

Let's consider about Minimum Wage

The minimum wage which a company must pay to workers per one hour, is specified in each prefecture. **In Saitama, it is specified to be 802 yen per hour.**

In Japan, minimum wage per one hour differs in each prefecture but not many people knows it. Let's think about your wage.

Every company should obey this rule no matter even if you are a part-time worker or an official staff. It does not matter if you are Japanese or foreigners. To know if your wage is higher or not than that specified by the law, just divide the wage by the work hour. If monthly wage is 180000 yen, worked for 20 days, and worked hour per one day is 8 hours, wage per one hour is 1125 yen. However, in this case, monthly wage means base rate including other benefits. (Bonus, special wages, commutation allowance, dependent family allowance and wages for overtime work are not included.)

When you are working as temporary employee dispatched from an employment agency, the minimum wage specified at the area where the company you are dispatched is applied, not the area where the employment agency exists. For example, when an employment agency is in Saitama and dispatched to the company in Tokyo, the minimum wage specified in Tokyo is applied. The minimum wage in Tokyo is 888 yen per one hour. It is a bit higher than that in Saitama.

If the wage was lower than the specified minimum wage, the employer should pay the difference amount of the minimum wage and the actually paid wage. Even if there was an agreement between the employer and the worker, it is ineffective legally.

However, as the employer is in a stronger position than the workers actually, it may be difficult to appeal directly to the employer about the problem of wage. If your wage is suppressed lower unfairly at your workplace, you can consult with your local Labor Standard Inspection Office. However, as the Labor Standard Inspection Office will just treat you and your employer fairly, the office will not always be on your side.

If there is a trade union to consult with nearby, (even there is no trade union in your company, there is a trade union you can participate in by yourself) may be you can join it and ask to help you to negotiate with your company. In either case, data of your work hour and the wages you received is necessary for consultation. You should keep all the pay advice so that you can use it whenever it is necessary. A simple note can work in some cases.

Explanation: Miho FUJIBAYASHI, administrative scrivener



Branch office of Fujimi-shi Furusato Hello Work, which is very convenient to find work, is open near Tsuruse Station



In January 7 2013, branch office Fujimi-shi Furusato Hello Work is opened. This office is operated by Fujimi-shi and Hello Work Kawagoe jointly. As it is near the station, many job seekers are gathering here.

If you want to find work, take a card at the reception window to lend a touch-panel type PC to search a desired job. Then go to the PC, which number is written on the card, to search a desired job.

When you find a desired job, bring the data to a staff member for consultation. In some cases you have to wait a little, as there are many job searching persons recently. However, this touch panel PC is only in Japanese so you'd better come with a person to help you in Japanese if you are not good in Japanese. The office is open from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

- West exit of Tsuruse station, Sunlight Hall (Building next to Tsuruse station)

Remember #7000, an emergency number

#8000 is the emergency phone number for children in Saitama. #7000 is the emergency phone number for adult, newly established in Saitama. You can consult with nurse. It can be used when you don't know if you should go to hospital or not. Phone no: #7000

Dial line, IP phone, PHS: 048-824-4199

Consult time: 6:30 pm to 10:30 pm (everyday)



Keep the newly made Emergency Card always with you



You can use the Emergency Card when you cannot speak Japanese well but a huge disaster happened and require prompt action to ask any help to

Japanese. As the card says to ask help in anyway, when you show this card to a Japanese, you can ask someone to make a phone call you want to, for example.

Chinese, English, French, Korea, Nepalese, Portuguese, Tagalog, Spanish, Thai, Vietnam version along with Japanese is available. It will be placed in local city halls in Saitama, university, hospital, police station, church and restaurants.

Please keep this card with you in case of emergency.

Information Fujimino will be issued every two months since this number