

To JET Programme Participants,

Important Changes Regarding the JET Programme Support System

JET Programme participants, like any other foreign resident in Japan, are expected to be proactive in solving their own problems as much as possible. For situations that you are unable to solve on your own and support is necessary, please first consult with the contracting organisation which employs you.

CLAIR has until now emphasised the mutual relationship between JET participants and contracting organisations as being the most important. At the same time however, CLAIR offered consultation to JET participants through JET Line and other means. Most problems that CLAIR was consulted about were issues that can only be solved between the employer and employee. By CLAIR intervening as a third party not involved in the employee-employer relationship, this only further complicated matters and caused harm to the trust between JET participants and contracting organisations. Therefore, in order to further strengthen this important relationship between JET participants and contracting organisations and return the contracting organisation as the primary counterpart of JET participants, CLAIR will replace JET Line and JET Mail with a CLAIR Information Desk, for enquiries from JET participants that are made through their contracting organisations. Additionally, when contacting a Prefectural Advisor (PA), please make sure you do so after consulting with your contracting organisation.

It is important that JET participants consult a mental health professional when they have mental health problems. In order to make mental health professionals more accessible to JET participants, CLAIR has established a new Mental Health Counselling Assistance Programme. This programme will provide reimbursement subsidies to JET participants for 50% of counselling costs incurred through consultation with a mental health professional in Japan. The maximum annual amount of subsidy to be provided will be 10,000 Japanese yen per JET participant. To apply for a subsidy, JET participants will need to send an application through their contracting organisations. PAs will no longer providing counselling for mental health issues, so we hope that JET participants will make use of this assistance programme to get professional counselling as needed.

We ask for your understanding regarding these changes as we strive to improve the JET Programme for both JET participants and contracting organisations.

Director  
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