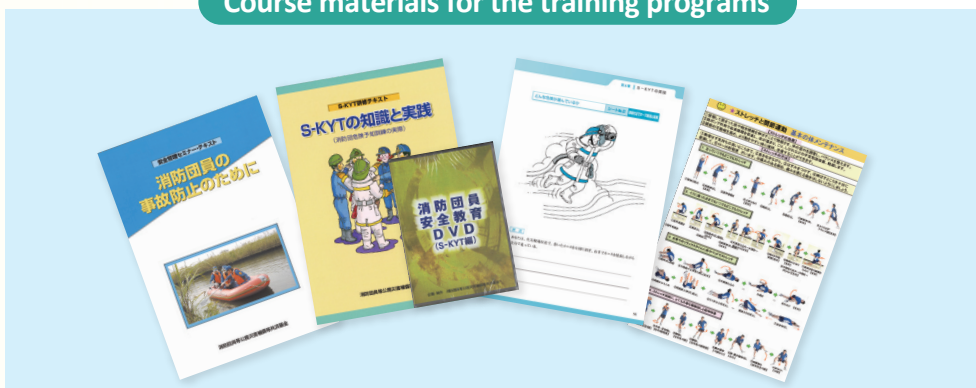
S-KYT training



Health promotion seminar



Course materials for the training programs



(3) Official duty-related accident prevention investigation and research project

The Fire Fighting Mutual Aid Fund performs investigations and research required as countermeasures against official duty-related accidents that might be caused as a result of volunteer firefighters' operations.



Just in case for unexpected casualties

**Mutual Aid Fund for Official Casualties
and Retirement of Volunteer Firefighters**

TEL 03-3595-0541

FAX 03-3581-7720

Nissho Hall 8F, 2-9-16 Toranomon,
Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0001

<http://www.syouboukikin.jp>

Email webmaster@syouboukikin.jp

