To all students

----Notes on student life----

Student Services Division, Student Affairs Department, Saitama University 埼玉大学学務部学生支援課

Congratulations on your enrollment and advancement.

The Student Services Division supports your student life in total.

Please be sure to read the following list of things you need to know and be aware of when living as a "Saitama University Student". If you have any problem or would like to ask for our advice, please contact the Student Services Division first.

# [Contact]

- General reception: Student Life Support Section [Gakusei Seikatsu Shien Tantou (学生生活支援担当)] 048-858-3944
- Consultation on Student life and other matters → Student Counseling Room [Nandemo Soudan Shitsu (なんでも相談室)] 048-858-9258 (Japanese only) <u>http://www.saitama-</u>

u.ac.jp/support/seikatsu/spot21/index.html

- Consultation on Student life and other matters for international students →
  Office of Advising Services for International Students (OASIS)
  <a href="http://en.saitama-u.ac.jp/studentlife/international-students-advising-counseling-room/">http://en.saitama-u.ac.jp/studentlife/international-students-advising-</a>
  <a href="http://counseling-room/">counseling-room/</a>
- ・ Consultation on health → Health Service Center [Hoken Center (保健センター)] 048-854-5356

(Japanese only) <u>http://www.saitama-u.ac.jp/hoken/hoken/index.html</u>

# 1. COVID-19 infection prevention measures

Saitama University has the "Saitama University Students Behavioral Guidelines" and the "COVID-19 Infection Countermeasure Manual" to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection. They will be updated from time to time, so please check back for the latest information. To protect each other, you should act in accordance with them.

Saitama University Response to COVID-19:

(Japanese) <u>http://www.saitama-u.ac.jp/news\_archives/2020-0402-1825-9.html</u> (English) <u>http://en.saitama-u.ac.jp/news/university-response-to-covid-19/</u> [Reference] COVID-19 Information and Resources by Office for COVID-19 and Other Emerging Infectious Disease Control, Cabinet Secretariat, Government of Japan : <u>https://corona.go.jp/en/</u>

## 2. About traffic rules

When commuting to Saitama University by bicycle, the following four points should be noted.

If you want to come to university by car or motorcycle, you must apply for a parking permit at the Student Services Division [Gakusei Shienka (学生支援課)].

# **①** Bicycle Insurance

In Saitama Prefecture, it is duty to purchase "Bicycle Insurance" or similar insurance when riding a bicycle.





# ② Bicycle parking permit (sticker) to park your bicycle on campus

On April 4th and 5th (10:00am to 16:00pm each day) 2023, "Bicycle parking permit (sticker)" will be issued at Room 101 on the 1st floor of the  $3^{rd}$  Lecture Hall (全学講義 棟 3 号館 1 階 1 0 1 講義室). If you cannot come on these days, please come to the Student Support Section.

# **③** Precautions for Riding a Bicycle

Five rules for safe use of bicycles

1. Bicycles should be ridden on the roadway in principle, with the exception of

sidewalks

- 2. Ride on the left side of the roadway
- 3. Pedestrians have priority on the sidewalk, and slow down on the side of the road4.
- 4. Observe safety rules
  - driving under the influence of alcohol Prohibit riding two people or riding side by side Turn on lights at night Obey traffic signals at intersections Stopping temporarily Checking for safety Should wear helmets

[Reference] Saitama City: <u>https://www.city.saitama.jp/en/sc/living-bikes.html</u>

[Reference] Crime Prevention and Traffic Safety Division, Citizens' Life Division, Saitama Prefecture(Japanese only):

https://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0311/jitensya/jitensyagosoku.html

#### **④** Prohibition of nuisance bicycle parking and abandoning bicycles

Don't Park bicycles on private property, bus stops near Saitama University, stores near Minami-Yono Station (Belc, Shimamura, etc.), convenience stores, public bicycle parking lots without permission (for a long time). It is a nuisance to local residents.

### 3. Club activities

Saitama University has about 140 clubs (student organization) registered.

List of Saitama University club activities: (Japanese only) : http://www.saitama-.ac.jp/support/kagai/03/2021meibo.htm

### \*Please be careful of approaching from groups posing as clubs.

Religious activities, political activities, and pyramid schemes sometimes approach students under the guise of club activities. In the past, some of Saitama University students have been forced to buy DVDs of expensive investment materials. Even if your friend or your senior student approach you, please investigate thoroughly. And if you feel suspicious, please be careful and consult with your family or Saitama University's staff members. Student Life Support Section, Student Services Division, Student Affairs Department (Japanese only):

https://park.saitama-u.ac.jp/~student\_support/seikatsu/

## 4. Waring about drinking alcohol

Drinking alcohol under the age of 20 is prohibited in Japan. Also, drinking alcohol on campus is prohibited. If you are encouraged to drink alcohol at a club or among friends when you are under 20 years of age, you must decline the offer once and for all. Excessive drinking may lead to acute alcohol poisoning or, in the worst case, death. To avoid sad accidents, please drink alcohol in moderation.



