



## Warning

### All Drug-related Crimes are Felonies in Japan!

Japan is striving to realize a drug-free society. Please be aware of Japanese laws on illegal drugs, legal punishments, social norms and attitudes, and the effect that violating the law has on those around you. We ask that all students, including international students (researchers), and staff who will be coming to Japan in the future read this notice carefully and completely.

#### Drug use mentally and physically harms the user and society as a whole

- ✓ Drugs are addictive, both psychologically and physically. They can impair brain functions, damage organs, and even result in the death of the user.
- ✓ Because of their connection with criminal activities, such as murder, assault, robbery, and property damage, Japanese laws regarding drugs are extremely strict.

#### Japanese law strictly prohibits drugs

- ✓ Japanese law strictly prohibits the bringing of banned drugs such as marijuana, cocaine, heroin, amphetamines, and MDMA into the country. Importing them via postal mail is also prohibited. Those who break the law are arrested, held in custody, then charged and tried in court. Those who are convicted face severe prison sentences.
- ✓ It is illegal to possess/use drugs, but it is also illegal to accept them from third parties or acquire them. Violators can be arrested from the moment they receive or acquire the drugs. Those who are convicted face severe prison sentences.
- ✓ Regardless of whether the drug has addictive properties, and regardless of whether it is a first offense, those caught with illegal drugs are placed under arrest.
- ✓ Foreign nationals who are convicted of drug-related crimes are deported and not allowed to re-enter Japan.

#### Do not allow curiosity or peer pressure to lead you to try drugs

- ✓ Do not try drugs casually, even just once. In Japan, drug-related offenses never result in a mere fine. Foreign nationals who have just arrived in Japan need to be aware that the laws, legal punishments, and attitudes with regard to drugs may be very different from those in their home countries.
- ✓ Drug-related arrests are covered widely on television, in newspapers, and in online media.

#### Tohoku University severely punishes drug-related offenses

- ✓ All students will be expelled, and any credits they earned or research guidance they received will not be recognized.
- ✓ Scholarship recipients will be required to refund all the scholarship money they have received up to that point.
- ✓ International students are immediately evicted from their housing and deported following punitive actions. If the student was on an exchange program, in addition to receiving no recognition for their exchange activities, their home university and parents/guardians will be informed of the situation, so the student may face penalties at their home university as well.

**Please understand that in Japan activities related to drugs can carry severe penalties and can instantly destroy all your hard work and achievements here.**

