



Did you know that you can receive a lump-sum pension refund?

When you have to return to your homeland, you can apply for the Lump-sum Withdrawal Payments.

A character of Japanese pension system is the universal pension coverage. It provides the old-age pension when you become old. If you are employed by a company, the amount of pension is deducted from monthly paycheck. Do you know that you can receive a lump-sum pension refund after you return to your homeland?

■ Refund of pension payments upon leaving Japan

Are you paying into a Japanese pension scheme? If you are employed by a company, and are covered by employees pension insurance systems, your contribution is deducted from your salary. The pension systems provide the monthly old-age pension when you are retired. However, if you are planning to return to your homeland before mandatory retirement, you may file a claim for the Lump-sum Withdrawal Payments. The payments amount is determined based on the number of your contributed months. You need to file a claim within 2 years after you leave Japan. After you leave Japan, please complete your claim form carefully and send it to the Social Insurance Operation Center together with passport photocopy (page(s) showing date of your final departure from Japan, your name, date of birth, nationality, signature and resident status), information of bank account and pension handbook. Remember, you can file a claim AFTER YOU LEAVE JAPAN. To apply for it, you need to satisfy the following conditions.

- 1) You do not possess Japanese citizenship.
- 2) You have directly paid National Pension Insurance contributions as an insured person for a total of six months or more or have paid Employees' Pension Insurance contributions for six months or more.
- 3) You do not have a place of residence in Japan.
- 4) You have never been qualified for receipt of pension benefits. (including Disability Allowance).

For details, please visit a multilingual website: <http://www.sia.go.jp/e/lw.html>

There are several countries (Germany, U.S.A., Belgium, France, Canada, Australia and etc.) that have international social security agreements with Japan. Under social security agreements, you are allowed to combine the enrollment periods of both countries' systems to qualify to receive benefits. However, if you receive the Lump-sum Withdrawal Payment, the period corresponding to the paid amount cannot be summed up.



Please calculate carefully because the refund is not always a good thing. The U.K. and Korea have social security agreements with Japan to prevent workers contributing to social security pension schemes in both countries at the same time.

<http://www.sia.go.jp/seido/old-kyotei/kyotei02.htm>

If you are paying into a Japanese pension scheme and intend to return to your homeland, please consult the nearest social insurance center early.

Come and join in the fun !!

Fujimi-city International Exchange Forum

"International exchange forum" is a popular event, which is held every autumn. Everyone living in the same communities, regardless of the person's nationality, can exchange cultures and get close with each other. People of all ages from children to adults can enjoy this forum. Please come with your friends and join in the fun.

Date/Time : November 15th(sun) /12:00~16:00

Place : Fujimino Exchange Center, Fujimi-city
(Ten minutes walk from the east exit of Fujimino-station. If you go there by car, please park a car in the schoolyard of Fujimino elementary school.)

Contents

■ Experience and Exchange Corner (12:00~14:00)

Trying on an ethnic dress and taking a picture, Card game for understanding different cultures, Free conversation with foreign national, Thai massage, etc.

■ Teatime and Attraction (14:00~15:05)

The world's teas and sweets, Fashion show of ethnic costumes, Folk dance of Myanmar and Chinese songs.

■ Foreign national's point of view (15:05~16:00)

Japanese speech made by foreign national.

A child-care service is also available.



New Carry-on baggage regulations for domestic flights

The new regulations, which go into effect in December 1st, will be applied to all carriers.

The details are as follows.

① For a plane with more than 100 seats, the total dimension of a carry-on baggage must be 115 cm or less.

(The dimensions are 55cm height × 40 cm width × 25 cm depth.)

② For a plane with less than 100 seats, the total dimension of a carry-on baggage must be 100 cm or less. (The dimensions are 45 cm height × 35 cm width × 20 cm depth.)

If a baggage does not satisfy the above conditions, it becomes a checked baggage.

“Get a taste of your homeland!”



★”Agência Minami Saitama” Brazilian food store

This month's recommendation is " Agência Minami Saitama ". It is a 3-minute walk from the west exit of Kawagoe station. Ms. Arai, who is a volunteer teacher of "FICEC's International Children Club", provided us with this store's information. This store is located near the main street lined with buildings of companies and department stores.

There are a lot of Brazilian products. We can find coffee beans that Brazil is proud of, beef chunks, CD, DVD, fragrance and bath-items in the store. Why don't you eat a chewy cheese bread which can be highly recommended and enjoy talking with cheerful Brazilian staff?

“Agência Minami Saitama”

HOW TO PREVENT BICYCLE THEFT

The number of stolen bicycles is increasing in 2 cities and 1 town. Most bicycle theft occurs near Station. Here are 3 tips for how to prevent bicycle theft.

● 1 – Use two locks such as a cylinder type key and a locking cable.

● 2 – Lock your bicycle even if you are only leaving it for a short period of time.

● 3 – Register your bicycle. Registering your bicycle greatly increases the probability it will be found.

www.ficec.jp/living/

● Living Guidance translated in 6 languages is available.