[Reference] Non-profit organization "ASK": <u>https://www.ask.or.jp/English</u>

## 5. Part-time job

Before taking on a part-time job, you should discuss the job description and employment conditions with the employer. It is important to sign and keep a written employment contract that clearly specifies the job description and employment conditions after you have agreed to them. To avoid problems, be sure to make a written contract, not a verbal agreement, in order to keep you away from the unfairly treated part-time job which will not allow shift changes even during the examination period.



[Reference] Ministry of Health and Work (Japanese only): https://www.check-roudou.mhlw.go.jp/parttime/

## Introduction of a part-time job

Regarding part-time jobs, you can find the job information in the website "Saitama University Part-time Job Introduction System" provided by the Student Part-time Job Information Network Secretariat.

"Saitama University Part-time Job Introduction System" (「埼玉大学アルバイト紹介シス テム」) (Japanese only): <u>https://www.aines.net/saitama-u/</u>

# 6. Living alone, walking alone at night is dangerous (especially for female students)

Even in Japan, which is said to be safe, the number of crimes recognized in Saitama Prefecture is the third worst in Japan (2020) according to the crime statistics data of the Metropolitan Police Department. Be sure to check the following points, as you can avoid being affected by such crime with just a little care.

### (Living alone)

- $\diamond$  Don't ride the elevator alone with a stranger.
  - In some cases, a prowler will check the floor you are getting off at and chase

you down the stairs.

- Check to see if there is anyone around when entering and exiting the home. Some prowlers wait for the moment the door opens. It is important to have a habit of going in and out while saying "I'm home" and "I'm leaving" so that they won't realize that you're living alone.
- $\diamondsuit$  When you go home and open the front door, if you feel something different to usual, don't enter the house.

Someone may be hidden in the closet, toilet, bathroom, etc.

 $\diamond$  Beware of a prowler posing as a courier.

It is easy to unlock the door for a courier. It is effective to check the door scope and ask "Who is the package from?

 $\diamond$  Be sure to lock the door even on floors above the second floor.

Even on upper floors, it is easy to climb up through gutters. Even in mid-summer, it is an ironclad rule to keep windows open, curtains and locks closed.

# (Walking alone at night)

 $\diamondsuit$  Do not walk alone.

Basically, walk with others, use a bicycle, bus or car.

- It is especially dangerous to go out after 22:00
  As a general rule, extracurricular activities should be completed by 21:00.
- $\diamondsuit$  Pay attention to your clothes.

Avoid clothes that expose you too much.

 $\diamond$  Walk in a bright place or a busy place

Even if you take a detour, choose a downtown area or a street with many lights.

 $\diamondsuit$  Try to walk fast.

Don't stop when approached. It is also effective to say hello to a prowler while looking closely at his/her face.

 $\diamondsuit$  Pay attention to the surroundings

Don't concentrate on your cell phone or music player. Be sure to carry a security buzzer and pocket light.

 $\Diamond$  Don't set your own route.

Avoid going along the same route at the same time and the same place every day.

Check where people are on the route to your home during the night
 Check the places where you can ask for help immediately. (Police station, police



box, fire station, family restaurant, convenience store, newsstand, etc.)

## 7. lowering of the age of majority

In April 2022, the age of majority was lowered from 20 to 18. 18 years of age or older can enter into contracts (including shopping, etc.) without the consent of a person with parental authority. In such cases, the contract cannot be rescinded because the person is treated as an adult. When entering into a contract, be sure to check the details of the contract in advance.



## [Reference] Consumer Affairs Agency (Japanese only):

https://www.caa.go.jp/policies/policy/consumer\_education/consumer\_education/low er\_the\_age\_of\_adulthood/

### 8. Change of residence card

If you have moved to a new address, you have to transfer your certificate of residence. Please refer to the following URL for details on how to transfer your resident card and how to vote in the election.

[Reference] Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (Japanese only): <u>https://www.soumu.go.jp/menu\_kyotsuu/important/topics081127.html</u>

## 9. Others

### · Drugs are harmful and dangerous.

Booklet on Drug Abuse Prevention

Information about drug abuse prevention by Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare



## $\cdot$ Smoking is prohibited on the campus except for designated smoking areas.

Smoking under the age of 20 is illegal according to the "Law Concerning Smoking by Persons Under 20".

### • Be careful of "theft" on campus.

Many different people come in and out of the university. unfortunately, there have actually been incidents of people having money taken out of their wallets during extracurricular activities. First of all, please be aware of self-protection (e.g., keep valuables close to your body).